



MACA NEWS

Serving property owners on Long, Negaunee, Wenona and Miskwabi Lakes

YOUR MACA BOARD

EXECUTIVE

President: Peter Dilworth
 Vice President: Andy Mosher
 Treasurer: Virginia Vranckx
 Secretary: Manny Lawson

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 Stephen Foster (Negaunee)
 Tim Hagarty (Lake Steward)
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 Phyllis McCulloch (Membership)
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www.mymaca.net



Tricky Driving, Photo by Susanne James

2023 MACA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Spring Cleanup Day:

May 21st

AGM:

Saturday, July 8th
(Followed by BBQ)

Canoe/Kayak Poker Run:

July 22nd

Wine and Cheese:

August 19th

President's Message

Greetings everyone!

I hope you are all enjoying this winter weather. Haliburton is certainly beautiful this time of year. The fluffy white snow, starry night skies and the hilly landscape all help make this little corner of Ontario something special.



It's a new year, and we begin it with a new Mayor, Murray Fearrey, and a new Council in Dysart et al, including Nancy Wood-Roberts as Ward 2 Councillor.

Please remember this is the time of year to renew your MACA membership – you can renew online by visiting our website and clicking on the "Membership" link.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter. Please note MACA's schedule events for 2023 (to the left).

Be good and stay healthy.

*Peter Dilworth,
MACA President*

MINDING LAKE HEALTH IS YEAR-ROUND



Avoid traditional de-icers!

Many ice melts use harsh chemicals like calcium chloride, potassium chloride, and sodium chloride.

When temperatures warm up and the ice and snow melt, these dangerous chemicals get mixed in with the run-off and make their way to the lake. This can contribute to algal blooms.

Alternatives to traditional de-icers:

- Ecofriendly ice melts
- Woodstove/fireplace ashes
- Sand
- Bird seed
- Kitty litter
- Pickle brine

Ethel Curry, 1901 - 2000

The great Canadian landscape artist Ethel Curry moved to Miskwabi Lake in 1906 when she was only four. Although after about a year, her family decided to relocate into the village of Haliburton.

Getting there was a challenge. Her father made arrangements for a tugboat (that normally pulled logs) to take the family across Miskwabi and down Long Lake toward town. Apparently Ethel's responsibility was to hold the reins of the family cow with one hand and her two-year-old brother with the other.

Ethel graduated from the Ontario College of Art, became an art teacher and worked with many of the Group of Seven. The painting to the right is an example of her work. The Ethel Curry Gallery in Haliburton is named after her.



Trees at Christmas, Haliburton - Oil Painting by Ethel Curry 1943



Lake Steward's Corner

by **Tim Hagarty, MACA Lake Steward**

Spring is around the corner - we hope. We are looking forward to continuing the extensive water testing on our lakes that we started last year with Woodlands and Waterways Ecowatch (WWEW). This along with the other testing we do (e.g., benthos invertebrates monitoring and the Lake Partners Program) will add to our growing knowledge about the health of our waters.

In addition, the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Associations has announced that they are introducing a new program for water testing, one that we will be following with great interest.

The extensive testing we did last year didn't identify any major concerns on any of our lakes, nor did it explain why we have had algae blooms on one of our lakes. (See the results on our website at <https://www.mymaca.net/water-quality-initiatives>). Although perhaps it is noteworthy to highlight that the phosphorus levels on our MACA lakes, and in particular on Wenona Lake, while within acceptable limits, were higher than what was detected in the lakes of the other cottage associations tested last year in the WWEW pilot.

The septic inspections on Wenona Lake noted numerous cases for remediation, including systems not operating in accordance with the use permit, grey water discharging to the ground and failing tanks or weeping beds. We understand that not all these issues have been remediated, but we have assurances from the Municipality that all outstanding issues will be pursued this year. Inspections of the septic systems on our other lakes will be done this year. We need to ensure that all our septic systems are working properly. This is key to avoiding algae blooms.

Although we have seen some work on shoreline remediation, (thank you!) more needs to be done. If your shoreline has been modified from its natural state (e.g., your lawn ends at the lakeshore etc.) we respectfully ask that you work on returning your shoreline to its natural state. Our website is a great source for ideas on shoreline remediation. If you have any questions, please let me know.

We have a wonderful community here at MACA, and, if we can all work together we can look forward to keeping our lakes healthy.

MEMBERSHIP Update

By **Phyllis McCulloch, Membership Director**

It's that time to renew your Annual Membership. The Annual Membership fee is \$30.00.

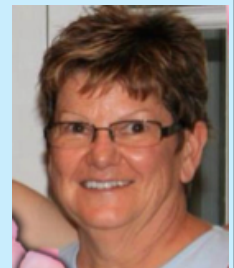
Nothing has changed with our process this year. You can visit our website - www.mymaca.net, click on "Membership" in the right corner of the home page and complete the form by entering your home and cottage information along with your credit card info. The process is safe and secure. Alternatively you can download and complete the PDF Membership Form from the website and mail it to the address on the form along with your cheque (please do not send money through the mail). Once I have received your information I will send you a confirmation note.

We will be holding our annual "Early Bird Draw" for renewals received by March 31st. The draw will be held at our Annual General Meeting in July!

We are often asked about the reason for MACA and the fees involved. Volunteer MACA executive and directors work tirelessly to advance the recreational, environmental, and other shared interests of our members. We try to keep property owners informed about things that may have an impact on them and their property. We monitor water quality. We advocate on behalf of our members to influence decisions of our local governments. A strong membership helps make our voice even louder. Having access to as many property owners as possible is so important when we need to send notices out quickly.

The 2023 membership stickers/signs will go up in the spring for "New" and "Renewing" members.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at: phyllismcculloch2@gmail.com.



Summary of MACA's Financials

Cash Balance Nov 2021		\$6610.32
<u>Revenues</u>		
Memberships	8310.00	
2023 Paid in Advance	210.00	
Total Revenues		8520.00
<u>Expenses</u>		
Bank Charges	67.65	
Squarespace Fee	658.32	
Insurance	1500.00	
CEWF	100.00	
CHA	90.00	
FOCA	1041.00	
U-Links Donation re water tests	600.00	
WWEW Water Testing	1080.00	
Road Cleanup	88.00	
Annual General Meeting	438.27	
Wine and Cheese	1363.09	
Poker Run Canoe/Kayak	322.53	
Newsletters	159.51	
Photo Contest	47.60	
Zoom Account Fee	226.00	
Signage	256.40	
General Admin	6.44	
Total Expenses		8371.50
Available Cash Year End 2022 (Nov)		\$6758.82

Treasurer's Report

by Virginia Vranckx, MACA Treasurer



In 2022 MACA spent slightly less than the revenues we took in.

Memberships continue to be strong. Your support is much appreciated.

Expenses were higher than last year largely due to the cost of in-person events, for the first time in three years!

We will continue our Zoom account as this facilitates both Executive meetings and communications with other organizations.

Another review of insurance coverage will be conducted in the spring.

Monitoring water quality of our lakes continues to drive a significant portion of our expenses. Membership in the CEWF (Coalition for Equitable Water Flow), the CHA (Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners Associations) and FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottagers Associations) cost over \$1,200.

Wishing everyone a happy 2023 cottaging season!

Each spring, Friends of Ecological and Environmental Learning (FEEL) offer high quality native and eco-friendly plants for sale to Haliburton County landowners.

THE 2023 ONLINE SALE IS OPEN!

Go to <https://www.ecoenvirolearn.org/native-plant-sale.html> to see the selection of plants.

This is a volunteer run event/fundraiser supporting the annual Haliburton-Muskoka-Kawartha Children's Water Festival



In case you missed it on Groundhog Day ... Warton Willy predicted an early spring for 2023.



Long, Negaunee and Miskwabi Septic Inspections in 2023



Property owners on these lakes will receive their Initial Notice Letters in the coming weeks. These letters will outline the inspection dates, instructions for rescheduling, preparation instructions, fees, etc. More information can also be found on Dysart's website at www.dysartetal.ca/septicinspection.

Haliburton Real Estate Update

Andy Mosher, Broker & Susanne James, Sales Representative
 – Century 21 Granite Realty Group Inc. Brokerage.

Real Estate in 2022 was a tale of two markets in Haliburton County – and across Canada. The year began where the previous two years left off, with enormous demand driving rapidly rising prices. However by mid-year, rising interest rates cooled off the market, and brought it into more balanced territory. The extremely strong start to the year meant that overall, the average sale price for Waterfront cottages/homes in Haliburton County was just over \$1,042,000 in 2022 – up 12% over the previous year. However by the end of 2022, average sale prices had returned to a level similar to the end of 2021.

Average time on market was 22 days. Average sale-to-list price ratio dropped to 99.2% – indicating a more balanced market with fewer properties selling over the list price.

For off-water residential homes, the market was similar: average sale price for 2022 was up 13% to just over \$551,000, with an average time on market of 23 days.

MLS™ data: Ontario Lakelands Association of REALTORS® real estate board – waterfront residential/recreational, Haliburton district.

Fishing Corner - Update on Changes to Zone 15 Regulations

By Steve Dyce



According to a recent article by Steve Galea in the Haliburton Echo, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) is in the process of reviewing the 460 comments received from the public regarding the proposed changes to the FMZ 15. Once that review is completed, the MNR will seek further feedback from the FMZ 15 Advisory Council which includes representatives from First Nations and Metis, environmental groups, business representatives, anglers, cottage associations, and others.

The earliest implementation of the new regulations is expected to be January 1, 2024. So nothing is finalized yet, and implementation of any changes will be deferred at least another year. As we hear more information we'll update you.

Fishing season/limits for 2023:

As a reminder, the current regulations provide for the following open seasons and limits in our area - Sport License (S) and Conservation License (C). Always check the dates yourself to be sure at <https://www.ontario.ca/document/ontario-fishing-regulations-summary/fisheries-management-zone-15>

Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass - 4th Saturday in June (June 24th) to November 30th S-6, C-2

Lake Trout - January 1 to September 30th S-2, C-1

Rainbow Trout - all year, S-5, C-2 (note there is also a combined all trout species/splake max of S-5, C-2)

Pike - January 1 to March 31, and 3rd Saturday in May (May 20th) to December 31 S-6, S-2

Perch - All year, S- 50, C-2

For all other species please consult the regulations.

Since Spring is right around the corner, now is a good time to check your Outdoors Card and Fishing license expiry dates to be sure you are ready to go for the spring/summer period. You can renew your Outdoors Card and license on-line at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/fishing>.

Happy Fishing in 2023!

Cottage Cook's Corner

Favourite Recipes Shared by MACA Members



Italian Almond-Orange Cookies

Contributed by: Connie Lester

INGREDIENTS

- 1/3 cup egg whites (we separated two jumbo eggs and got exactly 1/3 cup of egg whites, but you may need more than two eggs to measure out exactly 1/3 cup)
- 1 ¼ cups granulated sugar
- Zest of one orange Note: can substitute lemon zest
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 2 ½ cups almond flour
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- ½ cup powdered sugar

INSTRUCTIONS

In a medium bowl, mix egg whites, sugar, orange zest and honey with a whisk until smooth.

Add the almond flour and baking powder and mix with a wooden spoon or rubber spatula until moist and all of the dry ingredients are absorbed into the wet and combined.

Cover and refrigerate for one hour and as long as 24 hours.

When ready to bake, preheat oven to 325 degrees F with two racks in top two positions.

Cover two cookie sheets with parchment paper.

Place the powdered sugar in a small bowl.

Roll the dough on your counter with your hands into a fat log and cut it into two equal pieces.

Roll each piece out into logs and cut in half then each piece in half again. Then cut each piece into three. This will give you 24 pieces.

Roll each piece into a ball then roll in the powdered sugar then onto the cookie sheets, 12 per tray.

Bake both together for 15-17 minutes, rotating the pans half way through.

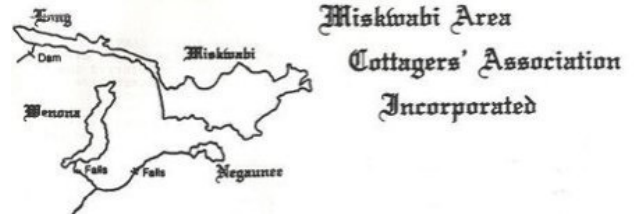
The cookies are done when they start to crackle and flatten out and are slightly browned on the bottom. The centres will be very soft so don't go by the feel of the cookie and don't lift off the cookie sheet yet.

As they cool on the cookie sheet, they stiffen up and have a crisp outside and a chewy center.

Store at room temperature in an air-tight container.

Yield: 2 dozen

MACA FLASHBACK! 37 YEARS AGO



Our look back on the goings on is from the October 1986 newsletter ...

Seems it was a good year for fishing on Wenona, where 2 youngsters caught upwards of 25lbs of rock bass - must have been quite the haul for these kids. Some great prizes were awarded after the derby ended including, baseball caps, fishing lures and filing knives. The derby had a dual objective, one of which being the hope of diminishing the rock bass stock somewhat. Not sure if this actually worked or not, as they are still pretty popular in all the lakes.

The annual Wine and Cheese was a success, lots of attendees, good time had by all ... how could it not have been, great weather, wine, cheese, good friends, fishing stories (see above), oh and the hosts put a TV out on the deck so folks could watch the Blue Jays game (they won!)

Dysart adopted an Anti-Noise By-Law in hopes of reducing all the noise cottagers were making - seems all the loud music, barking dogs, and kids laughing and carrying on in the lake at all hours of the day and night was getting out of hand. Interestingly the fine (anywhere between \$100 to \$2000) went to the owner of the property in question.

The yearly MACA membership drive was well underway, with 116 signed up. The fee was a little lower than we have today, but what's interesting is it hasn't really gone up much when compared to inflation and the cost of things now a days. It's still a bargain for sure.

The question of whether a community dock could be installed at the Miskwabi boat launch still pops up every once in a while, and in 1986 Dysart was on board for and had asked the Federal Dept of Transport to construct a dock there, funding had been allocated as well. Wonder what happened?

And speaking of docks, seems those lake 'wandering' docks were an issue even back then. There were 3 broken and abandoned sitting in the Miskwabi east end shallows by the causeway. Owners were asked to retrieve and haul them away, unfortunately only one of them was, and the town had to come and clean up the others at taxpayers' expense.

That's it for the blast from the past for this newsletter. Hope everyone has had a great winter. I know we're all looking forward to spring and getting the cottaging season underway.