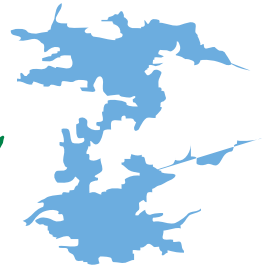


Lake WahWashKesh

CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION



– SPRING 2021 –

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

My heart goes out to those that are still unable to enjoy Lake WahWash-Kesh. For those of you, I hope you are able to keep in touch via the Hobo link, website and Facebook. If there is something else we can do to keep you connected please email me.

Mother Nature was kind to those of us at the lake this winter. We had more sunny days and less fluctuations in temperatures. Not a good snowmobile season though! She also provided an early spring with warmer temperatures that allowed the ice to gradually melt off the lake which resulted in normal water levels.

The Municipality of White-stone has many updates that are highlighted in this newsletter; an August meeting on changes to the Official Plan is one of them.

The Directors have continued to work on your behalf with a tremendous effort put forth by Don on the Water Quality Programme for 2021. The Association needs your support in order to carry on with many of the worthwhile projects that generate annual expenses. *Look forward to hearing from you.*

Lynn Brennan

URGENT ACTION REQUIRED

HYDRO PROPOSED CHANGE: **ELIMINATE SEASONAL RATE CLASS** FOR ELECTRICITY

We should all be concerned with Hydro's potential elimination of the Seasonal Rate Class.

This rate change will significantly increase hydro bills in this category by \$54 a month for approximately 80,000 customers

We have created a pdf file of a sample letter to send to MPP Norm Miller and The Energy Board. It is posted on our website. A copy is also included in the 2021 AGM package.

Hydro needs to hear from its customers!

DO YOU HAVE A BOAT WITH A TROLLING MOTOR AND A GPS?

Water Quality Programme needs a volunteer with a boat with this equipment to do the testing.

The Association will pay for expenses.

Please contact Lynn at

lynnmbrennan@gmail.com

For more information about the water quality testing see page 4



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.lakewahwashkesh.ca

Directors' Update:

There have been numerous zoom calls to discuss ongoing projects since the November AGM. The Water Quality Program and finances of the Association have been dominant topics.

There are a number of topics that need to be put forward to the Membership at the 2021 AGM.

These are listed in the AGM package.

Hope to see you there; in person preferably but on zoom if necessary!

BENTHIC MONITORING PROGRAM

Benthic monitoring is performed by the Georgian Bay Biosphere. The Municipality of Whitestone partnered last year with Whitestone Lake. It is done three years in a row to get a good sample of the quality of aquatic life in the lake. Basically the testing measures the number of insect/organic life in the water samples of the lake. Certain «bugs» are better in the lake than others. A three year period allows them to compare years to make sure one year wasn't impacted more so by other environmental factors. The municipality is paying for it.

A second lake was added to the budget for 2021. The price went up to \$1300 a year.

Director Rob Guimond submitted a request on behalf of the Association to be considered this year.

GREAT NEWS! We were selected!

Benthic monitoring is scheduled to be done on June 28th.

We just have to provide the boat. The Municipality will cover the costs of the programme.

Thanks you Beth Gorham-Matthews for initiating this great partnership, Mayor Comrie, Councillors, and Municipality of Whitestone staff for making this happen.

Lynn Brennan



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WHERE DOES YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND PERMIT MONEY GO?

The Association uses the money to continue very important projects such as:

- Water Quality Testing
- Dock Replacement
- Parking Access upgrades
- Boom & Docks fall removal and spring attachment
- Communication & Links to Government Agencies
- Hobo Link
- Yearly expenses such as website, insurance and annual bursary (these costs are incurred year round)

All of these projects and more help maintain property values, the quality of property owner's experiences at the lake, and updates on changes that affect our property and the lake itself.

Can't do it without renewal of yearly memberships!

PERMITS

Whether a property owner or a member of the general public, you benefit from these services; even if you are not parking, you are using the parking area and dock which requires a Lake Access Permit.

All permits are for short term parking and launching of boats. Please use the boat trailer area for extended periods of time. The parking areas are not for long term storage of trailers, boats or vehicles.

Permits can be purchased via the website – lakewahwashkesh.ca or at Bennett's store. The paypal system has been effective. The paypal address to send information to the Treasurer with your permit purchase has been updated on the Website. It is treasurer@lakewahwashkesh.ca

The permit passes will be distributed in May prior to the long weekend. Please display your parking pass on the mirror or vehicle dashboard. Trailer passes should also be displayed.

Lynn Brennan

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

The 2021 Membership/ permit purchase form has been activated.

It's an easy to follow process!

NEW WAY TO PAY

NEW WEBSITE

www.lakewahwashkesh.ca

At the top of the home page:

SHOP PERMITS AND MEMBERSHIPS

You may now pick out the permits you wish to buy, and then pay for them with 3 options:

1. PayPal



OR 2. Email transfer

treasurer@lakewahwashkesh.ca

OR 3.

Mailing a cheque

From the home page:

Scroll down to

“Download your 2021 membership/permit form here” download a form and mail it with a cheque

CAN WE CONTINUE THE WATER QUALITY PROGRAM IN 2021 AND BEYOND?

Never realize what you had until it's gone!

The Phosphorus testing, Lake Partner Program, was done by Rob Haddow of Morton's Point Camp at 10 different locations this past summer. **He is willing to do the same in May 2021 for us. Thank You Rob!**

It was a team effort to complete the YSI testing this past summer. The results are in the AGM package. **A huge thanks to Cheryl, Pat, Tim, Brandon, Terry and Don.** The main issue- the lack of a GPS attached to a trolling motor and access to a boat (Mike's setup was sorely missed!), the windy weather on testing dates, and the lack of Mike's expertise of course!

These challenges have led the Association Directors to explore other possible solutions. We all value and believe the YSI and Phosphorus testing should continue. But does it need to be scaled back? How do we financially support this project? Don Comrie has ex-

plored options with Near North Labs. This led to 2 quotes from companies able to provide the service. The quotes which mimic the number of sites and times per season are in the \$4000.00 range which is way beyond the Association's current budget. We do have \$1500, generously donated, in a reserve for the Water Quality Program.

Don requested new quotes based on fewer sites and fewer number of dates as one option.

The verdict:

Reduced sites doesn't save costs. Number of times per season will. It has been suggested to sample 11 sites in the spring and fall which would cost \$2700.00

Data would still need to be analyzed and a report written which could cost \$3150.00 if done externally. Then done every five years.

There needs to be a financial source in order to continue this important project. Do we need a fundraising committee? Should we allocate a certain amount from each paid membership to this project? Is there other sources eg. Grants?

The Directors hope that some level of YSI testing can be completed in 2021. We may not know when this information may be used beyond its current purpose; but you can't turn back time (except for once a year LOL)

This project requires membership input at the 2021 AGM

Lynn Brennan

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Volunteer MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

**VOLUNTEER REPS
STILL NEEDED**

I have been fortunate in finding volunteers for a number of the zones. However the following areas are still not represented. This project's goal is to connect neighbouring zones with each other to establish a lake community. As well, to gather contact information in hopes of creating another Lake Directory.

This is an opportunity for property owners to learn about the Lake Wah-Wash-Kesh Conservation Association and become involved members to support the current and future endeavours of the Association.

Volunteers will be asked to visit the cottagers in their designated area. Flyers will be provided to introduce cottagers to the great work that the WWKCA does for our wonderful lake and the benefits of becoming a member. All of this of course, will be dependent on Covid protocols.

TOP LAKE

1. East shoreline of Top Lake
2. Bennett's Bay
3. Toronto Bay & Magnetawan River/Deep Bay
4. Indian Narrows
5. Ritter Narrows

THE BIG LAKE

7. Parker's Bay
8. Shabbott's Bay Road

Please contact Lynn Brennan for more information: lynnmbrennan@gmail.com

Dedicated Director – Jeanine Ferris

Since 2013, Jeanine served as a dedicated director and secretary. Her knowledge and historical perspective of the lake have been a great asset to the Association's members. I have enjoyed getting to know her and appreciated Jeanine's viewpoints during the discussions while being together on the Board. She will be greatly missed as a director!

Director Needed

Jeanine's departure means a new director is needed.

Please send nominations to
Lynn Brennan –
lynnmbrennan@gmail.com





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Jeff **705 305 1731**

Larry **705 203 3350**

Green Corner

by N. Glenn Perrett

DEWALT 8-inch 20V Max Cordless Pole Saw (tool only)

www.dewalt.com

(item DCPS620B)

We have approximately two kilometres of walking trails that allows us to hike the various areas of the property without disturbing the habitat or animals who live there. Unfortunately, many of the trees that line the footpaths are white spruce whose lower branches are dead and hanging over the trail getting in the way. While we can access most of the branches using conventional methods, I wanted to try out the *DEWALT 8-inch 20V Max Cordless Pole Saw*. The brushless cordless pole saw features an 8-inch bar and chain and uses a DEWALT 20V battery. Other features include auto oiling bar and chain, a comfortable handle and a tree hook to help remove pruned branches. The extension pole extends up to 10 feet allowing for a total reach of approximately 15 feet. Even the sheath that protects the blade when not in use is well designed and features a place that conveniently holds the tool to maintain the chain.

Before using this tool make sure that you read - and follow - all of the safety and maintenance instructions, warnings, pruning instructions and other important information contained in the informative instruction manual. And stop working when you get tired. This tool (not including the battery) weighs 3.83 kilograms. This might not seem like much weight, until you are pruning branches. When you get even a little tired, take a break. My wife Lynn and I take turns cutting branches with the



pole saw and piling the cut branches into piles for wildlife.

Most of the branches were between 1" to 4" in diameter. And while I won't hesitate to use this saw to prune branches a little larger than 3" or 4" in diameter, I will think twice before using it to prune branches up to 8" in diameter as recommended in the instruction manual.

The *DEWALT 20V Max Lithium Brushless 8" Pole Saw* worked very well. Not only did the saw effectively remove the branches that were encroaching on our trails, but it saved us considerable time (days as opposed to hours) spread out over the

length of the entire trail system!

While this pole saw will see lots of use on our rural property, it is also a valuable tool for cottagers and even urban dwellers who are fortunate to have trees on their property.

While this DEWALT tool is only the pole saw and we use 20V DEWALT batteries that we already have to power it, you can buy this tool as part of a kit which also comes with a battery and charger.

Cedar of Lebanon Journals

Interlink Notebooks

Keeping a journal is an enjoyable activity for you and for others. Not only is it an accurate way to document events in your life, but writing a journal is relaxing. And you leave a wonderful book of memories for others after you are gone. I've been keeping a journal for more than 20 years recording both significant events as well as seemingly minor ones. Most of my journal entries pertain to our family – including four-legged members – as well as nature. For example, each year I record the first time that we hear frogs in the pond behind our house (this year it was a single Spring Peeper on March 25th.)

Compared to many activities, keeping a journal is very eco-friendly – especially if you use journals made with the environment in mind. Many of my entries are made using an old fountain pen that I found. The impact of using this pen involves

recycling an empty glass ink bottle every few years.

If you are looking for environmentally-friendly journals



you will want to consider *Cedar of Lebanon journals* published by Interlink Notebooks. Their large notebook (ISBN: 9781623718954) measures approximately 6" x 8.5" while their pocket journal (ISBN: 978623718961) is approximately 3.25" x 6". These journals contain 192 lined, acid-free, cream-coloured pages along with a red ribbon book mark. The notebooks also feature an elastic band to keep the journal closed and a pen loop. There is also an inner note holder. The well-thought-out notebooks are also "green" for several reasons. A note at the beginning of the journal states, "Ecological Paper from Sustainable Forests. High quality papers sourced from paper mills promoting sources of sustainable forests using clean energy, without the use of harmful chemicals such as chlorine. A new tree planted for every tree felled."

These attractive journals have various uses. The larger notebook is ideal for keeping a journal or it can be used by visitors to your cottage to write their thoughts about their visit. The pocket journal conveniently fits into a pocket allowing you to write down observations when you are out in nature. These notebooks also make practical eco-gifts!

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SUMMER 2021 MUNICIPALITY OF WHITESTONE MEETING ON OFFICIAL PLAN CHANGES

- **Trailers on vacant lots** – Currently the Municipality prohibits placement of trailers or motorhomes on existing vacant lots. Council is proposing to allow placement of trailers or motorhomes for up to 30 days at least once in every calendar year.
- **Building on vacant lots** – that do not front on waterfront or a year round road: Council is considering a new policy to allow for existing vacant lots to be eligible for a building permit.

Email
paula.macri@whitestone.ca
for further information

Official Plan Meeting
scheduled for
**Thursday,
August 19th**

POOL WELLNESS CENTRE UPDATE

Whitestone Council decided to adopt a modified hybrid funding model to support the West Parry Sound Pool project.

Whitestone will provide a one-time financial contribution of \$250,000 to the project instead of the \$527,000 requested. The municipality will not be locked into a funding formula of 6.1 per cent of any additional capital cost over runs or added facilities. Whitestone has limited contribution toward an expense shortfall to \$18,000 annually, with consumer price index increases, for a period of 10 years. Whitestone will not be a part of the Parry Sound Joint Services Board. The municipality says it is still supporting the West Parry Sound plan to build and operate a wellness centre and pool. The municipality will not have any liability exposures associated with the facility and will simply provide financial assistance.

BY-LAW AMENDMENT on Shore Road Allowance & Docks

The Municipality reviewed its policy surrounding docks and shore road allowances. The Shore road allowance form and process can be found in the planning services section of the website.

A floating dock is allowed on Municipality owned Shore Road Allowance if it meets the proper setbacks from property lines and is within the size standards set out by the Municipality. It is wise to check with the building inspector!!!

UPDATE ON LAUNCH AREA, PARKING AREAS & SIGNAGE

The Committee plans on meeting in the near future to decide on appropriate signage for different areas to distinguish parking for vehicles, boat trailers, trailers attached to vehicles and disabled areas

The parking areas are not to be considered storage areas for trailers on a long term basis.

FIRE PERMITS NOW AVAILABLE ON-LINE

The Municipality of Whitestone requires that property owners obtain a fire permit before proceeding with any outdoor fire during the period of April 1st to October 31st each year

We are happy to announce that permits for camp fires (small fires for cooking, warmth, and recreational purposes) can now be obtained on-line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and **at no charge**, using any internet-connected device. They are also available from the Municipal Office in Dunchurch during business hours, but will no longer be available through local business establishments.



Holder of fire permits will be notified automatically by e-mail and/or text message of changes in the Fire Hazard Rating that may restrict outdoor burning.

Permits for other types of outdoor burning such as incinerators, brush

or grass fires, or other larger fires that may require pre-inspection and be subject to special conditions, are not available on-line and must be obtained by contacting the Whitestone Fire and Rescue Service during normal business hours.

For further information or to obtain a on-line fire permit, please visit the Municipal web site at www.whitestone.ca

Please do your part to prevent forest fires

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NEW CHANGES

TO THE AULD'S ROAD AND DUNCHURCH LANDFILL SITES

Clear/transparent bag program **NOW** mandatory



The clear bag program will help the Municipality achieve its goal of diverting hazardous and recycling material out of our landfills.

The clear bag allows Landfill Attendants to clearly identify any hazardous waste or recycling materials that should be diverted.

Residents that are not compliant with the use of clear/transparent garbage bags will have their waste rejected at the landfill site.



LANDFILL ACCESS PERMIT CARDS

**Residents are now required
to show their
Landfill Access Permit Card
when using the landfill sites**

Landfill Access Permit Cards along
with our new recycling informa-
tion guidelines were mailed to all
property owners during the month
of September 2020

Cashless transactions

The Municipality has moved to
debit only transactions at our landfill sites

- Please DO NOT leave garbage at the landfill site gates!
- The Municipality now has security cameras in place at both our landfill sites
- We no longer accept tires or boats (unless they are metal and stripped of all non-metal parts and liquids) at any of our municipal landfill sites

Whitestone Landfill Fees

- Landfill Access Permit Card –
One per property – FREE
- Replacement of lost card or one additional card per property - \$15
- One time pass for visitors - \$5 per bag

For more information, please visit
www.whitestone.ca or call
the Municipal office at 705-389-2466

2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

9:30am

• **Saturday, July 31st**

Bennett's Barn

Pending Covid Restrictions
If necessary, the AGM will be in
the fall via Zoom again

PLEASE REMEMBER
TO BRING THE
General Meeting Package

The following are Agenda items
that will be brought forward at
the 2021 AGM

- Water Quality Testing Programme
 - Municipality of Whitestone
Official Plan Changes
 - Constitution By-law changes
 - Permit Charges and Categories
 - Membership Drive Directory
 - Fundraising Initiatives
 - Social Events Needed

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Book Reviews

by N. Glenn Perrett

How to Avoid a Climate Disaster

Bill Gates

Knopf Canada, 2021, 259 pages

ISBN: 9780735280441

Our species has had a devastating impact on Earth and is responsible for climate change that has affected many species already and threatens many more including our own. According to Bill Gates in his insightful book *How to Avoid Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need*, we add approximately 51 billion tons of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere each year and we have to get this number down to zero if we are to avoid the catastrophic results of climate change. Gates addresses many of the challenges that we face and provides ways that they can be overcome. And eliminating greenhouse gases will involve coming up with new, “zero-carbon ways to produce electricity, make things, grow food, keep our buildings cool and warm, and move people and goods around the world.”

While Gates is optimistic that we can avoid the worst of what climate change could bring, we don't have much time. He states that since pre-industrial times the temperature has been raised “at least 1 degree Celsius”. The hotter climate has resulted in a variety of consequences including a rise in sea levels and more frequent and destructive wildfires including in California where wildfires “now occur there five times more often than in the 1970s”. And according to Gates if we don't reduce emissions the planet could warm by up to 3 degrees Celsius by mid-century and up to as much as 8 degrees Celsius by

BILL GATES
HOW TO
AVOID A
CLIMATE
DISASTER
THE SOLUTIONS WE HAVE AND THE
BREAKTHROUGHS WE NEED

the end of the century!

You will likely be surprised by some of the industries that are large contributors to global warming. For example, the making of steel and cement produce approximately 10% of all greenhouse gas emissions. This statistic is particularly worrisome as development continues at a crazy pace. Gates says that the world will be creating “another New York City every month for 40 years”.

Another major contributor are cows who produce large amounts of methane that “has the same warming effect as 2 billion tons of carbon dioxide, accounting for about 4 percent of all global emissions.” Not surprisingly, Gates has invested in plant-based “meat” companies and praises these foods.

How to Avoid a Climate Disaster is an important read for politicians, legislators, company owners, employees, individuals and anyone who cares about the planet.

Waiting for the Night Song

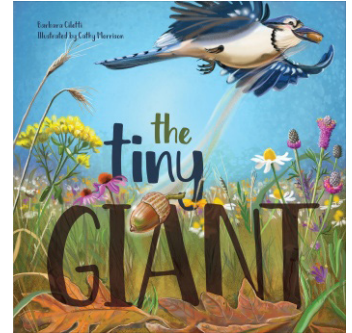
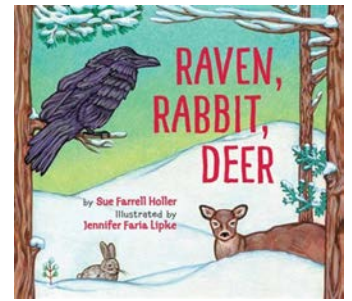
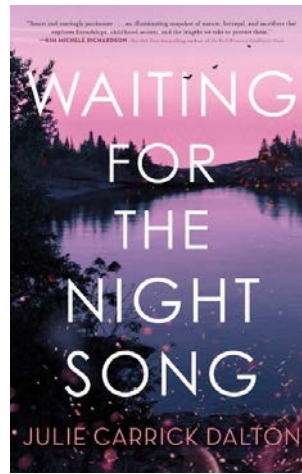
Julie Carrick Dalton

Forge, 2020, 335 pages

ISBN: 9781250269188

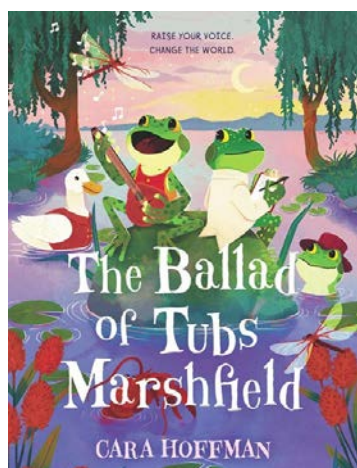
I enjoy mystery novels that include a riveting plot and interesting, believable characters. And, if the story is set in a natural, wilderness area even better. Julie Carrick Dalton's debut novel, *Waiting for the Night Song*, features all three making it a very enjoyable story.

Cadie Kessler is a forestry re-



searcher who studies insects. Climate change, a drought and an invasive beetle – the mountain pine beetle – have come together putting New Hampshire's forests at risk. Cadie is gathering evidence that the beetle is in the area when she is contacted by a childhood friend, Daniela, about an incident that occurred near their homes decades ago. The incident involved a man who was shot and killed and Cadie and Daniela heard the gunshot. They never came forward because it could have resulted in involving Daniela's family who are in the country illegally.

Dalton effectively covers the story by going back and forth from the present day to the summer when Cadie and Daniela met as young girls and had adventures in the woods and lake that surrounded their homes. This is where they met a mysterious boy on a pier sitting in a lawn chair. As the past and present come together you are left with a compelling story that also includes interesting information on a variety of topics including climate change, wildfires and invasive species. Highly recommended, especially for those who appreciate a wilderness setting with



their mystery novels!

Raven, Rabbit, Deer

*Sue Farrell Holler, illustrated by Jennifer Faria, Pajama Press
2020, 32 pages, ages 4+
ISBN: 9781772781366*

An extraordinary nature picture book for young children is *Raven, Rabbit, Deer* by Sue Farrell Holler. The story features a young boy who accompanies his grandfather on a hike on a forest trail. While the boy shows his grandfather how to make snow splash into a creek, his grandfather shows his grandson animals and animal tracks they encounter which are raven, rabbit, deer and sparrow. The grandfather names their neighbours in both English and Ojibwemowin (Raven/Gaagaagi, Deer/Waawaashkeshi, Rabbit/Waabooz). After their pleasant winter walk they return home for a snack before reading a book together by the fire

The Tiny Giant

*Barbara Ciletti, illustrated by Cathy Morrison, Schiffer Kids,
2020, 32 pages, ages 4+
ISBN: 9780764360299*

I've been reviewing books for several decades and *The Tiny Giant* is one of my favourite nature picture books. Beautifully told by

its own some of which will be food for animals while others become trees which will be a part of a forest! The simple and informative text is complemented by stunning illustrations by Cathy Morrison. Sections on "Acorns of North America", "Arbor Day" and "How to Grow an Oak" further add to this exceptional nature picture book for all ages. Highly recommended!

A Song for the Dark Times

*Ian Rankin, Orion, 2020, 327 pages
ISBN: 9781409176978*

Recently I read my first novel by Ian Rankin – *Westwind* – published in 1990 and then again in 2019. *A Song for the Dark Times* is my first read in Rankin's "John Rebus" series. This book is the 23rd in the series set in and around Edinburgh, Scotland and the good inspector is now retired. The plot and setting are good and the characters believable making for a compelling murder mystery. In fact there are two murders!

When John Rebus receives a phone call from his daughter Samantha in the middle of the night he knows that the news isn't going to be good. And it isn't. Her husband has been missing for two days and Samantha is likely to be considered a prime suspect if her husband turns up dead. The retired detective inspector drives to the small town located on the windswept coast where Samantha lives. Not sure

what to believe, Rebus starts his own investigation much to the annoyance of the local authorities – and some of the residents.

Meanwhile, back in Edinburgh, Siobhan Clarke and her colleagues have their hands full trying to find out who killed a wealthy young man with an obsession for James Bond. Lots of pressure accompany both Rebus and Clarke on these cases. *A Song for the Dark Times* is a very enjoyable crime novel.

The Ballad of Tubs Marshfield

*Cara Hoffman
Harper, 2020, 193 pages, ages 8+
ISBN: 9780062865472*

Tubs Marshfield is a frog whose home is in the roots of an old man-grove tree in a swamp along the Louisiana bayou. The swamp is home to a diversity of animals including frogs, birds, water rats, crawfish, mayflies, turtles, dragonflies, fireflies – and many others. Frogs have been singing the same song here for 265 million years!

Tubs' favourite cousin and good friend is Lila. Lila is a doctor who has noticed that many of the animals in the swamp have become sick. There are no more tadpoles and their good friend Gloria, a swallow, has a rash and is missing some feathers. According to Lila, "The whole swamp is coming down with the same cold."

Eventually, Tubs discovers a dark, foul-smelling liquid being discharged into the swamp via a pipe which is connected to a factory that also releases "clouds of thick, awful-smelling smoke." The factory is poisoning the swamp and everyone who resides there!

All of the animals band together to stop the factory from emitting the poisonous liquid and their brave actions result in their homes and the swamp being saved. *The Ballad of*

- continued -

Tubs Marshfield is a good environmental fable full of adventure and interesting characters!

Gone to the Woods: Surviving a Lost Childhood

Gary Paulsen, Farrar Straus Giroux,

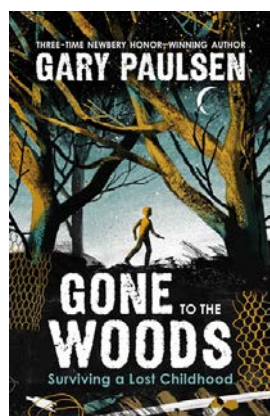
2021, 357 pages, ages 8+

ISBN: 9780374314156

Another exceptional book aimed at middle grade readers (but is also good for adults) is Gary Paulsen's *Gone to the Woods: Surviving a Lost Childhood*. Three-time Newberry Honor Winner for his books *Hatchet*, *Dogsong*, and *The Winter Room* and winner of the ALA Margaret Edwards Award from the American Library Association for his contribution to young adult literature, Paulsen's latest book is "the true account of how he himself survived his own turbulent childhood."

The interesting memoir sees Paulsen, at the age of five, leave his Chicago home and neglectful mother (his father was in the army) and travel by himself by train to Minnesota where he lives with his Aunt Edy and his Uncle Sig on a farm he describes as "nestled in towering oak trees" and as "a fairy tale kind of farm." It is here where Paulsen (who he calls "the boy" in the book) has his very own room and helps his aunt and uncle with their daily chores. It is also here where he falls in love with nature after experiencing special moments in the wilderness like the time he sees a doe and her fawn on a river bank. And it was at this farm with Edy and Sig where he felt absolutely safe, comfortable and "a protection that was deeper than rest, a belonging that was a kind of love."

Unfortunately, the boy's life on the farm ended when his mother arrived and took him by train and ship to the Philippines to be with his father. Life with his parents wasn't a healthy



experience. Fortunately, Paulsen's childhood did have some positive experiences that would help him including a librarian who not only offered him his first book at the age of 13 but who encouraged him to read and use the library and even encouraged him to write down his thoughts and stories.

Glow Down Deep: Amazing Creatures That Light Up

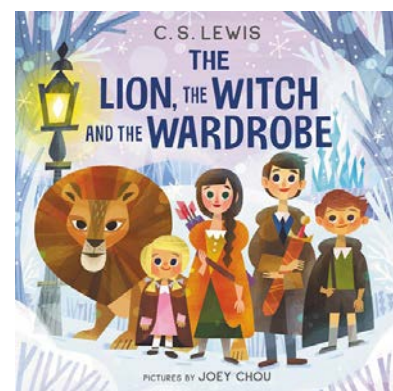
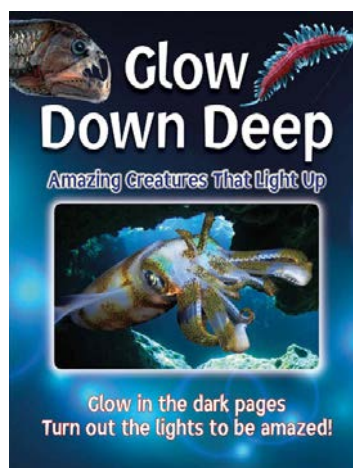
Lisa Regan, Firefly Books

2020, 49 pages, ages 8+

ISBN: 9780228102533

Filled with awesome photographs (including some glow in the dark pages) and fascinating information, *Glow Down Deep: Amazing Creatures That Light Up* looks at the marine world and those who glow in the dark there. Some creatures are biofluorescent (absorb light and then give it out when needed) while other animals create their own (bioluminescence) and the marine world features lots of things that glow in the dark including, "Coral reefs, fish, jelly creatures of all shapes and sizes..."

As you explore the pages of this book you will see and learn about incredible animals such as microscopic creatures called Noctiluca scintillans, dragonfish, sea pen, krill, false stonefish, chain catshark, seahorse and others. There are also glow in the dark pages for such creatures as



the bigfin reef squid, crystal jellyfish, anglerfish, hatchetfish and viperfish. These glow

in the dark pages are marked with a star around the page number and the reader is encouraged to, "hold the book under a light source for thirty seconds. Then turn off the lights to see the pages glow!" And these pages really glow in the dark!

Note: Comes with a warning of not being suitable for children under three years of age due to small parts, choking hazard.

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

C. S. Lewis, illustrations by Joey Chou, Harper Festival

2021, 30 pages, ages 1+

ISBN: 9780062988775

Informing young children about the joys and wonders of reading is vital. And this can include introducing them to the classics. C. S. Lewis' exceptional story *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* has just been published as a board book aimed at children 0 – 4. The simple retelling of the exciting adventure that occurs in Narnia when Lucy enters a wardrobe will entertain young children and hopefully get them interested in reading the novel when they get older. The simple text is accompanied by nice, colourful illustrations.

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