



McGregor Bay Association Newsletter 2023

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New Research into Long Term Water Levels in the Great Lakes

Updates from Garden Group

St. Christopher's Church News

What's New with Dessert with a Dash

Water Quality Testing Revived – Become a Water Ranger

Remembering



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For more information about the McGregor Bay Association go to
[:www.mcgregorbayassociation.ca](http://www.mcgregorbayassociation.ca) ,
 or send us an email at:
mcgregorbayassociation@gmail.com

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Dessert with a Dash..... Doris Cowan
Environment.....Ian Cook/Ken Lather
Fire Protection.....Ed Schillemore/Dan Stevens
Fisher Harbour.....Gerry Quin
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Georgian Bay Association..... Bill Steiss
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Membership.....Eleanor Pardoe
Nature Program.....vacant
Newsletter/Directory.....Gillian Woodrooffe
**Nominating.....Doris Cowan/Eleanor Pardoe/
 Anne Harvey**
Picnics/Water Festival.....Bryan McDonald
Sailing Program.....Holly Higen
Social.....Karin Lauderback
Web Site.....John Woodrooffe/Steve Morgan
WFRN Liason.....John Woodrooffe



Photo: Gregg Miller

President's Message



After a two-year hiatus, 2022 was the first summer in two years that the annual general meeting was held. It was so great to see everyone getting back in stride. A big thank you to all the volunteers who make McGregor Bay Association such a welcoming and positive force in our community. Last summer we hosted our first McGregor Bay Town Hall meeting which was a great success. It gave birth to our "Dark Sky" effort initiated by Angel Lillard. The 2023 Town Hall meeting will take place July 11 at 11:00AM and everyone is welcome.

Dark Sky Project

The focus for the Dark Sky project has been to work with the Lafarge Cement Plant to better control their lighting. Operations Manager Howie Scruton has been extremely supportive and has made significant changes to their lighting. Some of the brighter lights have been permanently turned off and most other lights will go dark by 10:00PM. Lighting will be required when ships are being loaded at night. Lafarge is required to keep the red lights at the top of the concrete silos turned on permanently for aircraft. A big thank you to Lafarge and Howie for working with the McGregor Bay Association in reducing light pollution.

Internet Service

Last year the MBA purchased Starlink internet service. It is available for member use at the community / church hall from May until November. The signal is be strong enough for users to sit on the porch, enjoy the scenery and scroll.

New Not-For-Profit Regulations

Canada has instituted new regulations for not-for-profit organizations which require us to update our MBA By-Laws. The MBA has hired the law firm of Gardiner Roberts LLP to update our by-laws to bring them in compliance with these new regulations. The draft by-laws will be distributed to members for review in advance of the annual general meeting. The new by-laws will be put to a vote at our AGM meeting on July 30.

Underused Housing Tax

Registration for exemption to the new Underused Housing Tax has been extended to October 31, 2023. It is a 1% tax assigned to non-Canadian property owners who do not live in their dwellings year-round. If their property is uninhabitable or inaccessible during winter, they will be eligible for the exemption, but they must make an application. For more information go to: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/taxes/excise-taxes-duties-and-levies/underused-housing-tax.html>

Water Levels

Water levels in Lake Huron and Georgian Bay are slightly lower than last year, continuing the expected downward trend after our very high-water years. While frustrating to manage docks with these fluctuations, the recently published Environment Canada Climate Change report on future great lake water levels, gives reassurance that lake levels are not expected to exceed maximum and minimum historic levels by much in this century.

Final Note

This is my last term as your president, and I would like to thank you very much for your support and cooperation over the past several years. It has been an honour serving you. We look forward to the next president who will continue to make the McGregor Bay Association stronger and protect this precious jewel where we come to refresh our minds and souls.

John Woodrooffe

Membership Report

Eleanor Pardoe, Membership Chair

After two years of Covid restrictions, I am happy to report that our membership numbers are beginning to return to our pre-pandemic numbers. In 2022 we had 150 regular members which is approaching the 170 plus regular memberships we had pre-Covid. Thank you to so many of you who paid for their memberships despite not being able to be present at The Bay. Without your support, we could not have continued to offer the services our members are accustomed to receiving. If you know of any new cottage owners who might not be aware of the MBA please let us know and we will reach out to them.

Your membership helps pay for the many services that the MBA offers to the community including the maintenance of fire pumps and equipment strategically distributed at 10 different locations throughout the bay. The MBA is also responsible for the placement of buoys that mark major shoals and access channels to the different parts of the bay. Starting this year, a new Starlink internet dish is now offered to the St. Christopher's Church Community Hall. This, in addition to our interactive website keeps members of the community connected. Your dues also provide you with a membership to the Georgian Bay Association which handles high profile issues related to the stewardship of Georgian Bay waters. Membership also covers the expenses of the many social events that let us connect with each other. These include picnics at Red Sand Beach, a Water Festival, the Friday Kayak Club, Junior Sailing instruction, Senior Sailing races, and the Monday evening *Dessert with a Dash* series of speakers series who share their expertise on a variety of topics. The MBA's flagship social event of the year is its sumptuous dinner that follows its Annual General Meeting.

The McGregor Bay Association is counting on your support so that we can continue to offer these valuable services in the Bay.

Below is a list of Membership Categories:

- Regular Membership: \$120
- Extended Family: \$35
- Business: \$90
- Friend of the Bay: \$50

Methods of Payment:

Payment can be done through our website at <https://mcgregorbayassociation.ca>. At the top right of the opening page find the "Login / Sign up" message. For existing members choose "Log-in" and follow the messaging. For new members, select "Sign Up". Either way, you can choose to pay with an e-transfer or a credit card to renew directly or download a membership form that can be mailed with a cheque to:

Eleanor Pardoe
220 Caithness
St E Caledonia, ON
N3W 1C2

Thank you for your support.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Morgan

In 2022 we saw a return to pre-COVID association activities and similarly close to pre-COVID membership levels. Our expenses increased from \$12,706 in 2021 to \$30,723 in 2022 and a corresponding increase in our revenues from \$18,288 in to \$32,417. We ended the year with \$30,081 in operating cash - an increase of \$3,294 over 2021. The expense, revenue and operating cash amounts are all in line with pre-COVID longer term averages all of which puts us on sound financial footing.

We have retained the law firm of Gardiner Roberts LLP to assist us in complying with the new provincial legislation called the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA). The estimated cost of fees associated with this effort range from \$4,000-\$6,000 and will be paid out of the Rainbow Fund, which had a balance at year end 2022 of \$81,280.

My time as treasurer is coming to an end. We hope to find a new volunteer during 2023 to take over the duties. I've had the pleasure to serve with a great number of wonderful people who also volunteer their time and energies to help make McGregor Bay such a unique place.


				STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES			
				Year ended		December 31	
				2022	2021		
 <p style="text-align: center;">THE MCGREGOR BAY ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2022</p>				Revenue:			
				Revenue from memberships:			
				Regular members	\$ 19,320	\$ 12,940	
				Extended family members	3,335	1,785	
				Associate members	360	90	
				Friends of the Bay	300	100	
				Less: PayPal fees	(452)	(329)	
				Total	22,863	14,586	
				Other revenue:			
				Members' voluntary contributions	10,309	3,030	
				Less: contributions directed to Rainbow Fund (Note 1)	(1,000)	(480)	
				Investment income (Note 1)	512	512	
				US exchange	245	160	
				Total	9,554	3,702	
BALANCE SHEET							
				As at December 31			
				2022	2021		
Assets:							
Operating cash				\$ 30,081	\$ 26,787		
Investments (Note 1)				71,000			
Receivable from Polk Bursary fund				700	-		
Cash reserved for investment				\$ 10,280	\$ 80,280		
Total assets				\$ 112,061	\$ 107,067		
Liabilities:							
Dues payable - Georgian Bay Association				\$ 7,400	\$ 4,100		
Prepaid membership dues				-			
Stier Memorial Fund					\$ 1,000		
				7,400	5,100		
Members' equity:							
From operations				23,381	21,687		
Rainbow Fund (Note 1)				81,280	80,280		
				104,661	101,967		
Total liabilities and equity				\$ 112,061	\$ 107,067		
				Total revenue			
				32,417	18,288		
				Expenses:			
				Membership dues - Georgian Bay Association	7,400	4,100	
				Newsletter & membership directory	3,227	3,188	
				Facilities rental - Parish Hall	6,000		
				AGM, picnics, social events	4,854	-	
				Insurance	2,687	2,608	
				Mailing costs - GBA Update	1,221	1,399	
				Fire protection	666	90	
				Membership dues - FOCA	449	661	
				Donations - First Nation	-	-	
				Website	-	-	
				Navigation aids	645	-	
				Dessert with a Dash, nature activities	435	-	
				Nature Committee	-	-	
				Postage & office supplies	2,069	-	
				Bank charges	147	79	
				Subscriptions	923	581	
				Water testing	-	-	
				Donations	-	-	
				Sailing & kayaking	-	-	
				Total expenses	30,723	12,706	
				Operations - excess of revenue over expenses			
				1,694	5,582		
				Members' equity from operations, beginning of year			
				21,687	16,105		
				Members' equity from operations, end of year			
				\$ 23,381	\$ 21,687		



Photo: Zoe McDougal

New Research on Great Lake Long Term Water Level Fluctuations

John Woodrooffe

About the ECCC Research Study

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) recently published a report that explored the influence of climate change on average annual Great Lakes water levels using a matrix of 13 regional climate models to account for variations in precipitation and evaporation throughout the Great Lakes basin. To estimate lake levels, the combined output from the climate and hydrological models known as Net Basin Supply (NBS) and the Regulation and Routing Model (CGLRRM) which is currently used for water level management. In essence, the research project combines two distinct modeling efforts.

What is novel about the study is modelling regional variations in climate to provide a more granular

analysis of Great Lakes NBS. It is noteworthy that the CGLRRM used to calculate water levels was created for predicting lake levels within historic water level limits but not designed or validated for predicting water levels beyond historic levels.

The study selected two climate change scenarios: a middle-of-the-road scenario having some mitigation of emissions (intermediate climate change scenario), and a business-as-usual scenario where little action is taken to combat climate change (high-emissions climate change scenario).

Results of ECCC Study

The projected probability of exceedance of the monthly mean lake level differences for Lakes Huron-Michigan for 2050 and 2080 relative to historical levels are shown in the following tables.

Table 1: Intermediate climate change scenario (meters)

Huron-Michigan	5%	50%	95%
Historical (1961-2000)	+0.59	0	-0.71
2050	+0.88	+0.19	-0.57
2080	+0.84	+0.22	-0.40

Table 2: High-emissions climate change scenario (meters)

Huron-Michigan	5%	50%	95%
Historical (1961-2000)	+0.59	0.0	-0.71
2050	+0.77	+0.07	-0.69
2080	+1.27	+0.53	-0.25

Note: The tables include 5th and 95th percentage exceedance, a variation of percentile obtained by subtracting the percentile value from 100 per cent

The 50% probability of exceedance represents predicted annual mean values relative to the historical water level data recorded from 1961 to 2000. The findings suggest that average annual water levels are not expected to change very much in the next 60 years, except for the high emissions case towards the end of the century.

Importantly though, the ECCC study warns the reader not to focus on the extreme water levels that were found for a small number of the simulations, as their statistical significance and physical robustness require additional investigation, which is beyond the scope of the study.

It is also necessary to consider the limitations of the CGLRRM used to calculate water levels. This model was developed as a tool for development of the regulation plans and is quite limited in its validated scope. The CGLRRM manual advises that supply sequences outside of historical ranges may result in impractical output values. More precisely, the model is not designed to calculate water levels beyond those occurring in the past 100 years and does not account groundwater transfer between subbasins. It does not account for vertical/lateral movement of lake surface to calculate basin runoff as water levels rise above known values (Kayastha et al. (2022)). The limitations of the model tend to generate higher water level predictions, and the errors are likely to be greater with increased divergence from maximum historical values.

As for other research, there are very few studies that have explored long-term lake level forecasting. The following two refereed journal articles have simulated long-term lake levels for the Upper Great Lakes:

Lofgren et al (2002) predicted dry and wet scenarios resulting in mean water level changes ranging from -1.38 to +0.35 m (-4.5 to +1.1 ft) for Lake Michigan-Huron by 2081-2100 relative to 1954-1995. Angel and Kunkel (2010) predicted that the full range of water levels for Michigan-Huron is -1.77 to +0.89 m (-5.8 to +2.9 ft) during 2080-2094, relative to 1970-1999. The paper emphasized that there is a large range of uncertainty regarding long-term projections of future lake levels. In balance, including the most recent ECCC study, we have three different studies that are arriving at similar late-century water level predictions for the Upper Great lakes.

Understanding Michigan-Huron Lake Levels

The recent State of the Great Lakes 2022 Report published jointly by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and ECCC reported that water levels in Lakes Michigan-Huron show no significant overall average change over the last 100 years. In addition, despite great variations in lake levels year to year, their peak maximum and minimum water levels have remained relatively constant.

Nevertheless, the year-to-year water level variations have been problematic for us all. When the lakes were at their lowest level, people thought water levels would never come back. But the water levels rose with a vengeance, without human intervention, and peaked just six years later. The ferocity with which the water returned between 2013 and 2019 underscores the power of the natural system, making any water level control mechanism that we might consider inept if not counterproductive. Rapid changes from low to high water have occurred several times before.

The periods between 1949-1952 and 1982-1986 had

higher rates of water level change than this most recent period of 2013–2019. In essence, the 2019–2020 high water years are not unusual, and the yearly averages are consistent with the historical record.

At the GBA/GBF water level symposium, Erika Klyszejko, Engineering Advisor with the Canadian Section of the International Joint Commission (IJC) advised that there are profound limits to what can be achieved because of the extreme fluctuations of Lake Huron-Michigan and attempts to alleviate conditions in one area are likely to affect others. The experts tell us that Lake Michigan-Huron water level variations cannot be controlled in a substantive way given the raw power of the natural system.

The one control we have available, known as Plan 2012, was implemented by the IJC in 2015. It relies on existing control structures to provide improved regulation of outflows from Lake Superior in consideration of both Lake Superior and Michigan-

Huron, and provides modest benefits for

commercial navigation, hydroelectric generation, and coastal zone interests under a broad range of water supply conditions. An important aspect of Plan 2012 is the provision of a more natural flow regime in the St. Marys River.

There are many forces trying to exploit the lakes, but few organizations protect them. Clearly, the IJC has proven to be the most important organization as it considers all stakeholders and provides balanced decisions supported by science.

With our current understanding of water level variations and management practice for the Upper Great Lakes, we have little choice but to accept continued water level fluctuations in Georgian Bay. Our best path forward is to adopt a practice of respecting the inconvenient character of water level change and accepting that lake levels are not ours to control.



Photo: Gillian Woodrooffe



Reviving Water Quality Testing in McGregor Bay

Whether fishing, boating, swimming or even drinking, everything we enjoy about McGregor Bay is affected by the quality of the water. We are lucky that we still have good water quality. It's important that we keep it that way, and that we can detect if water quality is degrading.

For years the McGregor Bay Association along with NEMI has supported valuable testing of the waters of the Bay. This testing was halted because of Covid, but now the association wants to re-start using an expanded testing program throughout the bay.

The Water Rangers (waterrangers.ca) is a Canadian company that provides easy-to-use, accessible, custom water quality test kits for use by lake and river stewards throughout North America. Most importantly the data is collected on an open-data platform, allowing for following trends and comparing to related water bodies. The expanded program will test water temperature, conductivity, chlorine, pH, alkalinity, hardness, dissolved oxygen, and clarity. At a minimum we want to test about a dozen sites scattered around the bay once a month from May till October.

The MBA is looking for "citizen science" volunteers! This rewarding activity would involve visiting pre-determined locations in the bay and conducting a series of pretty simple tests right at the site on the water and entering the data on a phone app (or collecting the data in a notebook and downloading later).

Water-testing volunteers will need access to a boat. Testing will take only 10 or 15 minutes to conduct. Probably half the points around the bay could be hit in a morning. Depending on how many volunteers we get, you may just have to do a couple of points, just in the time that you are up in the bay.

If you think this is something you could help us out with, or you have questions, please contact me at icookdvm@rogers.com. I'll work on coordinating the effort for the MBA. I'm hoping we can get some young people with environmental concerns involved; it could be used to contribute to required high school volunteer hours. But this is a good project for anyone!

- **Ian Cook**

Celebrating Winter – The Polar Dip Way...



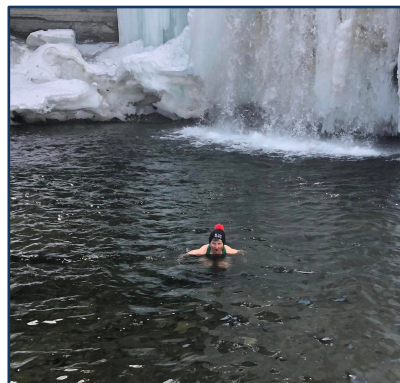
Day 1

From Michelle Fleming: Here are two photos of my daughter Emma from this past Family Day Weekend. She made a hole in the ice with an axe then then had an ice bath. You can see in Day 1 photo that it's not so easy! Day 2, a glass of red wine really helped!



Day 2

Laurie Masters, Grace Shawanda and Rick Cumini experimented with different polar dip techniques....





Trivia Night – Revived!

Sue Miller

Were you at Trivia 2022? Did you know who G’Pa, Papa Dave, Gramps, HollyGran and Rot Alot were/are? What about the last summer Ironsides hosted a big floating birthday party in the Bay? Or that there is a fruit which forbids you from secretly marrying? Of course that would be the “cantaloupe”! Do you know the full name for the angel in It’s A Wonderful Life? Howie Bridges left 14 year old shoes to fill, and what a daunting task that was for Trivia 2022!

We had 28 show up last August for a brain-teasing, memory testing evening. Thank you for coming out to carry this tradition forward, for the laughter, for taking on challenging questions of Bay history, Manitoulin history, fishing trivia, fondly remembering many Bay caretakers.

Our winning team came back as strong as ever! Congrats to Carl, Jennifer, Suzie, Hal, Chuck, Lynn and Lyn!

Join us again this year for more fun, laughter, and brain teasing. Returning categories will be Balls of Fun and Christmas in August. New this year *might* be Where Are You From license plate trivia, how well do you know Animals, Birds, and Snakes, and how well do you know Shakespeare and Disney?!



And the winners are...

L to R: Susie Griffith, Carl Botan, Chuck Stanich, Jenifer McCreedy, Hal Griffith, Lynn Stanich, Lyn Starke, Sue Miller

Dessert with a Dash of....

Doris Cowan

"Dessert with a Dash of ..." continues to be a highly popular Monday evening event among McGregor Bay cottagers. Most evenings saw more than 50 people in attendance. As in the past, the evening series will begin with dessert being served at 6:30 p.m. followed by a featured talk at 7:00 pm - unless otherwise noted. Many thanks to our speakers and to our president John Woodrooffe for his weekly DWAD reminders throughout last summer. Organizers Margaret Beard and Doris Cowan invite you join in and select from any or all the smorgasbord of topics listed below and be prepared to be thoroughly entertained!

Monday, July 3rd – Discover Fishing

For a second year, Brian Still of Stillwater Fishing & Tours will take a break from his busy tour schedule and share his knowledge about fishing in the Bay, including tips on latest equipment and where to find the fish. Come join us and talk fishing!

July 10th - Our Cottage History

This is a continuation of a series that began in 2013. Zoe McDougall will talk about her family cottage on Vim Island, its history, and its construction. She will also talk about her grandfather, Thad Patten and his crew of first Nation surveyors who travelled across Northern Ontario.



July 17th – Marty Rosen's Annual Folk Concert

Marty Rosen, who hails from Kentucky and Manitoulin Island, will give a concert beginning at 6:30 p.m. with the dessert segment starting at six. Marty has a wonderful repertoire of folk music and delights in presenting music by artists unknown outside their home regions.

July 24th – Research Updates on McGregor Bay's Blanding's Turtles

Reta Meng, a PhD student, began studying Blanding's Turtle in McGregor Bay 2 years ago. Her focus has been on understanding how Blanding's Turtles use the archipelago of the Bay. This year, her research is to develop protection plans for the turtles by weaving together local and indigenous knowledge with western science.

July 31st – Birding by Ear

When Ian Cook is not lounging by the water at his cottage in Iroquois Bay, he can be found roaming the area's woods and wetlands looking and listening for birds. His presentation will give you tricks for identifying those mystery birds you hear at the cottage or at home, techniques for remembering them, and suggestions on using technology to may help you out.

August 7th – Hiking through Nepal's Taplejun District

John Woodrooffe will talk about his adventures hiking in a remote corner of Nepal's Taplejung District bordering Tibet. The group trekked and camped along ancient unmarked trails and over mountain passes and through ancient villages where few Westerners venture

August 14th - Storytelling

Last year, nearly 60 people came to listen to our storytellers. This year we are on the lookout for more storytellers who want to spend 8-10 minutes sharing their tales of adventures about the Bay or about any other topic worth sharing. If you are interested in participating contact Doris at dorisinca@yahoo.com in the coming months to help her develop future programs.

**Come One, Come All
Prepare to Be Entertained!**



Bridge Club News

The summer of 2022 was the most successful for bridge club for participation ever. We had 5 tables almost every week. Young, old, new, and experienced players added to the mix. It was just a wonderful experience.

I had the pleasure of transporting 7 ladies to the parish Hall many a week. They became known as "Dick's Chicks". It was great fun for me and them.

Up until now we have depended on Marge Hicks to tally the score after play is complete. It is an arduous task, taking a lot of brain power and time. She has done a wonderful job.

This year (2023) with Starlink available we will be able to use a software program that will give us immediate results, and we will be able to see how other players bid and played the hand. I will put information on the McGregor Bay Friends Facebook page once the technical issues are complete. You will be able to register and see who else is playing.

We would love to have more players join our group on Wednesdays at 10:00 am. Bring a lunch and a Toonie. We generally play from June to mid-September.

Looking forward to 2023,

- Dick Lockrem



Dick and the Chicks

GARDEN GROUP 2023

Lee Williams

Last season we enjoyed a successful outing to JD's Nursery on Manitoulin with a delicious lunch and shopped for new plants. They had just received a plant delivery, so we had our pick of many varieties. In August we gathered at Williams for our Annual Potluck, then continued on to Pardsay Craig to see what progress had been made on restoring the demolished buildings to nature. In the attached photos, you can get a sense of how quickly nature will take over if given the opportunity. Somewhere between 50-70 pines ranging from seedlings to four feet tall have been planted on mounds of soil delivered by Murray Still and then dispersed by Williams' grandkids. Many bags of flower and grass seeds were sown onto the soil. The weeds also cooperated.

The schedule for 2023 is as follows:

JUNE 6: 10:00 am - Clean-up of church grounds. Bring bag lunch, bucket and tools.

JUNE 20: 11:00 am – Meet at Casey Still's to view her new greenhouse on the hill behind her cabin. Please try to boat pool. Bring a bag lunch and a water bottle.

No meetings in July.

AUGUST 10: 11:00 am - Annual Pot Luck lunch at Laurie Masters and tour of her gardens. Please try to boat pool.

SEPTEMBER 6: 10:00 am Meet at St. Christopher's for the annual fall clean-up. Bring a bag lunch, water, bucket and tools.



Members of the Garden Group exam wildflowers at Pardsay Craig



All that remains of the buildings the main cottage that once stood on Pardsay Craig

St Christopher's Church 2022-23

Dick Lockrem

We had a great summer after two years of really missing the Church in the Bay. The best part was having Peter Wall and Judy Young preaching and guiding us through a restart of activities. Peter and Zoe McDougall added services on two Sundays in September, extending our usual season.

As is the tradition over the years, many programs overlap with MBA's activities, although there were fewer last year than we would have liked. One of the big hits of the summer was the MBA's Junior Sailing Program which was held at the Church Docks on Wednesday mornings. Last year, Junior Sailors saw Hannah Higen take the helm for the first time, and she ran a tight ship! Carol Philips graciously guided yoga participants on Monday mornings, splitting donations between the church and WFRN. Sue Miller ran a superb Trivia Evening, with donations being passed onto the Church. The Parish Hall saw successful Bridge Group meetings on Wednesdays with five tables playing, several Friday potlucks and an art show, again with proceeds going to the Church. It will just get better in 2023.

With extra work demands from cottagers due to several years of limited access to the Bay, Jim Ferguson and Doug Stevens had to give up maintaining the church property. All the new docks that were completed this year were built by Jim and company. We expect they will last for many years to come.

They deserve a large Thank You. We receive great financial support from the McGregor Bay Association to the tune of \$6,000 annually. This year, the MBA purchased and installed Starlink internet service in the Parish Community Hall for MBA members to use. We appreciate the initiative taken by MBA's current president, John Woodrooffe.

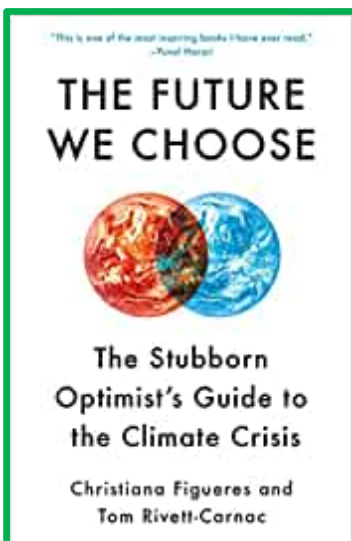
The church board is looking forward to the return of more activities next year. If you have questions or suggestions please contact me, Dick Lockrem, or the two wardens: Carl Botan or Meridith Randolph. Contact info is in the members list on the MBA website.



These delightful stained-glass windows with a McGregor Bay theme were created by the talented Lyn Starke for St. Christopher's church.



Introducing the Bay Green Book Talk



Join a new book study, the "Bay Green Book Talk" on July 25th from 1 to 2 pm, in the Parish Hall. We'll start with discussing the bestseller *The Future We Choose: The Stubborn Optimist's Guide to the Climate Crisis*, by Christiana Figueres and Tom Rivett-Carnac. The rain date in case of a storm will be July 27th, also at 1 pm in the Parish Hall.

On August 15th at 1 pm the Bay Green Book Talk will meet in the Parish Hall to finish looking at *The Future We Choose*, and to pick a book for 2024. August rain date will be Aug. 17th, also at 1 in the Parish Hall. All are welcome!

For further info contact Judy Young at: jsmithyoung@gmail.com



Louis Maier Alt Jr.

1944 - 2022



Louie Alt Jr. had a lifetime of adventures, scuba diving in the Virgin Islands, earning his pilot's license, and co-purchasing an ultralight airplane. In McGregor Bay he took special joy in summer and winter vacations with family at the cabin. Louie led the way in Bay adventures; hikes up Mt. Baldy and Dreamer's Rock, epic boat trips to the Benjamins and east of Killarney, canoe trips into Killarney Park, swimming in Lake Topaz, snowmobiling anywhere and everywhere, hosting New Years parties at the cabin, and being the childhood fishhook remover. Louie cherished his lifelong friends made at the Bay too and explored the natural beauty of the area on foot, by boat, jet ski, snowmobile, and ultralight. Louie was kind-hearted, a storyteller, and loved to be surrounded by friends. His final resting place will be in McGregor Bay.

Cathy Caldemyer

1954-2022



Cathy was born in Terrace Park, Ohio to John and Phyllis Smale. As a teenager Cathy first came to McGregor Bay, where her father, John loved to fly-fish. Cathy continued the heritage of loving the Bay and loving nature in the home built by John on TP 1620, known as Plymouth Rock. Cathy and husband Rob took over caring for the family camp in 2012, following the passing of the senior Smales. Her love of nature and parks everywhere, steered her to completing the John G. and Phyllis W. Smale Riverfront Park in Cincinnati, Ohio. Rob and their children: Lisa, fly-fisherman Christopher, and Madeline, continue to enjoy TP 1620, as do Cathy's brother Peter and sister Lisa. Shortly before her 2022 death, Cathy completed the project of publishing *Here Forever*, a book chronicling her father's life and career. In Smale Park in Cincinnati, there is now a shade garden called "Cathy's Garden," dedicated by the Cincinnati Parks and Foundation to this fearless advocate and lover of parks.

Jean Carmazzi

1928--2022



Jean spent many summers in the Bay with her husband Bob. Her initial visits were more work than pleasure as Dad focused on fishing. Truth be told, she was not too happy about coming to the Bay originally. However, once they purchased the cabin on "Smiley Island" their social life blossomed. She loved her time in Canada. They would spend at least 12 weeks each summer and friendships grew with each passing year. For example, son Tom remembers that when he and Deb and visited after being absent for 15 years, they were amazed by the "open house" Jean and Bob hosted. Probably 70 or 80 of their friends ventured to their cabin in the pouring rain.

Mom's last year in the Bay was 2021 when she visited briefly and was sad to leave. Over the years, she brought the cabin to life with her boundless energy and willingness to do anything fun. She was eager to participate in any and all activities

including boating, hiking, fishing, swimming, and simply walking laps from the boathouse to the cabin. Mom leaves us with fond memories of her quick smile, her robust laugh, and her heart-felt desire to make people feel at home. All of which are things we wish to continue in her honor. We love you Mom. Say “hi” to Dad and Joe.

Joe Carmazzi

1947-- 2022



Joe’s love of the Bay started in his early 20’s when he learned of the amazing fishing from a friend at work. Then we all came up and fished non-stop for at least a week if not two.

Joe, by nature, was a very disciplined and thoughtful person, who lived the adage “if you failed to plan, you planned to fail”. And fishing was a wonderful arena for his strengths to prove fruitful. Joe was an avid reader; and one of his favorite books was the Bass Pro Catalog. Every year he bought more lures that can fit in most tackle boxes. And he knew the details of every one: time of day; where to use; type of fish; and most importantly – how. For all his seriousness about fishing, I was always amazed how it turned to joy once he got in the boat. Suddenly stories were shared and laughter ensued. It became apparent all his “planning” was for just that moment – which was the true pleasure he experienced by being on the water with family. To Joe, that was Heaven.

We will miss Joe greatly, but he has left his legacy in the Bass Pro “distribution center” that exists in our cabin! We have so many reminders of the things he loved and more importantly how he made us smile and feel a part of his sanctuary. We love you Joe, and we could use your help in catching another big one!

J.Charles Honeycutt (Charlie)

1929-2023



Charlie Honeycutt was born in Tennessee and fell in love with being on the water while he served in the US Navy during the Korean war. During his years of summering in McGregor Bay, Charlie was active in St. Christopher’s Church, and as we walk up from the boat docks this summer to the church, we will remember Charlie Honeycutt--he was the one who organized the project of our lovely safe walkways. Charlie also was a kind teacher of boating skills in MBA activities for children. His favorite activity was fishing and boating in McGregor Bay with family and friends. Charlie made a habit of being there to help folks dock when they arrived at the Parish Hall. He taught his grandson to do the same, so very helpful especially on a windy day. Charlie was a perfect gentleman, dressed as though he was just coming from the Golf Club, as he helped out however he could, with a smile on his face.

Lamont Jacobs Jr.

1937 - 2020



Lamont’s first visit to McGregor Bay was in 1948 with his dad--Lamont (Monty) Jacobs (Monty and Lamont, left; Lamont with daughter Kenda, right). Monty loved the area so much that in 1954 he purchased a cabin on island #1384. It is called Jacobs Hideaway, or LaLaDaCaTaWe after Monty’s six children, Lamont, Lamar, Darla, Candy, Tad, and Wendy. In the 1970s and 80s, Lamont Jr. would open the cabin up every May with the men of his family, and close it every October with his friends--The McGregor Bay Bums. Lamont loved the outdoors, canoeing, fishing, hiking, but most of all, sharing these loves with his family. The Jacobs family continues to enjoy all the natural blessings that McGregor Bay has to offer. When family gets together, the cabin in McGregor Bay, and all the memories held there, is where the conversation flourishes.

Lamont passed away on March 11, 2020. His last visit to the bay was two years before that, when his whole family celebrated his 80th birthday on island #1384.

Steve Marks

1946 - 2023



Steve spent summers in McGregor Bay for over 40 years, with his wife Martha and their family. Martha's family owned their island starting in 1950 for over 70 years and built a rich history within the Bay with friends and family over the years. While Steve lived in Canada for 25+ years, he was born in Iowa, and grew up in Maryland. He served in the US Air Force and was stationed in Taiwan during the Vietnam War.

Steve looked forward to his trip North every year and would be ready to leave to drive north long before the sun came up. From joking around with Ann & Godfrey (and then Murray) at the docks while he got gas, to planning all the big projects with the Fergusons, to hitting his favorite fishing spots (Bakers Channel among them), to exploring Split Rock, the Potholes and Quiet Bay, the trips always renewed his soul and brought him great joy. You would see his shoulders settle, and the big smile on his face as they drove from the dock out into the channel towards the cottage. It was one of his family's favorite moments.

Steve loved to spend his days "fixing" things on the island, building, woodworking, and sitting on the deck and the dock taking in the beautiful views. He knew the Bay like the back of his hand and proved it when he had to navigate a few trips at night.

When the Marks children were young, their dad was one of the best campfire and Smores builders out there. He could pick the best spots for adventure and exploring, introducing them to what a Loon sounded like (and that it wasn't scary!). He taught them how to fish, and how to drive a boat while navigating the HUGE rocks under water. At night, they would watch the stars and enjoy what they could look like when city lights don't pollute the night sky.

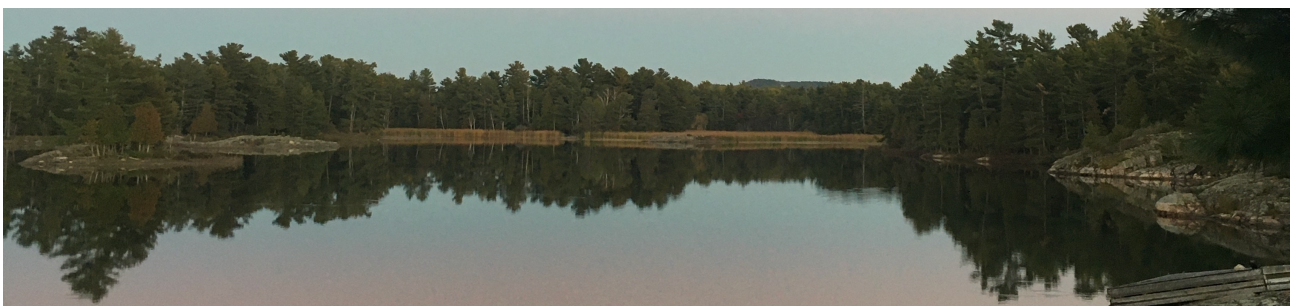
Steve's love of Manitoulin and the people passed along to his son and daughter. For daughter Heather Armiger, taking her daughter there so that her Papa could teach her how to drive the boat and how to fish, and taking trips to Ten Mile Point and the amazing shop there, are some of her most precious memories. And while this incredible man is no longer with us, memories of him and of time in the Bay will always be in the hearts of his family. It is "heaven on earth" as Steve's wife Martha always says, and the family is so grateful that they got to experience it together.

Walter Curry Melton

1932 - 2021



Walter Curry Melton, of Columbia, MO passed away on June 23, 2021, at home at age 88. Walt, an engineer, was in 1968 appointed the Deputy Director of the 4-man Aerospace study group called System 621B--subsequently named Global Positioning System (GPS). Walt was one of the original inductees in the GPS Joint Program Office Hall of Fame in El Segundo, for early analysis of the theory and performance of GPS. Subsequently in 1998 he was inducted into the Space Technology Hall of Fame for GPS development. Because of Walt's love for the Bay, his family memorial will be a gathering in McGregor Bay to hoist a glass or two in his memory.



Ed Streacker and MaryAnne Streacker

1939 – 2019

1941 – 2022



After being introduced to McGregor Bay, Ed Streacker made it his mission to purchase some property from Ruben Green. Along with some friends, he completed the cottage in 1967. One of the earliest Bay stories of Ed and MaryAnn and their 3 boys, Jeff, Greg and Brian had to do with a pie, a bear, and MaryAnn in the buff behind the cottage. Ruben Green was over for dinner as he often was. MaryAnn had just baked a lemon meringue pie and set it outside to cool. A bear with a sweet tooth sniffed it out when MaryAnn, just out of the shower saw through a window a bear going after her pie. She screamed "Bear!" and Ruben ran out the front door, chased the bear back into the bush, rescuing the pie.

While pulling family members on a tube behind the boat, Ed would call out "Watch this!" and masterfully crank the steering wheel this way and that, then belly-laughing after his unsuspecting offspring (or their wives) went end-for-end across Bay.

Ed assigned the boys tasks of removing nails from 2x4's while he was working on something. "Eddie steady, we wanna go fishin' " they would sing waiting until he was done and they could all go fishing.

The joke was always to never let Ed drive the Kubota around the uneven property at the cottage. Every year Ed would roll that Kubota over along the beach and require assistance righting it up. Ed would also fall in "the drink" - every. year.

It drove MaryAnn crazy to have her cottage interior fooled with. Many times she would open the cottage to find her loon plates turned upside down, or her loon afghan in the master bedroom taken down and put back up upside down and backwards. The kicker was the Molson Canadian bottle caps on top of the ceiling fan blades. She and Ed thought the cottage was "under fire" when they turned the ceiling fan on. Boy, did we hear about it later. One summer, it was the family project to count the number of loon images or objects housed in the cottage. Last count: 600+ and counting. Hence MaryAnn's Ohio personalized license plate : IMALOON.

Ed & MaryAnn spent many hours volunteering, helping neighbors with projects, assisting with running St. Christopher's Church auction, and making repairs on the parish grounds.

Ed passed away on April 27, 2019. MaryAnn hung out with us for a while, but didn't enjoy much of that time without Ed. Health problems intensified, and she joined him in the great Bay of Heaven on October 19, 2022.

Phyllis Turner

1929 - 2021



Phyllis Anne Uffelmann Turner was born in 1929 in Waterloo County, Ontario. She met Barney Turner in McGregor Bay in 1953, on an island they later bought to spend their retirement years. Their first date was to Okeechobee Lodge.

She married Barney in 1954 and raised three children in Little Current. While they owned the store in McGregor Bay, from 1980-2000, Phyllis and Barney worked side by side with each of their children and two daughters-in-law. Mother of Anne Turner Casson (Bryn), Grant Turner (Betsy), Jib Turner (Debby), six granddaughters and two great grandchildren, Phyllis died in 2021 of cancer at age 91.

Andy Zwiefler

1930 - 2022



Andrew Zwifler, MD, loved McGregor Bay. From his first visit with dear friends Don and Sybil Stokes around 1986, until the last summer of his life (when he caught a big pike!) Andy was captivated. His whole family was. Recreation at the Bay was a contrast to Andy's busy life as an educator, a scholar, an innovator, and a champion and pioneer in calling out and addressing racial injustice in the medical field, and in the Michigan community where he lived.

Andy worked closely with Black faculty and administrators in the 1960s to increase Black student enrollment at the University of Michigan Medical School, and to support Black medical students. His commitment led him to spend a sabbatical year at Meharry Medical School, a predominantly Black medical school in Nashville, Tennessee, in 1967-68. Andy and his wife Ruth also worked with several like-minded couples to purchase a house in their neighborhood to make it available as low-income housing. Andy and his wife Ruth also worked with several like-minded couples to purchase a house in their neighborhood to make it available as low-income housing. He was also a founding Board member of Physicians for the Prevention of Gun Violence. Andy enjoyed playing recorder, woodworking, reading, sailing and fishing, or maybe just casting – particularly in McGregor Bay. He also loved sailing, windsurfing, and working at camp and in the garden. McGregor Bay was Andy's happy place.

Memorials are appreciated to the Ruth and Andy Zweifler Policy and Advocacy Fund, 124 Pearl Street, STE 504, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197.



Photo: Sue Miller