

Salerno/Devil's Lake Cottager's Association

Salerno Lake Sentinel

The SDLCA's 40th Anniversary Canoe Race

The Salerno Devil's Lake Cottagers Association held its' 40th annual canoe Race and Barbecue on Sunday of the August long weekend. Not only was this 2007 race a landmark event marking four decades of competition but it also featured a record turnout of 51 entries in all the various categories. Two new categories were added this year, (Women's Kayak, Senior Women's Canoe) to reflect the growing interest in participation. John Leonard, an artist and longtime cottager on Salerno Lake created a beautiful new design for the prized paddles that are awarded to the deserving winners. Special commemorative T-shirts were also made for the occasion and they sold out in very short order.

If you were anywhere near the new bridge on the Irondale Road around noontime that Sunday, you would have seen the lineup of cars canoes and kayaks gathered there as people registered for the race. Although the scene was seemingly chaotic, matters were clearly under control. At one o'clock as Rob Stuart, the Race Marshall and his

able crew sent the contestants off in quick order, the bridge was packed three deep with cheering onlookers. (Many thanks to Shari Akow and her boys who were the boat crew.)

The water levels in the Irondale River were as low this year as anyone could recall. Rob and his stalwart pals had been down the river with a chainsaw on the Thursday before the race and cleared passages through a number of logjams, the largest of which took almost three hours to deal with. However on the day, all was good. The weather was perfect for the race and although the completion times were slower than usual due to lack of current, the contestants were right into the



John Leonard, Rob Stuart and Kim Field with the awesome paddles!

spirit of the event. There were plenty of young folks in the river craft this year and it bodes well for the future of the race that so many families took part.

As the river racers came to the Finish Line at Furnace Falls their friends and families awaited with beverages and much applause. One by one their craft were taken out of the river and their times recorded. Then the Children's Games began led by Barbara Gordon. Also the barbecue was in full heat, ably tended by Brad and Kirk MacDuff. There was a large and vocal crowd cheering on the participants in such

events as the Shoe Toss and the Water Balloon Toss. Kids and adults both took part and laughter and cheering filled the summer air. Then the paddles were awarded and crests and medals were handed out to participants. All the results are posted on the website (www.salernolake.ca) and in this edition of the Salerno Lake Sentinel.

All in all, it certainly was a memorable year for the canoe race and we invite all our members to come along and join us next year when we once again paddle for glory!

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A Lakeside War of the Roses

DAVID ANDREATTA

June 29, 2007 The Globe and Mail

Even by the standards of the Plantagenets, the war of the Roses that erupted in an Ontario courtroom last year was ugly.

Its source was a \$1-million cottage on an island in Georgian Bay that, according to court papers, "played a pivotal role in the life of the Brian and Janice Rose family." Daughters Ashleigh and Kelsey spent every summer there as children in the 1980s and 1990s.

So central was the cottage to their lives that Mr. Rose entrusted it to the girls when they were still in elementary school. By the time they were teenagers, however, disagreements over its phone bills and maintenance led to accusations by the girls that he was mismanaging the trust and, eventually, a legal effort to bar him from the cottage.

"My biggest concern for this trust had been that the two girls would end up owning it together and they would have a falling-out over it," said Mr. Rose, 65, who has not spoken to his girls since the case was heard in March, 2006. "I don't think it could get much uglier."

As Canadians flock this long weekend to cabins in the Okanagan Valley, bungalows in the Maritimes and camps in the Prairies, there is a good chance that countless of those holiday retreats will lead to bitter spats and dockside brawls between loved ones professing to "love" the cottage.

"In terms of assets that are fought over the most, cottages are at the top," said Ian Hull, a partner at the law firm of Hull & Hull LLP in Toronto, which specializes in estate litigation. "It's an emotional asset, and it's hard to say that anything else carries with it such an emotional attachment."

A poll conducted for Royal LePage this year found that primary residences and cottages were closely favoured in divorce settlements. Where 39 per cent of Canadian cottage owners said they would choose to keep their primary residence, 33 per cent said they would prefer the cottage.

And with waterfront cottages in some parts of British Columbia and Ontario pushing \$1-million in value, the considerable financial windfalls families stand to gain from inheriting summer homes also fuel disputes.

When it comes to squabbles over the family cottage, though, money is rarely the flashpoint, say lawyers, mediation experts and real-estate brokers.

It was a modest one-bedroom cottage valued at just \$19,600 on a spit of land near Lake Paul, N.S., that drove a wedge between the Parrish family.

"It's been a trying point in our lives," Terry Parrish, 55, said of his estrangement from his sister, Donna Hirtle. "It's caused a division in the family, a close family growing up."

Court papers show that their father had wanted his estate split evenly between Terry, Donna and another daughter. But just months before his death in 2003, their father agreed to amend his will to leave the cottage to Donna.

That was fine with Mr. Parrish who, as executor of the will, oversaw the addition of the clause because he thought "the cottage" meant the building and not two individual parcels of land on either side of it.

"The family cottage was a mutual cottage that everybody shared," said Mr. Parrish, who fondly recalled stories of

hunting squirrels as a boy and throwing summer bashes as a teenager. Even after their parents divorced, their father allowed his ex and her new husband to use the place.

Ms. Hirtle saw the inheritance differently, and last year a provincial judge ruled that the cottage and the land belonged to her. "My father would be horrified," Mr. Parrish said.

Ms. Hirtle declined to discuss specifics of the case, but volunteered that at 59, with four children and seven grandchildren, she is wrestling with how to bequeath the cottage.

"I in no way want my children to go through what I've gone through," Ms. Hirtle said. "I can't stand the thought of any type of dissension in the family."

Continued on next page...

Colton and Millar doing the cannonball!



Jordan M. Atin, a Toronto estate and trusts lawyer who discusses such disputes in the book *The Family War: Winning the Inheritance Battle*, said parents too often delude themselves into believing their children are level-headed enough to hash out the details of sharing a cottage.

"The family cottage is going to cause resentment even if all the kids don't like it the same," Mr. Atin said. "It's family history, and if you're not the one holding the family history you feel excluded."

Even in cases where the intentions of cottage owners appear cut and dried, nasty legal battles can erupt over wills.

That sad reality was documented in a March, 2002, Ontario Superior Court decision in *Fair v. Campbell Estate*, which described the suit as an "exercise in appalling cynicism driven by greed."

Three grandsons of

deceased widow Margaret Fair argued in court that she was mentally incompetent and that she had been coerced into leaving her cottage in Bracebridge to their aunt. The judge didn't buy it and threw out the case.

A message from The Globe left for the grandsons through their lawyer was not returned.

As for the Roses, the judge removed Mr. Rose as trustee, but dismissed the girls' effort to dissolve the trust. Neither Ashleigh nor Kelsey Rose responded to e-mail messages, and a phone message left with their lawyer was not returned.

These scenarios are ones Lawrence Barns has seen repeatedly as head of the Canadian Association of Family Enterprise, which helps families navigate sensitive business and personal transactions.

"When a lot of your best memories can be attached to



Beauty!

a certain piece of property and that property comes up for distribution to the family, for some it's about gaining or losing a piece of their childhood," Mr. Barns said. "The attachment to a cottage is beyond dollars because it's much closer to people's hearts."

Pre-emptive strikes

Douglas Hunter, author of *The Cottage Ownership Guide*, offers tips on how to avoid a family cottage war.

Talk to your kids.

"Well before the unhappy state of reading a will, mom and dad need to sit down and say to their children "This is what we think" Mr. Hunter said. "You'll find that maybe not everyone in the family wants a part of it."

Contact an accountant or tax lawyer familiar with cottages and second homes before you buy in order to help you find tax shelters.

"Even though cottages are an affair of the heart, you have to recognize that this is an investment and treat it that way," Mr. Hunter stated.

Keep receipts and other evidence of improvements to the

cottage as future tax deductions against the appreciation of the cottage.

Give the cottage to the intended inheritor on the condition that he or she pay the capital gains taxes on the transaction.

"From the moment you buy a cottage, you have to think about how you are going to sell it or hand it down," offered Mr. Hunter.

Marjorie Harris – Taming nature; Leave the city plants behind.



Serviceberry in flower.

Anyone heading up to the cottage this summer should be looking forward to a long cool drink amid the wilderness splendour of peace and quiet – not a long drive to cut the lawn. The ideal garden at the cottage is one that emulates the natural landscape. It should reflect your surroundings and yet be a bit tamed. It should never be a city garden transplanted.

The first thing is to figure out how far you wish to cast your garden net. Keep it close to the building and remove any scrubby shrubs and weedy undergrowth.

Observe one cardinal rule : no lawn. You don't want to use chemicals when you are close to water, the water table or anything else in the fragile countryside. If you have grass, start removing it chunk by chunk.

Then start to build a new garden with plants native to the area. This means casting your eyes at the fields, the ditches and most of all the forest that surrounds you.

Once you clean up the allotted space, add lots of sand (horticultural sand or grit, not the

stuff of sandboxes) to any natural areas you find; these will become your planting pockets. Then add topsoil and compost. Look around at the forest; there is a layer under the trees called duff. Get bags of duff and use this as mulch.

Next, hunt for plants. Do a Google search for native plants in your area. Native plants survive on whatever rain falls so you won't be worrying about whether they got enough moisture or not. They also supply food for birds and insects.

Don't use fussy city plants such as hostas and don't make the mistake of introducing plants that spread wildly. This may satisfy you but they will no doubt escape and knock off the native plants that birds and insects require for survival.

First choose shrubs to compliment the land and give structure. Serviceberries (*Amelanchier spp*) grow in almost all parts of the country as do elders (*Sambucus nigra*) It's fine to take something from the forest and try to transplant it but make the soil and the planting conditions exactly the same.

Then add perennials. Choose those that bloom when you are there and select the right ones for the available light. If it's sun baked brilliance think blazing star (*Liatris spp*), bee balm (*Monarda spp*), coneflowers (*Echinacea spp*) black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) and Joe-Pye weed (*Eupatorium spp*). In a shady spot you'll want Solomon's Seal (*Polygonatum spp*), Trilliums and jack-in-the-Pulpit (*Areisaema spp*). You can find ferns by the dozens.

Finally add ground covers such as the slow growing bunchberry (*Cornus Canadensis*), the fast growing wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*) or for really fast cover, barren strawberry. (*Waldsteinia fragarioides*).

A cottage garden should look after itself in about a year, relying on rainfall and never needing fertilizer or anything more exhausting than an admiring look.

Marjorie Harris is editor-at-large of GARDENING LIFE magazine.



A maidenhair fern.

Build a Quinzie!

Helpful Tools

Tarp

Snow Shovel — metal blade, plastic will break under pressure if extremely cold

6 — 8' centre pole

Snow blade

Two to three dozen 6" sticks

Experience

Getting Started

1. Find a suitable area that meets the afore mentioned criteria

2. Walk out a circle in the snow that will fit the people in your party (8' to 10').

3. Dig the snow from the inside of the circle and throw it to the outside; this will help to consolidate the snow

4. Once sufficiently removed, place your 6 — 8' pole in the centre of your circle; this will help with symmetry of the dome from the inside and out

5. Throw snow back into the circle and continue throwing snow in from the surrounding area; this is where your tarp may come in handy if snow levels are sparse

****Remember to keep a well formed dome, a pile that is not shaped properly may fall in on itself when you attempt to dig out the centre****

6. When the dome reaches sufficient height, size, and shape,

smooth and lightly pack the exterior and place all of your 6" sticks into the outer wall towards the centre (be sure to spread the sticks out evenly over the entire dome)

7. Let sit for approximately 1 hour dependant on snow and weather conditions)

8. Choose the location for your door, taking into account fore mentioned criteria; keep it low to the ground and just big enough for you. to easily get in. .

9. As you start to dig the interior Out through the door, be sure to dig, Up — In —All Around; this keeps symmetry and will minimize the chance of collapse

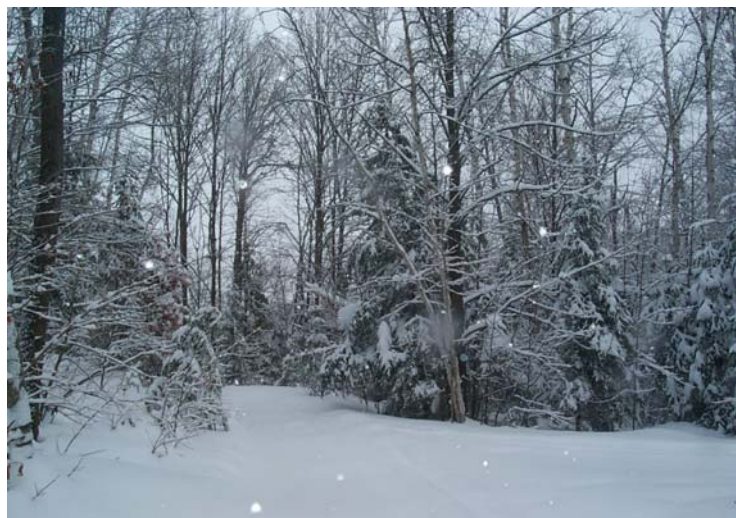
10. When digging, keep a eye out for your 6" sticks, when you hit the end of one, you know your wall is 6" thick at that point (leave the sticks in until you've completed)

11 Once you reach you centre pole, start to create a shelf - the idea is that you want to sleep above the top of your door line creating a cold pit for the cool air while you sleep closer to the ceiling and the warm air.

12 The snow that is being removed can be used for exterior walls to aid in protection from the wind during cooking

13. Now that the inside has been cleaned out, all walls should now be 6", the sticks and centre post can now carefully be removed or covered over with snow.

14. Above the door, halfway



Winter at the lake—the ideal place to try building a quinzie.

between the top of the door, and the centre of the roof, cut an air hole with your snow blade approximately 2" in diameter. Be sure to keep this clear during the evening

15. Smooth down the interior walls removing all uneven surfaces, this will help stop melting snow from dripping on your clothes or sleeping bag.

16. Along the shelf dig in a small trough for melted water to flow

17. Insulate the shelf with pine bows or a bed pad to keep you warm

18. Light a candle on the inside to help cure

19. Your Quinzie is now complete and ready for a tranquil nights sleep

20. In the morning, if you are leaving not to return, take the time to dismantle your shelter and spread all used materials through the forest to lesson your environmental impact, a Quinzie left standing may pose as a hazard to other campers or animals looking for shelter

21. Practice these skills so that when you are in a survival situation, you know how to use the tools we've helped you find.

Courtesy of Lunatic Adventures Inc.

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www.lunaticadventures.com

SDLCA CANOE RACE RECORDS

BEST TIMES EVER

Eric Orschel & Sean Ruppel	1 st mens in 2000	56:56
Bill Lawson & Robert Wilson	2 nd mens in 2000	58:07
Bill Lawson & Dan Wilson	1 st mens in 1983	1:01:42

JUNIORS 1996

Ian Crossan & Robert Wilson	1:08:17
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SENIOR MENS 1995

Peter Maher & Jon McKee	1:05:23
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SENIOR WOMENS 2007 (new category 2007)

Barbara Gordon & Susan Thompson	1:27:53
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WOMEN 1995

Mary Mitchell & Ella Russell	1:12:00
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MIXED 1996

Eric Orschel & Jean Orschel	1:03:12
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MENS 2000

Eric Orschel & Sean Ruppel	56:56
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OPEN 1996

John Cowan & Dan Wilson	1:02:50
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KAYAK WOMENS 2007 (new category 2007)

Chris Whittemore	1:25:31
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KAYAK MENS 2006 (new category 2006)

Doug Rogers	1:12:40
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CANOE RACE RESULT 2007

JUNIORS (0 canoes)

SENIORS WOMEN (2 canoes)

Barbara Gordon & Susan Thompson	1:27:53
Kay Armatage & Robyn McDonald-Katsuras	1:42:26

SENIORS MEN (2 canoes)

John Leonard & Rob Stuart	1:19:21
Chris Caswell & Ron Edding	1:22:13

WOMENS (5 canoes)

Kim Field & Heather MacLachlan	1:25:36
Laura Mayes & Samantha Thompson	1:28:07
Marilyn McAvoy & Anne Vanhoof	1:36:21
Rachel Francone & Carina Orschel	2:02:06
Samantha Lock & Natasha Pontbriand	2:16:14

MIXED (10 canoes)

Amy Rayburn & Sean Nyland	1:19:33
Katie Bacik & Brendan Rayburn	1:19:56
Erin Macdonald & Mike Banwell	1:28:02
Heather Caswell & Jake Edding	1:32:38
Wendy & John Kidd	1:33:01
Christine & Brian Kerr	1:34:13
Diane & John Macdonald	1:34:17
Kate & Dave Mak-fan	1:43:10
Jenn Mutrie & Steve Bunton	1:43:50
Nancy & Ron MacDonald	2:20:32

MENS (10 canoes)

Bill Bayard & John Spragg	1:12:48
Jesse Boyer & Tim Millar	1:16:43
Mike Kott & Tim Kott	1:17:21
Caleb Horst & Dwayne Moore	1:18:04
Sean Fletcher & Andrew Palm	1:19:37
Jesse Hopkins & Scott Woodard	1:23:37
Sam Swain & Zach Swain	1:26:06
Robert Macdonald & Craig Ortwer	1:40:32
Andrew Vanhoof & Andy Vanhoof	1:48:37
Joey Hancock & Tim Pearson	2:14:32

OPEN (11 boats)

Eric, Jean, Sierra & Tyler Orschel	1:14:59
Logan, Morgan, Peggy & Roman Boehm	1:24:49
Danielle Cassin & Kevin & Todd Mansfield	1:29:48
Jeff, Mason & Taylor Brown	1:34:28
Courtney & Bran Hardy	1:44:41
Alison Kay, Eve MacArthur & Patrick Wing	1:54:30
Jamie & Cindy Leonard & Brooke Leonard-Borcak	1:59:57
Alex, Mike & Nick Schiller	2:04:36
Colleen Gillroy, Christine Macdonald & Danny Watson	2:04:48

KAYAK WOMEN (4 boats)

Chris Whittemore	1:25:31
Julie Lock	1:29:21
Laurie Bruce	1:29:38
Katie Mutrie	1:32:04

KAYAK MEN (7 boats)

Doug Rodger	1:19:22
Colin Macdonald	1:20:38
Kyle Woodard	1:23:36
Rob Stimers	1:30:23
Bill Sorochar	1:31:12
Michael Bartley	1:36:46
Marty Smith	2:07:34

RUNNING

3 & under	Robert Field
4-6 years	Michael Field & Jacob Traynor
7-9 years	Jamie Mower
10-16 years	Jessica Mower
3 & under	Quinn Binnie
7-9 years	Jacob Bayard & Adam Sprugg
10-16 years	Jessica Mower & Mitchell Binnie

HOP RACE

3 & under	Jacob Bayard & Adam Sprugg
7-9 years	Jessica Mower & Mitchell Binnie
10-16 years	Jacob Traynor

SHOE KICK


4-6 years	Jacob Traynor
7-9 years	Jamie Mower
10-16 years	Zachary Catlin

BUBBLE BLOWING CONTEST


SHOE KICK	LADIES	Jamie Mower
		1 ST Melissa Rayburn
		2 ND Amy Rayburn
	MENS	1 ST Bill Bayard
		2 ND Colin MacDonald
BALLOON TOSS	ADULT/CHILD	Sierra & Eric Orschel
	ADULT	Scott Woodard & Gillian /
		John Spragg & Bill Bayard
EGG TOSS	ADULT/CHILD	Tyler & Eric Orschel
	ADULT	Mitchell Binnie & Erin Legge

Thanks!!!

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