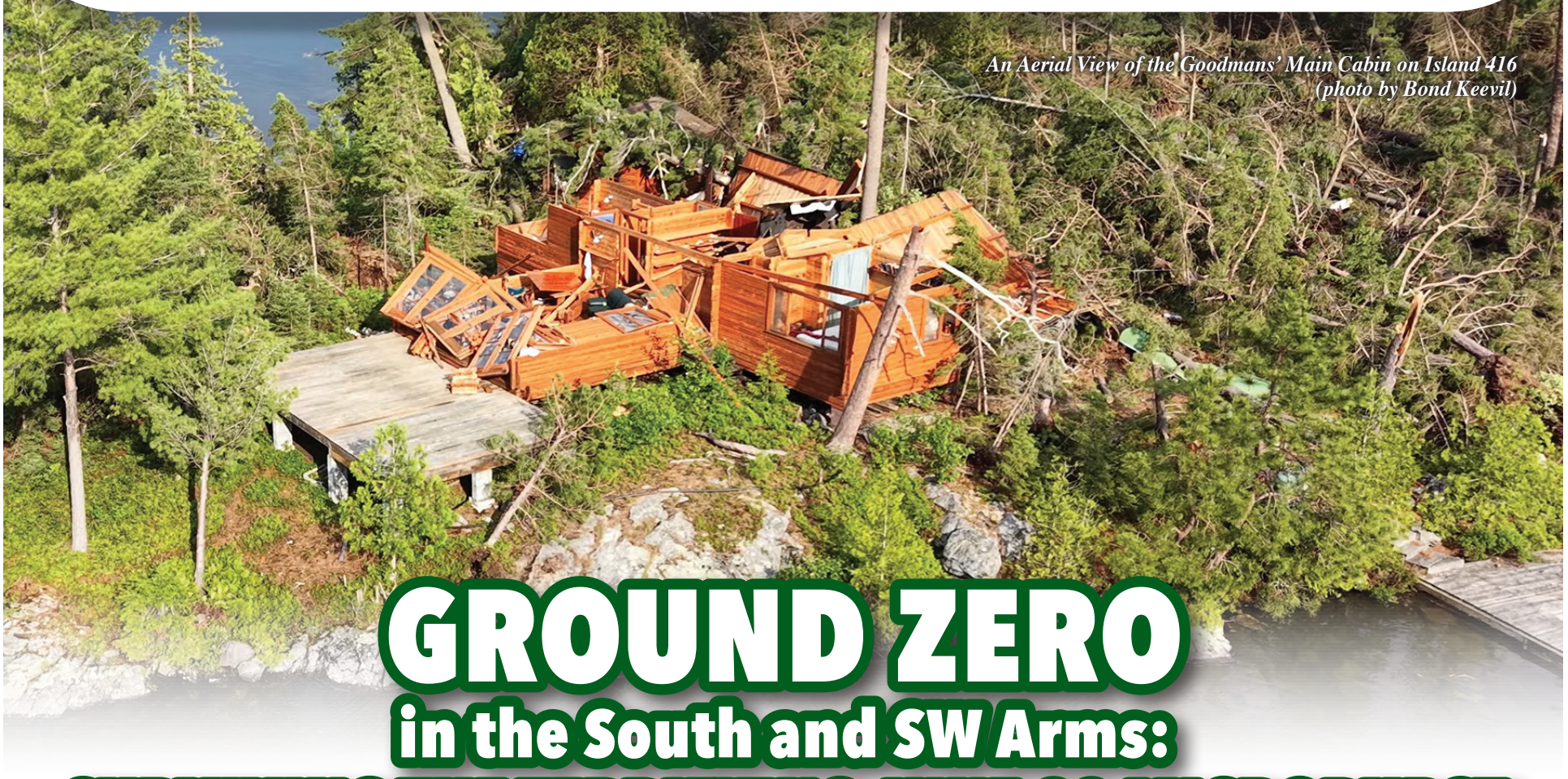
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TEMAGAMI TIMES

THE VOICE OF THE TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION (TLA) FALL 2026

The Temagami Lakes Association Celebrates 95 Years: 1931 to 2026



An Aerial View of the Goodmans' Main Cabin on Island 416 (photo by Bond Keevil)

GROUND ZERO in the South and SW Arms: SURVIVING THE TERRIFYING JUNE 30 MICROBURST

By Will Goodman, Island 352

TEMAGAMI – When the sky over Lake Temagami's Southwest Arm turned an ominous shade of dark purple on the evening of June 30, 2026, my wife and I expected a typical summer downpour. Instead, we found ourselves trapped in the crosshairs of an EF2-rated downburst that forever altered our Lake's landscape. Packing winds between 180 and 220 kilometres per hour, the storm turned our island paradise into a harrowing, hour-long battle against nature.

AN HOUR OF SEPARATION AND TERROR:

As the first violent gusts began to whip across the water at approximately 5:30 p.m., my wife and I found ourselves taking shelter in separate cabins on our property. Within minutes, the storm escalated into full-blown fury, trapping us apart.

For the next hour, we were entirely isolated from one another. Inside the cabins, the noise was deafening – a continuous, terrifying roar of torrential rain and howling winds punctuated by the sharp, explosive cracks of fracturing timber. With zero visibility out the windows and no way to safely cross the property, I could only wait out the storm's duration while fearing the worst for my wife as towering, ancient giants began crashing down all around us.

THE AFTERMATH ON OUR ISLAND:

When the wind finally subsided, and we were frantically reunited, we stepped outside to find Island 352 completely transformed. Dozens of mature, healthy pine trees – the defining feature of our island – had been violently uprooted and laid flat across the landscape.

The structural damage was immediate. Our off-grid solar array had been completely crushed by the falling trees, instantly cutting off our electricity. Getting around the property proved nearly impossible: a dense tangle of massive trunks and splintered branches rendered almost all of our island paths entirely unpassable.

PERSPECTIVE AMID WIDESPREAD DEVASTATION:

In the days that followed, as communication slowly returned to the Lake and emergency boat patrols began checking on isolated properties, the full scope of the microburst became clear. It was during this stressful recovery period that we realized that, despite our own severe losses, we had been incredibly fortunate.

While we faced a long, expensive road to clear our paths and rebuild our power infrastructure, several of our direct island neighbours suffered far worse fates. Across the South and Southwest Arms, we learned that multiple families had seen their entire cottages and historic boathouses completely leveled or crushed beyond repair.

NAVIGATING THE FINANCIAL AND BUREAUCRATIC STORM:

While the immediate physical danger has passed, a second storm of bureaucracy and financial strain has taken its place. To date, 32 structural insurance claims have been officially filed by property owners across the impacted arms of the Lake.

Compounding the stress, navigating the claims process has been an uphill battle. Getting insurance adjusters to travel down to our remote, water-access locations has proven incredibly difficult. Long delays in adjuster visits have left many island residents in a state of limbo and unable to move forward on critical repairs while waiting for assessments.

Furthermore, despite the clear and widespread devastation, there has been absolutely no disaster relief or economic funding released to property own-

continued on page 3

IN THIS ISSUE:

Sally Baker Grout ..... p. 4
Peg Shardelow ..... p. 6
Welcoming New TLA Members in 2026 ..... p. 7
Eurasian Watermilfoil Update ..... p. 7
Fire Prepardness and Emergency Communications ..... p. 8
Temagami Lions Club Report (September 2026) ..... p. 10
Temagami "Meshtastic" Project ..... p. 10
The History of the TLA as a Non-Profit Organization ..... p. 11
TLA Business ..... p. 12-13
Lake Temagami Bacteriological Testing 2026 ..... p. 14
A Legendary Temagami Canoe Route ..... p. 14
Temagami Legion Update Fall 2026 ..... p. 16
Commodore Clarke and the Founding of Keewaydin Temagami ..... p. 18
Long Days, Lasting Memories: Reflections on a Temagami Summer ..... p. 22

THE TEMAGAMI TIMES

Fall 2026 Issue

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President's Letter (Fall 2026)

I have the pleasure of writing this letter as the new TLA President.

The Board extends a heartfelt thanks to Past President, Nicole Brooker, for all of her hard work and accomplishments over her three-year term. Nickie's devotion to the Lake, the work of the TLA, and the welfare of our community has been exceptional. Her energetic leadership has been ambitious and always fair, practical, and sensitive to the needs of all parts of the Lake. She championed greater communication, engagement, and partnerships across the broader community on common priorities. We are grateful for her dedication.

Moving forward, we will build on the positive initiatives that began under Nickie's leadership – striving for more vigilant environmental protection, effective services, and robust relationships across the Lake and Temagami community.

From the 2026 cottage season, we witnessed the imperative to work together to protect the Lake and its community.

Major storm events, such as the one experienced on June 30th, revealed weaknesses in communication and response systems. Greater preparation is needed as such weather events may become more frequent. The TLA advocated for practical assistance for the storm's devastating impacts, and we will continue to work with the Lake's neighbourhoods and the Municipality to promote creative ways to be better prepared.

In 2026, the TLA also acquired greater insight into the presence of invasive species affecting the Lake. Over the coming months and years, the community will face logistical and financial challenges for remediation and ongoing deterrence. Addressing the growing issue of invasive species will keep our attention on: building public awareness, promoting good practices, and finding effective remediation and prevention strategies.

The disturbing and dangerous situation of the submerged loader this past summer brought to the forefront the potential for further spills and accidents with lasting consequences to the natural environment. We have been playing an advocacy role on this issue and continue to follow it closely.

Another significant activity over this past summer involved cleaning up the TLA site and upgrading the existing building for radio operations and internet service. Bill Bateman (and Nicole) must be thanked for their diligent labour on this.

Being proactive, the TLA reached out to each municipal election candidate, raised issues of concern, and received feedback to help inform eligible members' voting choices. Those have been shared, and we trust you found this information useful.

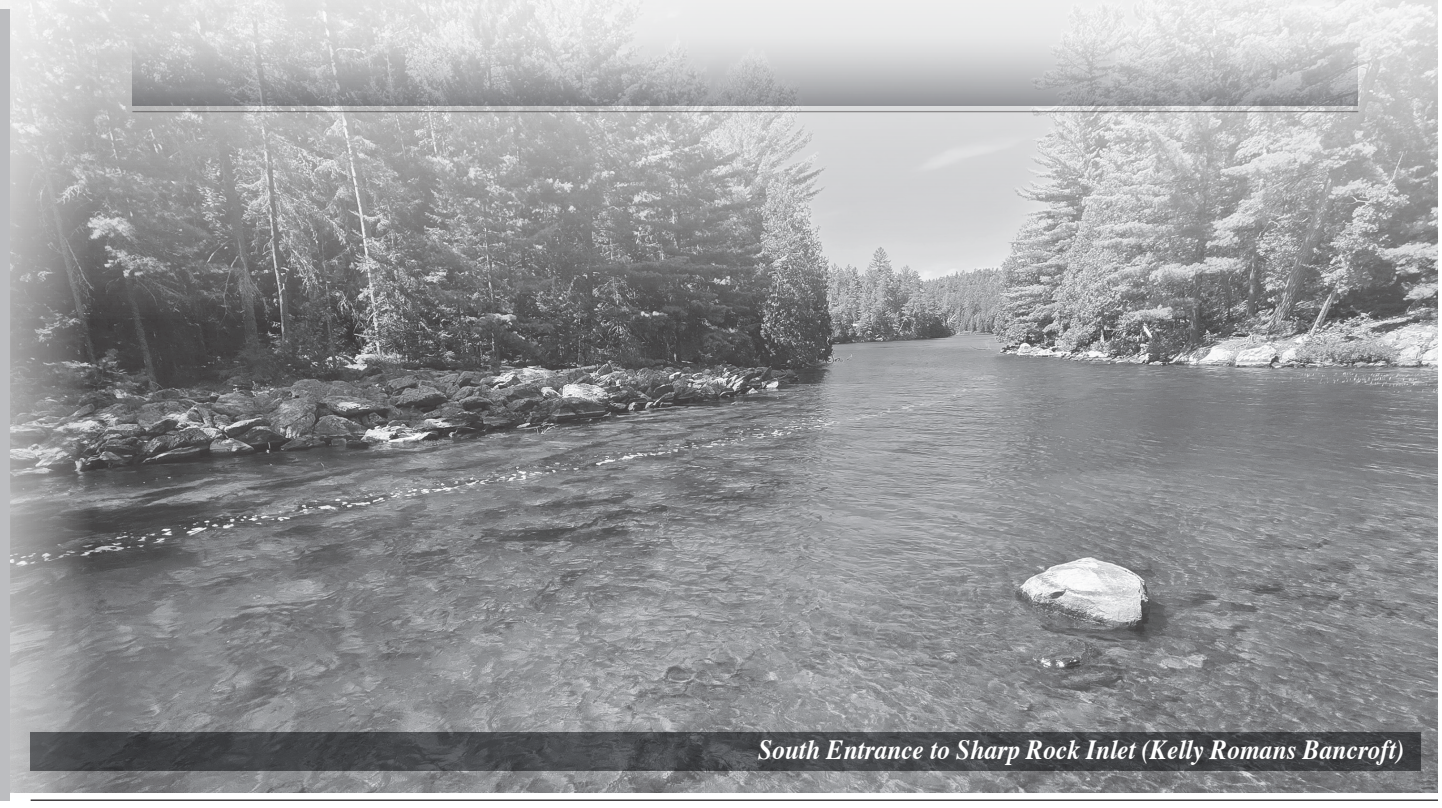
Finally, I wish to say that I am pleased to be appointed President and look forward to the challenges ahead. We have a strong Board, with each member bringing a deep commitment to this Lake – along with valuable skills, expertise, and perspectives that will be vital to address our challenges. I am also grateful that Nickie will continue as a Board member, so that we can rely on her experience, knowledge, and many local relationships.

I appreciate this opportunity to work with all of you to help preserve and enhance this incredible place called Temagami. Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions to strengthen our collective efforts.

~ Lynn Buckham ~

The TEMAGAMI TIMES welcomes signed letters or e-mails on any subject.

The editor reserves the right to edit for length, clarity, and relevance. Letters containing libelous remarks, personal attacks, or inaccurate information will not be published - nor will open letters or copies of letters sent to public officials or governments.
The opinions expressed are the letter writers' own and do not necessarily reflect the views of the TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION. As contributing authors write articles for the Times on a voluntary basis, the TLA cannot take responsibility for omissions or errors which may accidentally appear in these articles.



South Entrance to Sharp Rock Inlet (Kelly Romans Bancroft)

TENETS FOR TEMAGAMI



SKYLINE RESERVE

The mainland surrounding Lake Temagami and Cross Lake is to be zoned as a landscape ecology zone to preserve the beauty, restore the integrity and preserve the wilderness aspect of the Temagami Forest. This ecology zone would consist of 2 reserves which would be protected from natural disturbance e.g. fire and insect infestation, but would have separate management goals and prescriptions.

The two reserves would be the following:

1. Skyline: *The Lake Temagami and Cross Lake reserves must protect any part of Lake Temagami or Cross Lake with no visual evidence to the naked eye that any activities such as timber cutting or mining have taken place. The minimum dimension would be 200 metres. It would be preserved in its natural state and its permissible uses would be very limited.*

2. Ecological Buffer Reserve: *This would surround the skyline reserve to protect the natural forest and wildlife habitat ecosystems of the Temagami region. It would have a broader range of controlled activities but no new public roads would pass through it except in the village of Temagami.*

ROAD ACCESS

The current ban on construction of new public road access points to Lake Temagami and Cross Lake is supported by our three groups. We define the existing public road access points to consist of the village waterfront, Finlayson Park, Strathcona Landing and the Lake Temagami Access Road landings. We agree that, where possible, parking areas must be screened from the main body of the Lake. Shiningwood Bay, Cross Lake, Austin Bay, Blue Bay and any other illegal access points are to be closed using scarification methods. Existing gates are to be maintained and new ones are to be installed to prevent new public access roads to Lake Temagami and Cross Lake.

New ski-doo trails accessing Lake Temagami/Cross Lake are to be no wider than ten feet and for winter ski-doo use only. Proposals for these access points to Lake Temagami and Cross Lake are to be reviewed and sites inspected by the new governing body prior to construction.

MAINLAND DEVELOPMENT

There should be no mainland development on Lake Temagami and Cross Lake with the exception of those potential lots immediately adjacent to the Township of Temagami that are able to be serviced by the Township's central sewage treatment facility. All other future development will occur on islands, the number and location to be determined by the revised official plan which will be sensitive to current ecological standards.

Editor's Note: as agreed upon by the Township, the TLA, and the Lake Temagami Permanent Residents' Association on March 8, 1994.

Ground Zero in the South and SW Arms: Surviving the Terrifying June 30 Microburst

continued from page 1

ers as of late August. The Municipality of Temagami distributed surveys in July to collect data for a potential provincial request under the Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians (DRAO) program; but families are currently left to cover staggering clean-up and rebuilding costs entirely out of pocket. For many, the combination of insurance gridlock and a lack of immediate government support has added deep financial anxiety to an already traumatic experience.

THE LONG ROAD TO RECOVERY:

Our experience on Island 352 mirrors that of roughly 30 other island properties devastated by this historic windstorm. A massive collaborative clean-up effort is now underway across the Lake – involving local barge operators, tree-removal experts, and a tight-knit community of neighbours helping neighbours.

While the physical scars on our property and the surrounding waters will take generations to fully heal, we are profoundly grateful to have walked away safely from a storm that changed our lives forever.



Uprooted Tree on Island 352 (photo by Will Goodman)



Will and Victoria Goodman's Cabin on Island 352 (photo by Will Goodman)



Shoreline on the McLean Peninsula (photo by Will Goodman)

REMEMBERING

Sally Jane Baker Grout

By Carolyn Grout

Our mother, Sally Baker Grout, passed away peacefully on Saturday November 22, 2025. She is survived by her daughters, Judy and Carolyn, her son, James, and grandchildren, Eryn, Stephen, Carey, Lindsay, David, Erik, and Owen. Sally was predeceased by her husband, Richard, and son, Bruce. She was the daughter of Howard and Sheila Brown Baker.

Mum attended St. Clements School in Toronto with her older sister, Nancy. She graduated from the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Toronto and had a long career as a nurse in hospitals, schools, and with the Victorian Order of Nurses.

Howard and Sheila Baker took their family to Lake Temagami in the late 1920s / early 1930s. Initially, they stayed at Camp Acouchiching (which was run by the legendary Reg McConnell), and subsequently at Camp Chimo (run by Gordon Gooderham). They were great friends with Alec Gooderham, who owned a boathouse on the west side of Chimo Island adjacent to Camp Chimo.



Dick and Sally Grout on High Rock in the 1980s
(photo submission by Carolyn Grout)

Later in the 1930s, the Baker family purchased Island 857 in the South Arm – renowned for its sandy beaches, rambling wooden cottage surrounded by screened-in porches on three sides, beautiful stone fireplace, and separate kitchen. The family bought a large wooden boat named the "Annabelle Lee" from Norman Gooderham. (Norman owned and operated a boat-manufacturing business in Oakville, Ontario which failed in the Great Depression.) Annabelle was the pride and joy of the Baker family. After our Grandfather, Howard, passed away in 1954, our Grandmother, Sheila, proudly piloted Annabelle through any weather the Lake threw at her.

Sally met our father, Richard Grout, on the Lake when they were kids. Harold and Esther Grout emigrated to Toronto from Wisconsin after The Great War. Our Dad and his brother, Philip, attended UTS (University of Toronto Schools) and went to Camp Temagami. The Camp was founded by A.L. Cochrane who taught at Upper Canada College in Toronto. The family also summered at Camp "Couch" and made many great memories there.

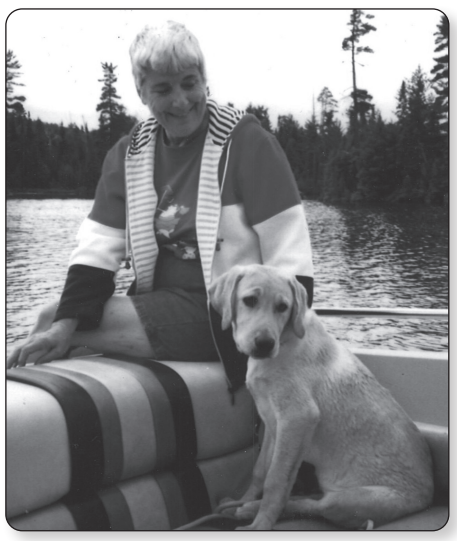


Sheila, Sally, and Howard Baker on the Annabelle Lee – Circa 1950
(photo submission by Carolyn Grout)

Mum and Dad grew up together on the Lake and in the City. Legend has it that Dad asked Mum out on a date once a year until she finally told him to "fish or cut bait!" They were married in 1954. Their daughter, Judy, arrived the following year, followed by the rest of us biannually.

The Grouts purchased Island 943 in the South Arm in 1946. It was a small island with a tight cabin built by Alec Aird and featuring a pink granite fireplace. Our Uncle Phil and Dad broke up pink granite boulders on the Island to build the fireplace.

We grew up primarily on the Grout family island. (Sadly, our grandmother, Sheila Baker, sold the Baker family island in the early 1970s.) Our childhood and teenage years through to today were filled with joy on the Lake. We grew up in a warm group of families with whom we remain good friends. Mum and Dad presided over family gatherings at 943 and were thrilled to spend time with their grandchildren at the Lake. We lost Dad in 2013. Mum persevered until dementia and time took her from us last year.



Sally Grout and Christie – Circa 1985
(photo submission by Carolyn Grout)

Sally came from a dog family (Labradors in particular). She had a series of labs, all of whom loved to swim. Mum loved picking blueberries, and her blueberry pie was spectacular. Sally loved walking her dogs and picking blueberries on any island that struck her fancy – which were most of the islands in the South Arm.

Mum and Dad were passionate about preserving the natural state of the Lake and its ecosystem. They were committed members of the Temagami Lakes Association. Dad served as President of the TLA for several terms, while Mum was a huge supporter of the TLA flea market and made friends with all who attended!

Our family remains ensconsed on Island 943. It is now owned by Judy and Carol Grout. (Jim Grout purchased Island 854 several years ago.) They are looking forward to enjoying it – especially as it looks west to the Baker Family Island 857. The next generation of our family has arrived, and we are looking forward to many more growing up and being part of the community for generations to come.

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REMEMBERING

Margaret "Peggy" Ault Shardelow

(March 5, 1934 – May 25, 2026)



By Lisa Spaulding, David Shardelow, and Scott Shardelow

Following Peggy's death on Memorial Day 2026, her family and friends gathered on June 27th at Christ Church in Glendale, Ohio to celebrate and honor her life.

She was born on March 5, 1934, to the late Charles Albert Ault II and Adele (nee Egerton) Ault, in Cincinnati, Ohio. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 68 years, William Duffield "Duff" Shardelow (2024) and her brother, Charles "Chuck" Albert Ault III of Bannockburn, Illinois.

Peggy is survived by her daughter, Lisa Shardelow Spaulding (Mike McConnell), son, David Duffield (Lana) Shardelow, son, Scott Allen (Diane) Shardelow, sister-in-law, Patricia Jarrett DeReamer Surgener, and her grandchildren, Emily, Grant (Melanie Rasch), Cole, and Jack Shardelow. She is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and a long list of dear friends of all ages. Final placement for both Peg and Duff is at Oak Hill Cemetery in Springdale, Ohio.

A lifelong resident of Glendale, Peggy was part of the very fiber of her hometown for over eight decades. Peggy attended Glendale Elementary School and graduated from Hillsdale High School (now Seven Hills). She met Duff at Miami University, and they married in 1955.



A Family Photo Overlooking Cincinnati, Ohio While Celebrating Duff's 80th Birthday in 2013 (photo submission by Lisa Spaulding)

Peg wore many hats over her lifetime. Beginning in 1993, she served as Trustee, President, and an Officer of Glendale Heritage Preservation (GHP), and was named a GHP Trustee Emerita in 2019. She was a devoted, lifelong member of Christ Church Glendale, where she and Duff were married.

Peggy was deeply committed to public education. She was elected to the Princeton City Schools Board of Education in 1976, serving as Board President for two years. From 1994 to 2005, she served as the original Director of the Princeton Museum of Education, where she organized, archived, and preserved district history.

She also enjoyed a successful professional career, working as a Sales Representative for Brendamour's Sporting Goods in the '70s and Warner Amex Cable TV in the '80s. An original season ticket holder for her beloved Cincinnati Bengals, Peg attended games, rain or shine, well into her eighties.

Peg and Duff traveled extensively to many parts of the world – but their true love and passion was spending summers on Lake Temagami. Peg's father, Charles "Gitz" Ault traveled to Temagami in 1925. He leased Island 1125 in the NW Arm with two other colleagues, calling it "Glenwyclif". For over 40 years, the Ault, Shardelow, and Muhlhauser families shared summers together on Glenwyclif.

In 1990, Duff and Peg bought Island 1127 from Keith Spalding and named it "Mille Roches". Up until their last visit in 2018, they completed an impressive list of projects with much local help and with great satisfaction. The cabin interior spaces were always touched by Peg's unique gift of decorating. And they loved hosting island friends for lively parties and conversation.

Mom thrived on teachable moments and on sharing the beauty of Lake Temagami with her family and friends. Her favorites included the wildlife, canoeing, fishing, reading, swimming, jigsaw puzzles, and the joy of solitude. One of her most memorable and proud Temagami accomplishments was son, Scott's, wedding to Diane Schwartz at St. Ursula's Church on Bear Island on August 2, 1997. Mom (and Dad) organized and provided food and board, transportation, entertainment, and a wedding for 80 people between two islands and three houseboats. It was a truly magical experience for everyone.



Peg and Duff Shardelow (photo submission by Lisa Spaulding)

Peg and Duff cherished both their Lake Temagami and Glendale communities, where they forged enduring friendships and created countless memories. Family and friends fondly remember the summers spent in their company, and attribute their appreciation of Temagami to Peg and Duff's enthusiasm, hospitality, and love of the outdoors.

In a 2015 family history book, Peg wrote: "The place I loved the most and will someday miss the most is Lake Temagami. I find the sky is bluer, the stars are brighter, the northern lights better than anywhere. The water is colder, the wildflowers and mushrooms are more diverse and numerous, and the down comforters are the best. The silence and quiet is usually mind-boggling, but Mother Nature calls the shots during rain and lightning storms. To me, God seems all around that near-perfect place."

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Welcoming New TLA Members in 2026

The quality of the "Temagami Experience" is preserved, in part, by the Temagami Lakes Association and its members – who provide support through their membership dues. Accordingly, the TLA is pleased to welcome the following 29 new members (and their spouses) in 2026:

NAME	ISLAND #
Scott Anthony	231
David Brown (Brittany)	49
Todd Carew (Annette)	941
Kelsey Delarosbel	843
Nate Ford	1167
Ted Ford	1167
Windsor Ford (Kara Meyer)	1167
James Fradette	883
Amy Savage-Gangl	298
Daniel Garretson	1167
Benjamin Graham	985
Frances Graham (James)	985
Dave Gravelle	66
Kristy Henders (Tobias Boadway)	234
Angela Huppe	1058
Tristan Huycke	707
Ket-Chun-Eny Lodge (Rielly and Dominique Nobes)	336
Deborah Mepham	49
Brooke Moldenhauer and Myles Lotsberg	127
Julie Regnier	553 & 554
Jonathan Reid	665
Jaxon Richardson	1230 & 1213
Jeremy Richardson (Lisa Bateman-Richardson)	1230 & 1213
Joe Schulte	705
Jeff Scully	1087
Gail Spencer	1102
Temagami Shores Inn and Resort (Matt and Davina Van Vliet)	town
Deborah Vaillancourt	157
Tom Willitts	1221

Eurasian Watermilfoil Update: Survey Completed

TLA Natural Resources and Environment Committee

Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) is an invasive aquatic plant found in the Northeast Arm of Lake Temagami – primarily near the Townsite. EWM can spread rapidly, aided by boats heading to other parts of the Lake. Without focused attention, this invasive may aggressively spread to shorelines and shallow bays, where it can choke out other plants and impede recreational use.

An EWM survey funded by the TLA and TERAS was completed in July by Fyto (**https://fyto.ca**). A full report is coming in late 2026. The areas surveyed included the NE Arm near the Town, Boatline Bay, and the Lake Temagami Access Road Landing docks. The good news is that EWM was not found around the Hub. The bad news is that a clear presence was found at the municipal docks, Finlayson Point Provincial Park, and in nearby areas. Roughly 33 patches of multiple plants, and an additional 50 individual plants, were found. A map showing the locations of infestations is on the TLA site at **https://tla-temagami.ca/environment/invasive-species/eurasian-watermilfoil**.

More information will be shared with the membership soon – including the Fyto report, with full findings and further details on abatement planning.

Fire Preparedness and Emergency Communications

By Brad Sablosky



Erik Sablosky Demonstrates How to Use a Fire Hose During the "Islander Emergency-Preparedness Training" on July 29, 2026 at the TLA Site (photo submission by Brad Sablosky)

Once again the TLA hosted a training session devoted to fire pumps, wilderness medicine, and emergency preparedness. The session at the TLA site on July 29th was well attended and provided a great opportunity for hands-on practice, as well as discussing ideas on how to make our properties and ourselves emergency ready.

I was a city firefighter for 20 years, so when I bought my property five years ago, I began working to make it as fireproof and fire-ready as possible. I think a good place to start is trying to manage all sources of ignition that might be on your property. Are there any pilot lights that are always burning in appliances? If there are, make sure those appliances are regularly serviced, and store flammable materials away from them. How about lanterns, candles, propane lights, etc.? Our island has hydro, and I've got a back-up generator – so, I've discarded candles, and my collection of old kerosene lamps are for decoration only. If open flames for light are a part of your island, make sure folks are attentive to them.

Each cabin/building should have smoke and carbon-monoxide detectors, along with some means of extinguishing a small fire before it gets out of control. This could be a bucket filled with water or a small fire extinguisher. These should be placed right by the exit door, so they are always in the same spot and can be accessed if there is a fire.

The Municipality of Temagami has had a fire-pump subsidy program for Lake residents for many years. This is an acknowledgement that there really are no municipal, fire-response capabilities on the Lake. We are on our own. The TLA advocates every year for an increase to this subsidy, and for better emergency services. Information on the pump subsidy program can be found here: **www.temagami.ca/town/news/post/2026-temagami-fire-pump-subsidy**. The subsidy is very specific about the type of pump and hose kit that can be purchased.

The Honda pump required in the subsidy is a solid little pump. It has the advantage of being simple to operate and is legendarily dependable. Here are few tips on making sure your pump is ready to go when you need it. First of all, when you gas it up, always put some fuel stabilizer in the gas. You should do this for any motors on your property that don't get a lot of use. Also, at the beginning of the season, hook up the pump to a suction line and a hose, open the nozzle and spray water, and let it run for an hour or more. When it's time to shut it down, turn off the fuel valve, and let it run out of gas. This will keep old fuel from gumming up the carburetor.

The subsidy allows you a choice of hose – either a 2" camlock or 1 ½" forestry hose. You will see 2" camlock on most pumps around the Lake, but I would strongly recommend you purchase the smaller forestry hose. It is much easier to handle when its fully charged with water and is more puncture resistant, as well. If you have an older fire pump and hose combo, consider changing to 1 ½" when it's time for a new hose. When we change hoses, adapters become critical. I have sources for most of the adapters and new hoses you may need. Reach out, and I'll pass them on.

Once you have the fire pump, it's important to practice using it every year. For us, this is a "fun" family activity. We set it up, play around with spraying water, and put it away ready to go. If you don't practice this, I guarantee it won't go smoothly in an emergency. Store it ready to go with a bucket or jug, so that you can prime the pump with lake water. If you're dealing with a real fire, remember that someone needs to "babysit" the pumps and make sure they are working properly.

Fires can be devastating. Langskib Camp up in Sharp Rock Inlet brought me to Lake Temagami back in 1987. A few years ago, I was one of the first on scene when the core of camp buildings burned. There was a robust response from Lake residents initially, and then the Ministry, and we were lucky to save the island. Structure fires will always be a fact of life in a remote cottage area such as Temagami, and I believe in the future we will have more bad years of wildland fires. While having the basic equipment is a good start, I think many of our properties would benefit from bigger (or multiple) pumps and sprinkler systems. I've been building such a system on Island 741, and I'd be happy to give you a tour next summer if you're curious.

The Municipality is looking into the purchase of a boat for emergency response on the Lake. We will see what develops – but, one boat will not make a big change in their ability to respond quickly or with many resources.

I wanted to end by talking about communications. I believe that if there is an emergency on the Lake, our first effort should be to call 911 whenever possible. We should do this even when we know the response may not be timely enough to make a difference. In many instances, the person on scene may not be the person to call 911. You may hear something over a VHF radio, or as with last June's severe storm, you might see something on Facebook. When folks need help on the Lake, the Municipality should know.

A 911 call should describe the emergency and its location – and if a move is planned, where to. For example, someone might say, "There's an 80-year-old male with chest pain on Island 1222 in Sharp Rock Inlet. He's being transported in a boat headed south and will stop at Keewaydin for more resources." It's up to each of us to have a plan to get the help we need.

The TLA has compiled, and will continue to update, its "Good Samaritan and Emergency- Preparedness Participants" document that was e-mailed to members on June 25. It is a list of locations of emergency equipment and folks who are willing to help (by Lake neighbourhood). Ideally, we all have ways of communicating with our neighbors to coordinate assisting each other.

In the July training session, one theme kept coming up for me: When time-sensitive emergencies occur on our islands, we should move towards help. For me in the Hub, I can start to move a patient to the Access Road Landing. On many parts of the Lake, though, moving a patient to one of the commercial camps or Bear Island might be the better plan. I'm interested in developing an improved communication plan for the Lake, so that we know when there are emergencies. I think this will include VHF radios – and other communication resources (e.g., WhatsApp, the new "Meshtastic" system – described in a separate article, and/or another system), since many folks don't have VHF. E-mail your ideas, thoughts, or questions about any of these topics to me at: **brad@wildernessmedic.com**.



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TLA Commitees (2026-2027)

The TLA depends, in part, on member volunteers to assist the Association. One way to do this is by joining a committee. It's also a great way to meet other members who share your interests.

Committees tend to meet as new issues/opportunities arise. Most communication by committee members is completed through e-mail. On occasion, though, meetings are held via Zoom.

Membership on the following committees is open to TLA members, and committee Chairs can be either Board members or TLA members-at-large:

- **By-Laws, Nominations, and Elections:** ensures that TLA by-laws are in accordance with the *Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act*; solicits nominations for the TLA Board of Directors; and, directs any subsequent elections in accordance with TLA policies and procedures, when required
- **Communications, Archives, Membership, and Events:** oversees communication of TLA business through publications, the website, and social media; manages the TLA archives collection; helps to maintain TLA memberships and promote growth; assists in planning and implementing events to bring members together and promote Association objectives
- **Finance:** oversees the TLA's annual budget, along with financial accounting and reporting
- **Headquarters and Operations:** pursues summer staffing; addresses TLA Building operational issues, as they arise
- **Natural Resources and Environment:** monitors and advocates for the ecological integrity of Lake Temagami, Cross Lake, and surrounding areas (e.g., re: forests, fisheries, wildlife, water); supports the TERAS water-quality monitoring program; implements initiatives concerning natural-resource and environmental issues; networks with the Municipality and community stakeholders
- **Planning and Municipal Affairs:** reviews development applications and variance requests by Lake-Temagami stakeholders, and advises the Board of potential TLA objections/responses; fosters working relationships with governmental officials, the Teme Augama Anishinabek and Teme-Augama Anishnabai, and other Lake Temagami groups; monitors Municipality of Temagami activities (e.g., planning and development in the Lake Temagami Neighbourhood); consults with a TLA-retained professional planner; advises the Board of Directors and participates in the development of, and amendments to, the Municipality's "Official Plan" and the comprehensive Zoning By-Law; monitors Municipal Council meetings and reviews associated minutes.

If you wish to contribute a few hours a month toward the goals of the TLA, we'd love to hear from you. For more information, please send an e-mail to **temagamilakes1931@gmail.com**.

Temagami "Meshtastic" Project: Off-Grid Text and Location Sharing for the Lake

By Bond Keevil

A volunteer-led project is building a free text-messaging and position-sharing network for parts of the Temagami region that commercial cell and internet service cannot reasonably cover.

The system uses small, low-power LoRa [long-range] radios that talk to one another in a "mesh". Each node in the mesh can pass a message to the next, so a short hop across the water becomes a chain that can stretch many kilometres. No cell tower, no subscription, and no licence is required to join.

This summer, the project installed about ten infrastructure nodes on hilltops and other high points and raised about $9,000 from the Teme Augama Anishinabek and private donors. Near-term deployment of the wide-area network is funded. Coverage now reaches roughly 60 percent of Lake Temagami, with sites in Temagami North, Net Lake, Red Squirrel Lake, and Cross Lake. The aim is full coverage of Lake Temagami, nearby lakes with regular human presence, and popular canoe-route destinations. About twenty well-placed nodes would cover the Lake.

What it is Useful For:

On a lake with poor or no cell service, nodes in cottages, camps, boats, and high points (trees, masts, hills) form a shared community network for:

- text messaging between residents, even dozens of kilometres apart
- emergency coordination during storms, fires, medical events, or power outages
- boat-to-shore and shore-to-shore contact across open water
- check-ins for work parties, camps, and remote workers
- GPS location-sharing on the water, trails, canoe routes, and snowmobile trails
- weather and other sensor reports over the same radios
- no monthly fee and very low power draw (solar- and battery-friendly)

The project also broadcasts automated text weather forecasts to stand in for the discontinued weather-radio service, along with some local, weather-station data.

What it is Not:

This is not a replacement for a cellphone or an internet connection. The shared data rate for the region is only about 1 kbps. The network is meant for short, essential, and emergency messages. It cannot carry images, voice, or files.

How to Join:

Anyone can take part. Buy a Meshtastic companion radio (widely available from retailers, such as Amazon), set a few regional settings, and pair it with a phone. The Meshtastic app sends and receives texts, and shows other nodes on a map. There are no licences and no subscription fees.

Because every extra cottage or boat node also relays traffic, the network gets stronger as more people join.

For details and set-up help, visit **https://temagami-mesh.github.io**, or follow the Facebook page, "Temagami Meshtastic Project" (**www.facebook.com/temagami.mesh.networking**).

Temagami Lions Club Update (Sept. 2026)

By Ike Laba

At a recent Lions Club meeting, a new Executive was elected, as follows: President – Ken Maurice; Past President – Brian Koski; Secretary – Ashly Legacy; and, Treasurer – Susan Maurice.



New Lions Executive (L to R): Sue Maurice – Treasurer; Ken Maurice – President; Ashly Legacy – Secretary; and, Brian Koski – Past President (photo by Robyn Gareh)

ANNUAL FLEA MARKET: (AUGUST 1 TO 3, 2026):

The Lions Club is very thankful for the volunteers who assisted in moving all of the "Annual Flea Market" materials from the Lions' storage container, along with setting up the displays at the Temagami Train Station, for the 2026 fundraiser. We had over 20 local citizens who aided in the move by providing vehicles, as well as their assistance in loading and unloading all of the items. Special thanks is extended to Lion Bob Sykes and all volunteers for making this event a great success.

If you would like to contribute any items towards the Flea Market in the future, please call any of our members, Lion Bob Sykes **(705-569-4412)**, or Lion Ike Laba **(705-569-3252)**.

SECOND ANNUAL "STEAK FRY":

The Lions "Steak Fry" was held on August 8th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Temagami Arena. There were 65 persons in attendance to support this fundraiser. Thanks to Wayne Manderstrom and Robyn Gareh for organizing the event with assistance from volunteers.

SENIORS' CHRISTMAS DINNER:

The 2026 Seniors' Christmas Dinner will be held on Sunday, December 6th – upstairs at the Temagami Arena Hall. Thanks is extended to Lion Jane Dougall and her volunteers who always provide an excellent meal and evening entertainment for the seniors. In order to attend, one person in a couple must be at least 60 years-of-age. We are able to accommodate up to 150 people for this event, along with some food deliveries to persons unable to attend in person for health reasons. Please register with Lion Bob Sykes to attend. As in the past, we will be requesting sponsorship for this year's event.

FOOD BANK:

Anyone in the Temagami area who requires assistance from the Temagami Lions Food Bank may contact Lion Brian Koski at **705-569-4522** or the Municipality of Temagami at **705-569-3421**. The Lions Food Bank appreciates all support received in past years from various service clubs in and outside the community. The Club also appreciates contributions from local cottagers who are closing up their cottages for the winter and donating unused food items (e.g., canned and dry goods). This year we are also initiating food baskets – to collect donations at various locations in the community.

ANNUAL HOCKEY TOURNAMENT:

The Lions Annual Hockey Tournament will be held on January 29 to 31, 2027 at the Temagami Arena. This year there will be "Open" and "Old-Timers" divisions with (hopefully) 12 to 16 teams. We are also considering a possible "Women's Tournament" in February depending upon Municipal approval. This year's tournaments will be run by Ken Maurice **(705-569-2665)** and Brian Koski.

DIABETES RESEARCH "CLOTHING-COLLECTION PROGRAM":

The Diabetes Research "Clothing-Collection Program" has been a very active program in the Temagami area for many years. Here are some further details:

(a) Diabetes Research funding is raised through the collection of all types of clothing, which are then re-sold.

(b) The Lions, who collect clothing for this organization, are also compensated.

(c) Temagami Lions have collected over 4,500 bags of clothing and other items since this project was initiated. Without this program, these clothes would likely have ended up in the local landfill.

TEMAGAMI LIONS CLUB MEMBERSHIP:

At present, the Temagami Lions Club membership it very small, but very active. Our Club would like to increase our membership numbers – especially since we have an influx of new residents. If you are interested in joining the Club, please contact any Lions member or President Ken Maurice.

The History of the TLA as a Non-Profit Organization

The Temagami Lakes Association (TLA) was founded in 1931 by a group of property owners who were concerned about the future of the Lake. The founding Association executive consisted of President Robert Newcomb, Secretary Gilbert "Gib" Cochrane (Linda Bangay's Grandfather), and Treasurer Sherman Thorpe.

The TLA was incorporated as a non-profit organization on March 28, 1967. Here are some additional details:

1. The TLA is a "member-benefit" ("non-public-benefit") association and functions primarily to serve its members – not the community at large (see accompanying table).
2. Being a member-benefit organization has provided a number of advantages over the years, but does have some restrictions. For example, the TLA may receive only a limited dollar amount in a given year from public donations, grants, and interest on investments.
3. In addition, because the TLA does not qualify for status as a charitable organization, it does not have a charitable registration number and cannot issue tax receipts.

Establishing a related charitable organization dedicated to organizing, funding, and participating in environmental-monitoring and research projects to preserve and protect Lake Temagami and surrounding areas – and increasing public understanding about these issues – was a response to the limitations listed above. Thus, Temagami Environmental Research and Stewardship (TERAS) was incorporated as a charitable ("public-benefit") organization in 2013. By establishing a registered charity with the Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA), TERAS could accept bequests and donations, as well as issue tax receipts for donors filing annual CRA returns. One of the organization's first actions was to take over the TLA's water-quality testing program. Since that time, it has also engaged in other environmental initiatives (e.g., a paleolimnology study) on Lake Temagami. Further information about TERAS is outlined in the "TLA Business" section of each issue of the *Temagami Times*.

The TLA provides many important services to its members, including: property patrols (up to four times per year); annual publications (the *Temagami Times* and TLA Membership Directory); merchandise (e.g., Lake Temagami shoal maps; TLA history books and apparel); and, services/amenities at the TLA Building (e.g., VHF-radio announcements and monitoring; mail delivery; Wi-Fi; landline; outdoor privy).

In addition, the Association monitors and addresses municipal policy and planning initiatives that may affect Lake Temagami and Cross Lake. To achieve this, the TLA communicates regularly with the Municipal Council and represents the interests of our members on Lake Temagami – especially regarding matters of development, environmental issues, the Lake Temagami Access Road, and taxation.

The TLA is dedicated to ensuring that the "Tenets For Temagami" are embedded in all planning documents for the Temagami area. The "Tenets" are a set of principles (agreed upon by the Township of Temagami, the TLA, and the Lake Temagami Permanent Residents' Association on March 8, 1994) that promote the TLA's core values of no mainland development, protection of the "Skyline Reserve" (and "Ecological Buffer Reserve"), and a ban on new road access to Lake Temagami. As a condition of amalgamation, they were incorporated into the Municipality of Temagami's "Official Plan". This remains the case for the 2026 iteration of this plan.

After 95 years, the TLA has approximately 550 members – most of whom are cottage owners from all corners of the Lake. Our membership also includes commercial entities, and people who support the mission of the Association but do not own property.

The TLA is the voice, eyes, and ears for its members, who value the "Temagami Experience" and wish to protect Lake Temagami and Cross Lake. If you are not already a member, please consider joining the TLA. Contact us at **temagamilakes1931@gmail.com** for further details.

Sources: Government of Ontario website (2026)
Temagami Lakes Association: The Life and Times of a Cottage Community (Pamela Glenn Sinclair, 2011)

Non-Profit Organizations in Ontario: Member-Benefit vs. Public Benefit

In jurisdictions, such as Ontario, the legal distinction between these two types is clearly defined to ensure proper governance and asset protection.

Feature	Member-benefit / Non-Public-benefit (E.G., TLA)	Public Benefit (E.G., TERAS)
Who It Serves	• the organization's members	• the broader public or community
Examples	• sports clubs, professional associations, unions	• charities, food banks, hospitals
Funding Source	• membership dues, events, fees	• government grants, public donations

Source: Government of Ontario website (2026)



TLA Business

Our New TLA Building

By Bill Bateman (September 2026)



The New TLA Building in August 2026 (photo by Marty Martelle)

As most TLA members know, the original TLA Headquarters Building at the end of the Lake Temagami Access Road was demolished in October of 2025 at the direction of the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). As a result of this demolition, the TLA was left without a headquarters building. This necessitated a discussion of the Board of Directors as to what direction the TLA would take in the future about office space. Several different options were discussed, but consensus was reached that the TLA should still have a physical presence on the Lake, as our members rely on services provided out of the headquarters building.

As the MNR will eventually want the TLA site to be abandoned and returned to its natural state, a permanent structure could not be built. The Board of Directors then decided that a temporary and moveable structure would be the direction to take.

After an extensive search of temporary structures in the region, the decision was made to purchase a small building from Peacock Woodcraft located in Temagami. The TLA is always happy to support local businesses.

It was originally thought that because the new building is less than 161 feet^2 it could be built without a formal building permit. As the new building would become the primary structure on the lot, however, a building permit was required. The TLA worked diligently with the Municipality's consultant to secure a building permit. Since this permit was not obtained in time for the summer season, it forced the TLA to set up a temporary office in an existing on-site shed (which was cleaned and repaired for this purpose). A solar system for electricity, and a phone and internet system, were installed at the shed. This allowed our summer VHF-radio and Wi-Fi services to proceed. The electronic set-up will eventually be moved to the new structure and will continue to provide VHF-radio and Wi-Fi services to our members going forward.

Peacock Woodcraft built the new TLA building during the summer on the original headquarters site. The new building has been stained on the exterior, treated with poly-urethane in the interior, and is virtually complete.

While the new Headquarters building is considerably smaller than the original one, the TLA is confident that the structure will meet our summer operational needs – and can be moved in the future when that requirement occurs.

Please Submit Your Cottage 911 Number

Knowing your cottage 911 number could be essential in an emergency. This number is printed on the blue sign with white writing that was supplied by the Municipality for all Lake properties. The format of the 911 number is your island number followed by a dash and a second number. The 911 number can also be found near the upper, right-hand corner of your Municipal tax bill.

Knowing the 911 number is particularly important for those living on islands with multiple properties. For example, Peter Healy's cottage is located on "Island 981" (Garden Island), and his 911 number is "150". Thus, when calling for help, he would indicate that he is at "981-150" on Lake Temagami. This could greatly assist emergency responders in identifying Peter's location on an island that has several properties.

Please confirm that your 911 number is in the TLA database. If you're not sure, just send a message to **temagamilakes1931@gmail.com**, and it can be added if it's missing.

In addition, for safety reasons, write this number on, or near, all of your cottage phones. Store this information in your cell phone, as well, so that you always have it on hand.

Macaroni and Cheese Temagami

This recipe is reprinted from page 78 of Temagami Cooks: A Collection of Recipes Compiled by the Temagami Lakes Association (reprinted in November 2013).

INGREDIENTS:

3 cups cooked macaroni (1 ½ cups uncooked)
1 can mushroom soup
½ cup milk
10 fresh mushrooms, sautéed
½ tsp Keen's dry mustard
2 cups old cheddar, grated
dried French onion rings (optional)

1. Combine ingredients, reserving ½ cup cheese.
2. Bake at 400 degrees F for 25 minutes.
3. Add the extra cheese and French onion rings, if using as a topping, and bake another 5 minutes.

~ submitted by: Margaret King Huycke, Island 770 ~

Keeping Up With TLA and Temagami News

Are you receiving notifications from the Temagami Lakes Association's "news postings" feature? This is an element of the Association's website that allows us to share information about the TLA (and the Temagami area, in general) with our members. Anyone who wishes to receive news, announcements, photos, and articles as they are displayed on the TLA website can sign up for these messages.

If you haven't already done so, we encourage you to register and receive such communications through your e-mail account by following these steps:

1. Go to the TLA website at: **https://tla-temagami.ca**.
2. Scroll down to the bottom, right-hand corner of the homepage to "Subscribe to Posts".
3. Enter your e-mail address in the box, and click the "Subscribe" button beside it.

Previous messages can be viewed in the right-hand column of the TLA website homepage under "Recent News Postings" – or near the top of the page under the "News" heading.

Please note that your e-mail address will not be shared with other parties.



2027 TLA MEMBERSHIP FORM

1720 Lake Temagami Access Road, Temagami, ON P0H 2H0
E-Mail: temagamilakes1931@gmail.com • Website: https://tla-temagami.ca

Name _____ Spouse _____
Home Address _____
City _____ Province/State _____ Postal/Zip Code _____
Home Phone _____ E-Mail _____
Temagami Phone _____ Island Number _____ 911 Number _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

Class A: property owners $130.00
Class F: additional family members of "Class A" members $70.00
Class D: children of "Class A" or "Class F" members, and less than 18 years-of-age $20.00
Class C: commercial members $130.00
Class B: sustaining members (do not own properties) $70.00
Membership Total: ..... $ _____

SUPPLEMENTARY OPTIONS AND SERVICES:

1. CONTRIBUTION TO "TENETS FOR TEMAGAMI" FUND:
➢ a separate fund for costs incurred in protecting the "Tenets" ..... $ _____

2. CONTRIBUTION TO "WATER-QUALITY MONITORING" FUND:
➢ $50.00/property requested for water-quality monitoring/research by TERAS ..... $ _____

3. PROPERTY-PATROL SERVICE SUBSCRIPTION:
➢ choose Service A, B, or C for each island with buildings/structures
- Service A (spring and fall): $80.00 ..... $ _____
- Service B (January and March): $80.00 ..... $ _____
- Service C (combination of A and B): $150.00 ..... $ _____

4. CONTRIBUTION FOR VHF MARINE-RADIO SERVICES:
➢ $45.00/property requested for radio-service users ..... $ _____

5. MERCHANDISE:
- 2021 Lake Temagami Shoal Map: $30.00 ..... $ _____
- TLA T-Shirts ($20.00) + TLA Ball Caps ($30.00) ..... $ _____
- History Book (*TLA: The Life and Times of a Cottage Community*): $15.00 ..... $ _____
- Plastic Name Plate: $60.00 (or $20.00 for new "Class A" members) ..... $ _____

GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED: $ _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

1. send e-transfer to: temagamilakes1931@gmail.com
2. renew online at https://tla-temagami.ca/store using PayPal
3. Visa/Mastercard: Name _____ Signature: _____
Cardholder Number: __ __ __ __ | __ __ __ __ | __ __ __ __ | __ __ __ __ Expiry Date: __ __ | __ __
4. mail cheque to: TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION

TLA Business

"Temagami Shoreline Clean-Up Challenge" 2026

The TLA would like to thank all of the 2026 participants in the "Temagami Shoreline Clean-Up Challenge". Their time and effort was very much appreciated.

Our appreciation is also extended to Reina Leudke of Blooms 'N Loons + Gallery 212 (www.facebook.com/p/Blooms-n-Loons-Gallery-212-100040408403799), Matt and Davina Van Vliet of Temagami Shores Inn and Resort (https://temagamishores.com), and Nicole Brooker (TLA Board Member) for their generous prize donations. We appreciate your support!!

Here are the winners for 2026:

(i) Cora and Georgia: winners of a gift certificate from Blooms 'N Loons for "Most Trash Collected"
(ii) Laken and Charlie: winners of a gift certificate from Blooms 'N Loons for "Most-Unique Piece of Trash"
(iii) Seija and Elliot: winners of a gift certificate from Temagami Shores Inn and Resort for "Oldest Piece of Trash"
(iv) France: winner of a glass tumbler set + TLA t-shirt for "Most-Useful Pieces of Trash"
(v) Lynn: winner of a glass tumbler set + TLA t-shirt for "Largest Piece of Trash"
(vi) Participating children each received a TLA t-shirt and a tackle box. Thanks is directed to: Laken and Charlie, Seija and Elliot, Declan, Justin, Cora and Georgia, Lexi, Deacon, Adilyn, and Lars. You did a wonderful job in helping to keep Temagami-area shorelines trash free in 2026!

Some clean-up participants can be viewed on the TLA website at **https://tla-temagami.ca/enter-the-temagami-shoreline-clean-up-challenge-by-august-31-2026/** and **https://tla-temagami.ca/final-2-weeks-of-the-temagami-shoreline-clean-up-challenge-2026**.

Paper Copies of the 2027 TLA Membership Directory

The TLA Membership Directory is available in paper format only in odd-numbered years – but is created in a digital format each year. It will be offered in both formats in 2027.

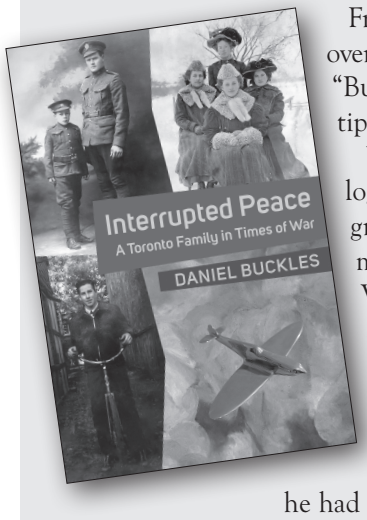
Membership Directories are expensive to print – so, in an effort to save money and paper, hardcopies of the 2027 Directories will be provided only to those TLA members who have requested them by April 15, 2027.

In addition, if you want a paper Directory mailed to your home address, please indicate this preference by the same date. Otherwise, the Directories will be available to pick up at the TLA Building in July and August of 2027 for those who've requested paper copies.

Thank you in advance for helping to ensure that paper Directories are distributed only to those members who want or need them.

Interrupted Peace: A Toronto Family in Times of War

By Daniel Buckles



From the Upper Canada Rebellion of 1837 to a Spitfire cockpit over Nazi Europe, this is the true story of Flying Officer Robert "Buck" Buckles and the Toronto family whose history spans multiple generations of service, loss, and survival.

When Buck, my father, died in 2016, I collected his letters, flight logbooks, and a POW log – the beginning of a search that would grow into a multigenerational family saga. It traces the Buckles men from the trenches of the Western Front during the First World War (where one brother was killed at Vimy Ridge and another wounded at the Somme), through Buck's own capture, escape, and return, to my childhood in a military family shaped by their example.

Buck's mother was a central character in his wartime correspondence, as was the village of Whitevale where she lived and he had grown up. Her family tree, found among the files, traced more than 130 years of lives spent in the same Ontario village – now a Heritage District next to the Rouge National Urban Park on the eastern edge of Toronto. Some ancestors had witnessed up close the Upper Canada Rebellion of 1837. Six generations were rooted in Whitevale, like trees in that soil. Buck and his parents were also longtime Temagami islanders.

The research into lives long ago and far away challenged the family narrative. It also kept circling back to a question none of us gets to stop asking: How do we defend a peace that history never stops threatening?

Interrupted Peace: A Toronto Family in Times of War is published by Back Lane Studios (a new Toronto publisher) as a softcover, e-book, and print-on-demand title available from Indigo, Barnes & Noble, Amazon, Apple Books, and other retailers. The Audio Book is available on Spotify.

TERAS Facts

TEMAGAMI ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND STEWARDSHIP (TERAS) – the not-for-profit charity – has been created to:

1. organize, fund, and participate in environmental monitoring and research projects which are designed to preserve and protect Lake Temagami and its surrounding lands;

2. educate about, and increase public understanding and appreciation of, Lake Temagami's environment and ecosystems, with particular attention to long-term environmental monitoring;

3. take over and expand the water-monitoring activities that were initiated by the TLA;

4. work closely with the TLA, by participating in environmental projects suggested by its members;

5. stimulate a broader interest in environmental monitoring and research in the Temagami region among college and university environmental-science departments.

Donations are tax deductible for donors filing annual CRA returns.

TERAS Article Correction

By Tim Richardson

In several reports of the 2023-2025 TERAS-supported, lake-bottom-sediment project (including the Summer 2026 edition of the *Temagami Times*), the position of the second sampling collection site was incorrectly reported as "where the North Tetapaga River enters the lake". Instead, it should read "near Ferguson Point in the NE Arm".

My apologies and my mistake.

Editor's Note: Donations to TERAS can be made by e-transfer to teras17205555@gmail.com, through Canada Helps (https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/temagami-environmental-research-and-stewardship/), when renewing TLA memberships, or by mailing cheques (made out to TERAS) to 10-46 King William Street, Huntsville, ON P1H 1G3

Call for Writers

The *Temagami Times*, as it says on the masthead of this issue, is "The Voice of the TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION". As such, it is also the voice of its members. We all want to hear those voices in these pages.

Do you have an opinion on something you read in this paper? Did your corner of the Lake host a unique event this past year? Is there a special Lake "character" who you would like to recognize? Are you new to the Lake and wish to share your reasons for coming here? Is there something really special about Temagami that you want to protect?

The possibilities are almost endless, as is the "talent pool" within our membership.
Please send your articles to: **temagamilakes1931@gmail.com**
The editor can help with the formatting and editing details.
Also, remember that photos – high resolution and original in size – really add to a story.

WANTED: Your Favourite Temagami Photos!

Please consider submitting photographs to the TLA so that we can share them in our various publications and via online media.

Photos must be high-resolution PDF, TIFF, or JPEG images – with a minimum of 200 dpi (dots per inch) at 100% photo size. For further information, or to submit a photo, please send an e-mail to: **temagamilakes1931@gmail.com**.

Lake Temagami Water Testing for *E. Coli* and Total Coliforms in 2026

By Christopher Brooks

The Temagami Environmental Research and Stewardship (TERAS)-funded, bacteriological, water-testing initiative continued in 2026 across the Hub, South, SW, and NE Arms. Results were similar to last year's testing – with low levels of *Escherichia coli (E. coli)* in a few locations and greater levels of Total Coliforms everywhere. No significant changes occurred between years.

E. coli is a bacterium found in the intestines of warm-blooded animals. It is a type of coliform bacteria; but, not all coliform bacteria are *E. coli*. The presence of coliform bacteria indicates low sanitary quality and the potential presence of *E. coli*. Health authorities do not recommend consuming water that tests positive for *E. coli* or coliform bacteria without treatment – including untreated lake or spring water.

The *E. coli* and Total-Coliform analyses are enumeration tests that indicate the "Most Probable Number" of bacterial colonies per 100 ml of water (MPN / 100 ml) – where zero is considered safe, and higher numbers are undesirable.

In the accompanying table, test locations are also denoted by their historical names for ease of reference. Interpreting Total-Coliform results is somewhat subjective, as the results depend on incubation time and temperature – influencing when test cells fluoresce (glow) under UV light to indicate a positive result. Ranges indicate possible slight fluorescing in some test cells, which could indicate higher Total-Coliform levels. In general, *E. coli* can be found close to shore, which may indicate the presence of warm-blooded animals.

Private (non-business) drinking water can be tested free of charge by the Northeastern Public Health Unit (see **www.timiskaminghu.com/90576/private-drinking-water**).

Further information about Lake Temagami water quality can be found on the TLA website at: **https://tla-temagami.ca/environment/water-quality**.

LOCATION	*E. Coli* (MPN / 100 ml)	Total Coliforms (MPN / 100 ml)
NE Arm (Island 27): tap before filter	0	>100
NE Arm (Island 27): tap after filter	0	0
Chimo (Island 665): 70 m from south docks	1.5	48.3
TLA Dock	0	>100
Bear Island (Island 964): 50 m from south docks	0	13.6
Camp Wabun (Island 981): 50 m north of main camp docks	0	2.1 to 48.3
Witch Bay: 2 m from north shore	4.7	48.3
Ket-Chun-Eny Lodge (Island 336): 30 m from west shore	0	5.4
Temagami Island (Island 234): east dock by trails	1.5	100
South Arm (Island 765): 50 m from south shore	0	3.7 to 5.4
SW Arm, Camp Temagami (Island 583): 50 m from southwest point	0	100
SW Arm, White Bear (Island 488): 60 m from south shore	0	5.4
SW Arm (Island 378): 60 m northwest from dock (on north side)	0	5.2 to >100

A Legendary Temagami Canoe Route Re-Opened

By Mike McIntosh (Friends of Temagami)

The "Muskego Wildlands" are a mix of forests, lakes, wetlands, creeks, and rivers that cover the lands that lie between Lake Temagami, Lady Evelyn Lake, and Anima-Nipissing Lake. The region is an example of a part of the Temagami Nastawgan that remains almost entirely undisturbed.

The infamous "Bust Your Balls" portage represents the shortest and most direct route from the popular canoe-tripping waters of Lady Evelyn Lake into the wilderness of the Muskego Wildlands.

As all legendary Temagami portages go, this trail combines a wide variety of challenges from steep climbs, overgrown forests, and tricky bog crossings. As noted in Brian Back's book, *The Keewaydin Way*, this trail was nicknamed the "Bust Your Balls" portage by Keewaydin campers. (It should not be confused with its cousin to the north, the "Isbister Ballbuster" – a 1500-m portage between Nichol and Isbister Lakes.) Its notoriety kept all but the most hardcore trippers away ... until now.

Friends of Temagami (FoT) is happy to announce that this portage no longer represents such a challenge! In August of this year, FoT volunteers tackled this infamous portage – with the hope of preserving this piece of the ancient Nastawgan and to encourage others to use this connection option to access the network of canoe routes that exists through the Muskego Wildlands region.



Canoe trippers travel on a Nastawgan portage in the "Muskego Wildlands" (photo courtesy of Friends of Temagami)

Friends of Temagami volunteers first spent an entire day re-locating the original trail. This step is absolutely essential for an original Nastawgan route. Cutting new trails might be easier, but that's not why we're here. We're here to restore these historically-significant portages.

To the trained eye, signs of this historical use are still evident today throughout the intact forest landscapes of Temagami. Sure enough, after scouting the route several times (the general area of the portage is usually obvious, almost always following the lowest contours on the land), a distinct footpath was located, carved deep into the forest floor. By following this footpath, we were able to locate other traditional trail markers: stone cairns, cut trees, and axe blazes!



(map courtesy of Friends of Temagami)

Finding old trees with axe blazes on either side – often completely healed over by time, but still clearly visible – is fundamental to making sure we're on the right path. This process can be slow and frustrating, but we always strive to make sure we are following the original Nastawgan. After a full day of bushwhacking and exploring, we were confident we had the route correctly mapped out with flagging tape between the long, thin bay of Lady Evelyn Lake right through to Goss Lake. One more full day of work in the bush would ensure that the trail was cleared of deadfall, signed, and easily passable.

The first +/- 500 m from Lady Evelyn Lake is a traditional Nastawgan trail that leads canoe trippers through typical Temagami pine forests. After that, the Nastawgan opens up to roughly 400 m of open muskeg and cedar swamp that offers relatively easy walking. Follow this swamp to its terminus, and the trail opens up to an old logging road. Once on this overgrown road, it's an easy 500-m walk to the put-in at Goss Lake.

Arriving on Goss Lake, trippers have the option of continuing east through the portage into Sirdevan Lake or heading north and portaging into Ferguson and Isbister Lakes. Of course, both of these options link up with all of the other routes through the Muskego Wildlands and are interconnected with the vast Nastawgan that criss-crosses Temagami's entire landscape.

Temagami is truly a canoe-tripper's dream.

Temagami Public Library Update (Fall 2026)

By Ashley Bailey, CEO, Temagami Public Library

Hello from the Temagami Public Library!

It's hard to believe that fall is already here. The days are shorter, Town has quieted down, and the Library has settled into its post-summer rhythm. This was our busiest summer in several years, with a steady stream of visitors stopping in to browse, borrow books, and use computers. It was wonderful to see so many year-round residents and returning cottagers make the Library part of their summer!

Our annual Canada Day "Book Sale" was once again a great success. Thank you to everyone who donated books, browsed the tables, and supported the Library. Your generosity keeps this event going strong every year.

We were also delighted to welcome author, Ronda Potts, for two readings this summer (on July 10 and August 15). Her generosity in sharing her work and time with us was deeply appreciated, and we're looking forward to featuring more local authors in the seasons ahead.

Another summer highlight was a visit from the Temagami Cluster of Parks "Discovery Team", which brought their "From the Eyes of a Butterfly" program to the Library for a morning of hands-on learning and exploration. We hope to bring their programming to the Library on a more regular basis next summer, so be sure to keep an eye on our socials!

Our TD "Summer Reading Club" also returned this year, giving kids the chance to track their reading and celebrate books throughout July and August. We always enjoy seeing which titles catch on each summer.

We'd also like to thank the Temagami Community Foundation for their generous grant funding, which allowed us to bring new technology (including a television and Apple TV device) into the Library. Support such as this makes a real difference in what we're able to offer our community – now and in the future.

To our seasonal Lake Temagami patrons ... we miss you already. The Library feels quieter without you, and we can't wait to see you back in the spring! Thank you for being part of our Library community, near or far.

As we move into fall and winter, we're already brainstorming new programming for the months ahead. Details and dates will be shared on our social-media pages and community boards as plans come together, so please stay tuned.

Our bookshelves always have something new, with fresh titles arriving alongside old favourites – from thrillers to local history. Whether you are after a cozy mystery for the shorter days ahead, something to read by the fire, or a recommendation you did not know you needed, come in and see us. We love nothing more than matching a reader with their next great book.

As the cooler months settle in, we look forward to seeing familiar faces and meeting some new ones. Our doors are always open, so stop by for a book, a quiet place to work, or just to say, "Hello." Thank you, as always, for making the Library such a special part of this community.

See you at the Library!

LIBRARY HOURS:

- **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays:** 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **Thursdays:** 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- **Saturdays:** 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



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Legion

Branch 408
Temagami

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 408 – Temagami Update (Fall 2026)

By Heather Reid

MISSION STATEMENT:

Our Mission is to serve Veterans (including military and RCMP members and their families), to promote remembrance, and to serve our communities and our country.

THE TEMAGAMI LEGION:

The Temagami Legion's original charter was established in 1946 to honour veterans from the First and Second World Wars. Temagami's Legion has always been, and always will be, an essential, central structure within the Temagami area.

The Legion recognizes War Veterans with Remembrance Day Celebrations. Other events and services include: darts on Friday nights; card nights on Wednesdays; providing a stop-over during emergency road closures; and, support of local schools. The Legion building is also available for weddings, exercise classes, meetings, and birthday parties.

LEGION EXECUTIVE:

President:	Robert "Red" Seguin
Past President:	Ray Richmond
1st Vice President:	Carol O'Mara
2nd Vice President:	Wayne Manderstrom
3rd Vice President:	Barry Turcotte
Treasurer:	Gord McCart
Secretary:	Robyn Gareh
Bar Chair:	Julie Shank

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY:

On Friday, July 17, 2026, members of our Legion offered a free BBQ to the public to celebrate the Legion's 100th Anniversary. (Branch 408's 75th Anniversary was also earlier in the year.) Legion members were in attendance to serve food, offer information on what the Legion is all about, and accept new members. It was a well-attended event. We would like to thank everyone who came out and the volunteers who worked that day.

BEER STORE RETURNS:

The Temagami Legion is an authorized bottle-return depot for the Temagami area. The Legion will either purchase the returns (e.g., wine, cooler, and liquor bottles, as well as beer cans and bottles) OR accept them as donations. Volunteer support is required to accept bottles and cans every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Legion building. If you are interested in helping, please contact Red Seguin at **705-562-1345**.

MEMBERSHIP:

Interested parties wishing to join the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 408 should contact Red Seguin.

DARTS:

Darts will resume on Friday October 9, 2026. Please be at the Legion at 7:00 p.m. to register. Darts will begin at 7:30 p.m., and a cash bar will be open.

CARD/GAMES NIGHTS:

Card/Game nights are held on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome. Bring your own games, or play card games of your choice. A cash bar will be open..

CORNHOLE:

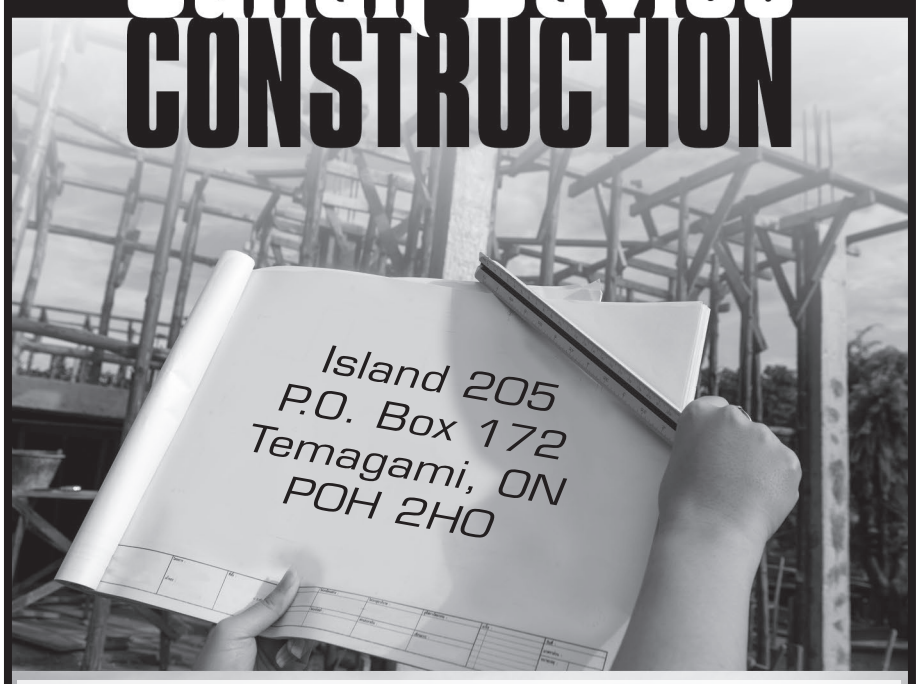
Cornhole was held at the arena on Friday evenings, with the last game on Friday, August 28th. It was a great success this summer, and with so much interest and participation in the game, we are hopeful that it will continue to be held again next summer.







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Commodore Clarke and the Founding of Keewaydin Temagami

By David Sedlock (author of Grey Owl's Temagami)

The Commodore was sitting on the dock of the boy's camp he had founded on Caucomgomoc Lake in Maine, observing the hubbub on the water with dismay. A particularly obnoxious boatload of loud-mouthed fishermen came within earshot. "New Yorkers," spat the Commodore contemptuously. "There are too damn many tourists here," he muttered. "The neighbourhood is going to the dogs!"

Then and there the Commodore, also known as A.S. Gregg Clarke, decided that he would found a new boy's camp far from civilization. He had heard stories of a fabulous place in northern Ontario – a land of deep, pristine lakes and virgin pine forests. Timagami! The very name was magical.

He assembled a small team in the winter of 1901, including his trusted lieutenant, Frank LeClaire. They sent out letters, pored over maps, and made their plans.

In the summer of 1902, they set out from Maine. The first stage was easy: A train to Montreal, a change to the CPR, provisioning at the HBC store in Mattawa, and then north on the Temiskaming Colonisation Railway to the foot of Lake Temiskaming. There they boarded the steamboat Meteor – the lifeline of the "Little England" settlements of Charles Cobbald Farr at the north end of the lake.

The steamboat dropped them off at the mouth of the Matabitchuan River. A short paddle brought them to the Clay Hill Portage (also known as the Devil's Portage) – a steep 700-metre climb. There, according to legend, the young Archie Belaney (later known as Grey Owl) would cut his teeth a few years later.

The team then traversed the four Bass lakes (now reduced to one lake called Four Bass by the Matabitchuan Dam). They paddled and poled upriver, and perfected "The Trip In" song (which can be found at **www.ottertooth.com/keewaydin/K_Misc/songs.htm**).

Their route took them through Rabbit, Cassels, and Snake Lakes (to use their modern names), and they finally portaged into the Town of Temagami, which was a very small affair at that time. They continued down the NE Arm, past Temagami Island, and stopped at the Hudson's Bay Company post on Bear Island for supplies.

The team proceeded up the North Arm and spent the rest of the summer as nomads – always on the lookout for an ideal spot for the new camp.

Clarke brought in a bigger force in 1903 and established a base camp called "The Wigwam" somewhere in the vicinity of Devil Island (Island 1147). Nobody knows quite where. The island was identified as ideal for the permanent camp ... and indeed it was. To the east was Kokoko Lake. To the northeast, was Ferguson Bay. To the northwest lay Sharp Rock Inlet – and beyond, Diamond Lake. What's more, Obabika Inlet was to the southwest, and farther, the great Obabika Lake. A better location for a canoe-tripping camp could hardly be imagined!

Work on the camp started in earnest in 1904. Everything changed in 1905 with the coming of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway. Civilization had arrived in Temagami! The long preliminary trip via Lake Temiskaming and the Matabitchuan River was no longer needed. Visitors could arrive in Temagami in style by train. Luxury venues were on the way: the Ronnoco Hotel, the Temagami Inn, and the Lady Evelyn Hotel. They were built by Dan O'Connor "for the best class of guests, with every regard for their comfort and convenience." Transportation improved in 1906 when O'Connor's *Belle of Temagami* began operation. One could arrive by train from North Bay in the morning, board the *Belle*, and be at a hotel in the interior in time for cocktails.

Over the following years, Keewaydin Temagami, one of Canada's oldest camps, continued to develop and is still going strong today. Until recently, the camp "continued use of traditional travel methods with wood-canvas canoes, wanigans, reflector ovens, fire irons, and tumplines" (according to historian Brian Back).

Several years after the founding of the new camp, the Commodore was sitting on the dock, watching the motorboats buzzing back and forth with dismay. A boatload of loud-mouthed fishermen from New York came within earshot. "There are too damn many tourists here," he muttered. "The neighbourhood is going to the dogs!"

I wish to acknowledge the original research of Brian Back. Responsibility for mistakes – and the whimsical prologue and epilogue – is mine.



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Highlights of the TLA "Annual General Meeting" 2026



The 95th "Annual General Meeting" of the Temagami Lakes Association was held in person on Wednesday, July 22, 2026 at Camp Wabun (on Island 981, Lake Temagami).

TLA President, Nicole Brooker, welcomed members, guests, and Ministry of Natural Resources representatives to the meeting. She thanked former Board members (Greg Goodman, Tarik Muzaffar, Paul Tamburro, Alec Morley, Terry Males, Diane Green, and Rob Corcoran) for their efforts over several years. Current Board Members – Bill Bateman, Lynn Buckham, Christopher Brooks, Carol Lowery, Scot Paltrow, and Brad Sablosky – were introduced, and Nicole discussed some of the activities in which they were involved this past year. For example, Bill has overseen much of the work re: demolition of the old TLA building and building the new one; Carol has been the TLA's voice on Municipal Council; Brad has provided fire-pump and first-aid training sessions for members; and, Lynn, Christopher, and Scot monitor, and report on, most Municipal Council meetings.

Nicole encouraged TLA members to put forward their names for Mayor or Councillor positions in the upcoming Municipal election. Next, updates were provided on: the severe storm on June 30, 2026; the front-end loader that fell into the Lake off the south end of Chimo Island; the 2026 "Temagami Shoreline Clean-Up Challenge"; and, the planned removal of Invasive *Phragmites* along the Access Road in 2026.

Despite the poor weather conditions, 46 voting members (plus guests) were in attendance, and 32 voting members were represented by proxies. After quorum was confirmed, Nicole called the meeting to order at 10:18 a.m. Motions to approve the 2026 AGM agenda and adopt the minutes of the 2025 AGM were made and carried. Resolutions to approve the 2025 financial statement and the actions of the Directors and Officers since the 2025 AGM were also made and carried.

Nicole congratulated Terry Males and Gerry Gooderham for being selected as the 2025 TLA "Members-of-the-Year". Both will receive complimentary, one-year memberships. Terry has worked diligently on the "Natural Resources and Environment" committee and with the "Temagami Shoreline Clean-Up Challenge" (now in its fourth year). Gerry has been very generous over a great many years in allowing the use his wonderful photos in TLA publications.

Carol Lowery spoke of TLA members and supporters lost since the 2025 AGM: Terry Cox, Harold Keevil, David K. Ford, Evelyn Bolton, Dr. Paul Schnatz, Allan Anthony, David Seidel, Sally Baker Grout, and Peg Shardelow (+ Balva Bredovskis in 2022 and Nancy Gray in 2024). All will be greatly missed.

A "Q & A" and comments session was then held. Discussion occurred on these topics: increasing the number of TLA members; incentives for people other than property owners (e.g., "Class F" members) to join the TLA; updates on waste management (including after-hours disposal) and parking; challenges with boat docking and signage at the Strathcona Landing site; potential addition of some 911 property numbers to the Membership Directory; and, use of the "Buy and Sell" section of the website to get rid of unwanted items.

TLA Board members, Scot Paltrow and Lynn Buckham, provided an overview of aquatic invasive species in the Temagami area – including Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM), Invasive *Phragmites*, Spiny Waterflea, and the Banded Mystery Snail.

A company from Quebec was hired by TERAS and the TLA to survey the NE Arm for EWM in early July 2026. A final report will be available in December. Although a few problem areas were found near the Townsite, the seaplane base, and the provincial park – the remainder of the NE Arm had only very small or no infestations. To it's benefit, Lake Temagami is a cold, deep, rocky, nutrient-deficient lake – which will reduce the likelihood that EWM is spread beyond these localized, shallow and warm areas. TLA members are encouraged to report suspected sightings (with photos) to the TLA.

The most important action to take in preventing the spread of this invasive aquatic plant is to utilize mitigation approaches, such as the provision of boat-cleaning stations at area boat-launching sites. Pontoon-cleaning for seaplanes is also important.

Next, Will Goodman (Island 352) spoke of the devastating storm event that severely impacted about 30 properties in the South and SW Arms of Lake Temagami on June 30, 2026. Will made a presentation to the Temagami Municipal Council as an "unregistered" delegation on July 9 and is enrolled to speak as a "registered" delegation on July 23 (with the local MP in attendance).

As of the date of the 2026 AGM, issues of concern included the following: (1) The Municipality of Temagami provided very little assistance to affected islanders, no emergency response was offered to determine if people were injured (or worse), and the O.P.P. did not visit the area; (2) The devastation to forests – on islands and mainland areas – is significant at some sites; (3) Fallen trees are potential fire hazards and should be investigated by fire-department experts; (4) Some property owners are unable to afford the cost of remediation (even with insurance). Accordingly, tax relief from the Municipality was requested for those affected; and, (5) Some people impacted by the storm feel like giving up, as they think that no one cares.

Will added that the TLA has provided great support. He also urged members to travel down and visit the area to see the destruction first hand.

Linda Bangay presented Nicole with a plaque in appreciation for her three years as President of the Board of Directors. Nicole held this position during a very active period of time (e.g., finalizing the Municipal "Official Plan", demolition of the TLA building, arranging for a new building), and her hard work and dedication is very much appreciated.

Nicole thanked Wabun for hosting the meeting and TLA members for attending. The meeting was then adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

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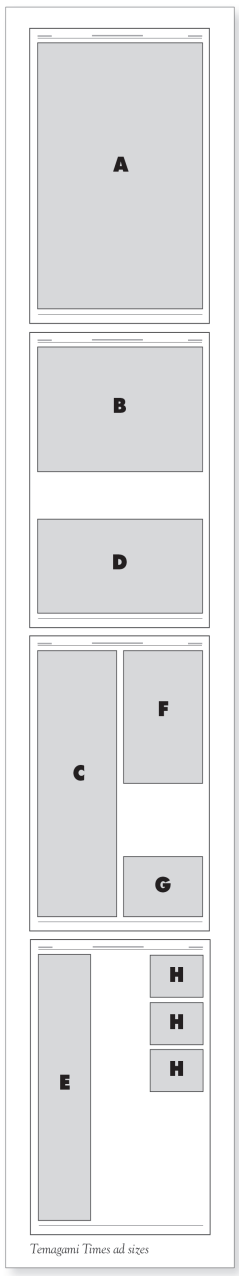
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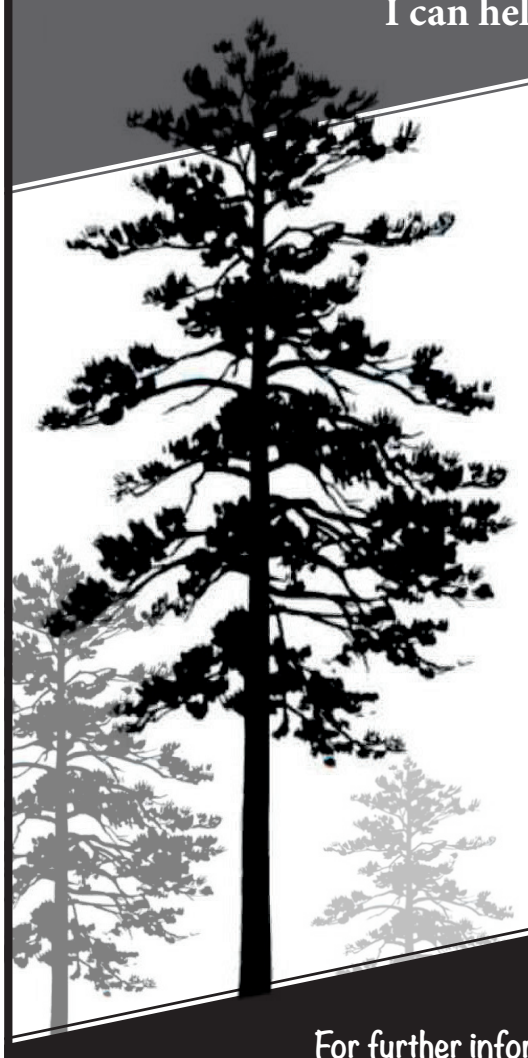
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Long Days, Lasting Memories: Reflections on a Temagami Summer

By Krista Blais, Communications Chair, Temagami Community Foundation

By November, the energy of summer has settled into the quieter rhythm of fall. Boats have been pulled from the water, cottages have been closed for the season, and another Temagami summer has become a collection of memories. Looking back, it wasn't any single event that defined the season. It was the people who filled it: children discovering new talents, neighbours reconnecting over a shared meal, volunteers giving their time, and friends enjoying the moments that make summers here so memorable.

For the Temagami Community Foundation, those moments unfolded throughout the summer in many different ways. Some were planned months in advance, while others happened naturally between events, such as a conversation over dinner, a child proudly showing off a painting, or neighbours catching up after months apart. Looking back now, those are the moments that seem to linger.

The season began with "Arts Camp" on Bear Island, where more than 50 children spent a week painting, making music, telling stories, exploring nature, and discovering new interests. More importantly, they spent time learning alongside one another, building confidence, and making friendships that often continue long after camp has ended. None of it would have been possible without the dedication of Laura Irvine, the many volunteers, artists, families, donors, and the Teme Augama Anishinabek (who once again welcomed the camp to the Minowaabandan-gamiing Maawanjihidiwining – the Lakeview Gathering Place).

The Foundation was also honoured to participate in the Teme Augama Anishinabek "Annual Traditional Pow Wow". The week-end offered an opportunity to reconnect with familiar faces, meet new people, and celebrate the traditions and culture that continue to shape our Temagami.

Later in July, the "Community Fish Fry" at Camp Wabun welcomed families, seasonal residents, visitors, and neighbours for another evening of great food, music, and conversation along the shores of Lake Temagami. The Fish Fry has become a favourite summer tradition – not simply because of what's on the menu, but because it gives people a chance to slow down and enjoy one another's company. Thanks to Camp Wabun, our volunteers, sponsors, musicians, and everyone who attended, another memorable evening was shared.



Golfers Participate in the Inaugural Temagami Community Foundation "Charity Golf Classic" on August 14, 2026 in Haileybury (photo courtesy: by Krista Blais)

August continued with the annual "Council of 100 Brunch" at Northwaters Base Camp, where supporters gathered to reconnect and reflect on the Foundation's work. Guest speaker Craig Macdonald shared stories from decades of documenting the history and traditional place names of N'dakimenan, while several "Robb Warren Hindson Memorial Bursary" recipients were recognized as they prepared for the next chapter of their educational journeys.

The season concluded with a new tradition as golfers, volunteers, sponsors, and supporters came together for the inaugural Temagami Community Foundation "Charity Golf Classic". Friendly competition, generous sponsors, and countless helping hands made the day a success and created a memorable event that we hope will continue for many summers to come.

Upon reflection, it's often the quieter moments that stay with us – friends catching up after months apart, volunteers sharing a laugh while setting up before guests arrived, and conversations that started at one event and carried on at the next.

As another northern winter settles in, Summer 2026 leaves behind more than a calendar of events. It leaves behind memories of time well spent, familiar traditions continuing and new ones taking root, and countless small moments that remind us of why Temagami means so much to so many.

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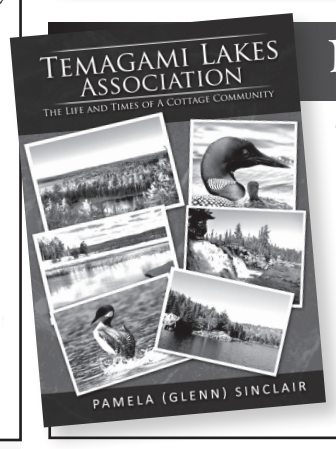
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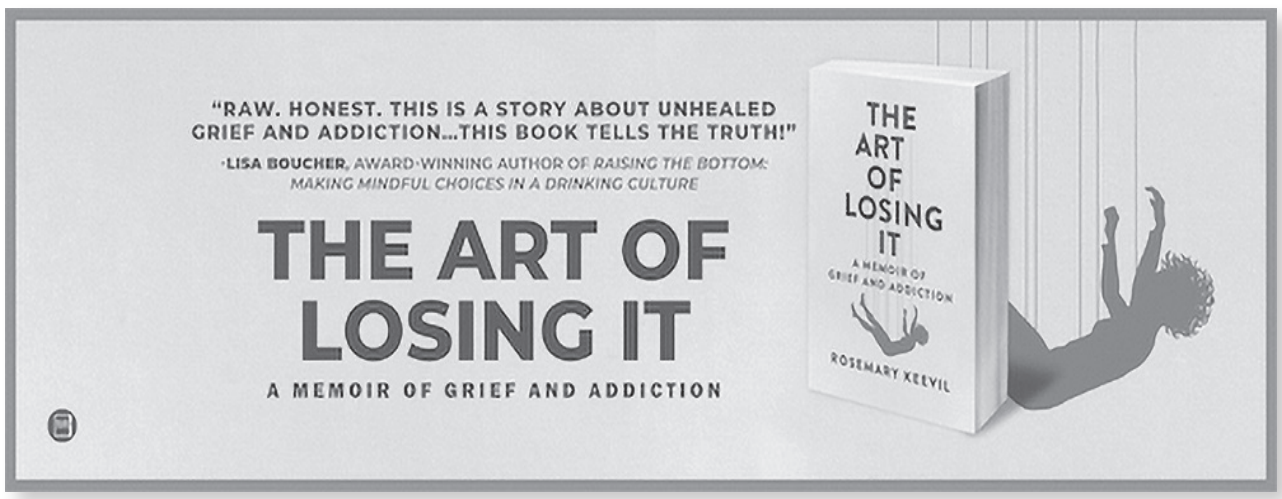
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Stinking Island (photo by Trisha Pendrith)



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