



# MACA NEWS

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

## YOUR MACA EXECUTIVE

**President:** Andy Mosher  
**Vice President:** Peter Dilworth  
**Treasurer:** Virginia Vranckx  
**Secretary:** Susan Rohricht  
**Past President:** Mike Giza  
**Lake Steward:** Tim Hagarty

**Directors:**

Dave Ewart  
John Ewing (*Roads*)  
Susan Hay  
Haden Heathcock  
Kay Hubbard  
Susanne James (*Newsletter*)  
Janine Lacoste  
Phyllis McCulloch (*Membership*)  
Todd Tiffin (*North Shore Roads*)  
Moe Welch (*Events*)

[www.mymaca.net](http://www.mymaca.net)

## 2017 MACA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Spring Cleanup:** Sunday, May 21st

**AGM:** Saturday, July 8th

**Golf Tournament:** Saturday, July 15th

**Wine and Cheese:** Saturday, August 26th

*Details inside this edition of the Newsletter*



Spring Trilliums, Photo: Susanne James

## “Springing” Into Action!

The ice is out, and the blackflies are starting to buzz (though as of this writing, are not yet biting). It is springtime on the lakes.



It is also time to follow up on the good work done last summer by the *Love Your Lake* shoreline evaluation project. By now, each of you should have received a letter in the mail with your code to access your confidential, individual shoreline evaluation. A tremendous amount of work went into carrying out this project, so please take the time to download and read your personalized report online – or better yet, order a hard copy: it’s a beautiful and informative guidebook for shoreline health.

It’s vital that these reports do not just sit on the shelf. The point of the project is to encourage each of us to act on the recommendations in our reports, and re-naturalize our shorelines wherever possible. Research has shown that **natural shorelines are critical for maintaining our water quality and preventing toxic algae blooms**. So please take action.

If you have not yet received your letter with your personalized access code, please contact Tim Hagarty at: [jthagarty@bell.net](mailto:jthagarty@bell.net)

*Andy Mosher, MACA President*

## Wenona Severance Update



Wenona Lake, Photo: Susan Hay

After a process that lasted more than a year, a compromise was reached in April regarding the new lot severances on Wenona Lake.

Last summer, the Haliburton County Land Division Committee voted to approve the creation of three new lots in the shallow bay at the south end of the lake, despite objections raised by MACA and by many property owners on Wenona.

The application then went to Dysart for zoning approval. MACA's president Andy Mosher, vice president Peter Dilworth, and Wenona resident Keith Hay, made presentations in February and March to Dysart's Public Meeting Committee, raising concerns including the presence of docks in the bay, and the threat to the habitat of endangered species in the area.

At a third meeting on April 3rd, the Committee voted to recommend zoning the properties subject to the following conditions:

- Since the County's peer review consultant agreed that the the bay with the beaver dam is a wetland, no dock will be permitted on Lot 1. This is one of the most important concessions we had asked for, given the concerns about the impact of a dock and related activity on the beaver dam.
- The property owner must undertake a survey for endangered American Ginseng. If found, the site development plan will have to change accordingly.
- All subsequent owners will be responsible for identifying and reporting endangered and threatened species and habitat, ensuring that any work does not negatively impact them. The responsibility will be registered on Title to the properties, so it will continue in perpetuity.

MACA feels that this is a reasonable compromise that will help to protect the wetland, particularly the area around the beaver dam.

## Long Lake Dam Repairs

As we reported in the fall newsletter, the dam on Long Lake is scheduled to have repair work done soon.



The original dam at the outlet of Long Lake was

built in 1895 as part of the Trent-Severn Waterway reservoir system. The current version of the dam dates from the 1930's. Today, Parks Canada maintains and operates the dams.

There is a five-year infrastructure project underway to improve the dam system, and the Long Lake dam is scheduled to have concrete repair work done, along with the installation of improved guard rails, increased signage, and safety booms. Darryl Whitehead of Parks Canada says that they are currently finalizing their plans for the 2017-2018 construction season and "while there is a very small chance that the Long/Miskwabi dam could be included in this work, it is more likely to occur in one of the subsequent two years".

Parks Canada has promised to keep us posted on their schedule as the Long Lake work approaches.

### Dam Safety Tips

Parks Canada would like to remind people to use caution around dams.

- Follow all signs, fences, booms, buoys and barriers at dams and along their surrounding shorelines. These are put in place to protect you.
- Stay back from the edge of the water near dams. If you see water levels changing, move away from the dam immediately.
- Never stand, fish, or anchor your boat below a dam. Water levels change quickly and can swamp your boat or pull you into an undertow.
- Do not swim near dams or in areas with a strong current.
- Never paddle near dams.
- Don't wade into moving water.
- Avoid hiking too close to dams. Water levels can rise rapidly if the dam is opened or the weather changes.
- Stay off of ice around dams. Ice is always thinner around the dams and changing water levels can make ice unstable.

For more information visit: <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/lhn-nhs/on/trentsevern/securite-safety>

## LAKE STEWARD'S UPDATE

By **Tim Hagarty, MACA Lake Steward**



Greetings fellow 'Lakers',

By now you have all received your personal results of last summer's *Love Your Lake* Shoreline Evaluation program. As shorelines are critical to our lakes health, please review and if you need to make some changes, our lakes will thank you when you do!

Here are the preliminary overall results for our 4 lakes:

Lake	Natural	Regenerative	Sub Total	Ornamental
Long	53%	27%	89%	20%
Miskwabi	45%	39%	85%	15%
Negaunee	83%	7%	90%	10%
Wenona	44%	35%	79%	21%

As the GOAL is 75% Natural, we are not where we want to be. On the plus side, when we add in the Regenerative we are over 75%. This is somewhat more comforting, BUT it does tell us that we need to improve to keep our lakes healthy. We need to continue on the Regenerative side and reduce the Ornamental numbers to zero.

Note: Of the 47 lakes evaluated in Haliburton County, over the last three years, 92% did not make the cut, which is 75% Natural shoreline. This is very troubling for Haliburton

County, but as we are the headwaters of the Burnt River system, we can continue to let those downstream know that we are doing our part to keep our lakes healthy.

The CHA has been successful in having Dysart et al, insert a double sided note about Lake Health and renting, into the Tax bills. This is an incredible feat and it is a testament as to how much the township is concerned about lake health. If you see your Councillor, please say thank you!

The results of 2106 water tests are available on the website....all good news! Results are posted on MACA's web site at [www.mymaca.net](http://www.mymaca.net)

The results of the Invasive Species tests are less successful. For the first time, Miskwabi Lake has tested positive for Zebra Mussel larva (veligers). As the sample that was positive for zebra mussel veligers was collected near the boat launch, we will inspect to see if there are any signs of actual growth to adulthood. From time to time, we have had lakes positive for zebra mussel veligers that have not been able to sustain an adult population.

This result reinforces our mantra of "clean your boat before you transfer it to another lake". We will be conducting the Invasive Species testing again this year.

CHA's bid to get money for re-naturalization support was originally negative, but they continue to press for support. More info due soon.

Please continue to help us keep our lakes healthy!

Your Lake Steward,

**Tim Hagarty**

## CHA Annual Lake Stewards' Meeting

The Coalition of Haliburton Associations (CHA) held their annual Lake Steward's meeting on Saturday May 6th at the Firefighters' Community Hall in Stanhope. CHA now has 53 member associations, with 118 lakes, representing 17,000 properties.

Here are some of the highlights from the meeting:

### LOVE YOUR LAKE:

CHA is the largest implementer of the *Love Your Lake* shoreline health program in Canada. This is the final year for the project in Haliburton. 23 more lakes will be done this year, for a total of 70 lakes and approximately 14,000 properties evaluated.

### SEPTIC RE-INSPECTIONS:

The **Municipality of Dysart et al** is working to have a septic re-inspection program in place beginning in 2018. **Highlands East** is starting a pilot program, however it will be limited to a "drive by" or visual inspection only. **Algonquin Highlands** has hired a consultant and is working on a program for 2018. **Minden Hills** has not made a decision yet.

### M.O.E. TESTING OF TROUT LAKES

A guest speaker from the Ministry of the Environment gave a presentation on the state of Haliburton's lake trout lakes. Lake trout lakes make up only 1% of Ontario lakes, but contain 25% of the world's lake trout. They are a Natural Heritage Feature under the Planning Act.

The MOE analyzes 90 lake trout lakes in Haliburton County for phosphorus, ammonia, temperature, suspended solids, dissolved O<sub>2</sub>, and other characteristics. Future surveys are planned for 2021, 2022, and 2023.

A lake trout lake is considered "at capacity" if dissolved O<sub>2</sub> is less than 7.0 mg/l. Decreased O<sub>2</sub> makes it harder for young trout to swim, feed and survive predators. "At capacity" trout lakes are listed and protected in current Official Plans. Over the last 16 years, oxygen levels in Haliburton's trout lakes have remained very stable, and have actually increased slightly.

Haliburton still has among the best water quality in Ontario, second only to Frontenac. However it is up to us to maintain our high water quality, through limiting development, proper septic maintenance, shoreline naturalization, and avoiding runoff.

## 2017 MACA Events Schedule

### SPRING ROAD CLEANUP

Sunday May 21st, 11am

Meet at Miskwabi Boat Launch

Please remember to bring gloves, bug spray/jackets and sunscreen. Garbage and recycling bags will be provided. Invite your guests, kids, or grandkids to pitch in, the more the merrier! A BBQ for volunteers will follow. Thanks to our members who pitch in every year to keep our roadsides clean!

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday July 8th, 11am **\*RAIN DAY SUNDAY\***

Meet at "Airport Strip" (across from the Miskwabi Boat Launch)

Guest speakers including your local politicians, directors' elections, and raffles. Please remember to bring chairs and sunscreen or umbrellas. BBQ to follow.

### GOLF DAY

Saturday July 15th, 8:30am

Open to all Members and their guests. Cost is \$40 per person which includes the golf and BBQ.

Please register with Moe Welch no later than July 4th at 705-455-9371 or by e-mail at:

loismoe@bell.net

### WINE AND CHEESE

Saturday August 26th, 2-5 pm

**We are looking for a host for this year's Wine and Cheese. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Andy Mosher at:**

andy\_mosher@sympatico.ca

**Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Day** at the Dysart Haliburton Landfill Site is Saturday July 15th, between 9am and 3pm.

Acceptable household Hazardous Waste materials include:

- Latex and oil paints
- Finishing products (e.g. varnish, glue)
- Used motor oil, auto and household batteries
- Propane tanks and propane cylinders
- Cleaners (e.g. bleach, oven cleaners)
- Pesticides and herbicides
- Aerosol cans, solvents (e.g. varsol, paint thinner)
- Pool and photographic chemicals

For more information, visit [www.dysartetal.ca](http://www.dysartetal.ca)

## LAKE PLAN CORNER

by Peter Dilworth, MACA V.P. and Lake Planning Director



With spring finally here, our Planning Committee is eager to continue pushing forward with implementation of the recommendations identified in the MACA Watershed Plan.

Key focus in 2017 will be on:

- i) improving signage at the boat launches to contain the spread of invasive species, and at selected narrows on Long Lake to help to control speed and the size of boat wakes;
- ii) working with MNR and others to educate anglers on best fishing practices;
- iii) initiating preliminary steps to have the largest wetlands in our watershed area assessed for being Provincially Significant;
- iv) educating property owners on implementing the suggestions from the Love Your Lake reports; and finally
- v) continuing to work with the County and the Municipality to influence the content and language of their respective Official Plans.

Relating to this last item, just last month MACA provided a written submission as input to the update of the County of Haliburton Official Plan. You can find that submission on the MACA Web site at [www.mymaca.net](http://www.mymaca.net) under "Lake Planning". This submission provided comments about limiting development on our lakes, protecting our streams and wetlands, supporting septic inspection programs and control the use of fireworks and cottage rentals.

## FOCA Makes Headway on Dock Regulations

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) has proposed new regulations under the *Public Lands Act* to help simplify the regulation of shoreline structures such as docks, boat lifts, boat ramps, and swim rafts.

This is largely due to the efforts of the Federation of Ontario Cottage Associations (FOCA) of which MACA is a founding member. When a court case in 2015 resulted in confusion over Provincial permit requirements, FOCA lobbied the Provincial government to remedy the situation. The resulting Bill 27 was passed in the Ontario Legislature on March 22, and now the MNR has proposed new regulations that will hopefully make things easier. For more information, visit FOCA's Web site at [www.foca.on.ca](http://www.foca.on.ca)

**Please note that the requirement to obtain permits from MNR for on-water work remains in effect, for the time being. As always, if contemplating any work, you should contact Dysart's Municipal building department for guidance at 705-457-1740.**

## OPP Cautions on Deer Collisions

The Haliburton Highlands OPP Detachment would like to remind us to watch out for wildlife on the roads.

Annually we average 190-200 car/animal collisions in Haliburton, most of which involve deer. That puts us second in Ontario (based on statistics from 2013) only behind Manitoulin Island. The OPP estimates that at least another 40-50% of collisions go unreported.

About half of these collisions occur on highways and the other half on County and Township roads.

Contributing factors to these accidents include vehicle speeds, deer feeding, and foliage too close to the roadway to allow enough reaction time.

Please slow down and be watchful. The OPP has provided us with a pamphlet on Road Safety and Deer, which we have made available on our web site at [www.mymaca.net](http://www.mymaca.net).

## NEW MACA COTTAGER'S GUIDE

MACA's new *Cottager's Guide* is ready for distribution. This one-page document encourages cottage owners, visitors and renters to respect the environment and be good neighbours. A draft was sent out in the Winter 2014 newsletter for input from members, and the final version is now available. A copy is included in this newsletter, and a sturdy laminated version will be distributed to cottages later this year. The *Cottager's Guide* is also available as a PDF at [www.mymaca.net](http://www.mymaca.net).

## WATCH YOUR WAKE PLEASE!

As we move into spring and boating season, a reminder to please slow down as you go through narrow waterways. The speed limit is 10km/h (6 mph) within 30 meters (100 ft) of shore. Excessive wakes can damage property, wildlife and shorelines, so please take it easy, and respect your lake and your neighbours!

## MACA Member Named Highlander of the Year

Congratulations to MACA member Max Ward, who was named Highlander of the Year at the 11th annual Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce Business and Community Achievement Awards. Mr. Ward was one of six nominees. He was recognized for his work in fighting hunger and poverty in the Haliburton Highlands.



## Financial Update

by Virginia Vranckx, MACA Treasurer



Our new year 2017 started with a healthy bank balance as the costs for the *Love Your Lake* project were not as high as anticipated.

Membership renewals are above normal at this time, and we proudly have 9 new members.

Also we recently received a generous \$500.00 donation from Susanne and Andy of Century 21, as part of their programme to support associations on the lakes where they have sold properties.

Thus, at the moment we have over \$8000.00 in our account.

At the Executive meeting held in April, the MACA board voted to continue our support of the Coalition for Equitable Water Flow (CEWF), The Haliburton Property Owners' Association (CHA) and Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA).

We also will have sufficient funds for new signage related to implementing the recommendations in the Watershed Plan.

Complete financial information for 2016 will be presented at the AGM.

## Membership Update

by Phyllis McCulloch, MACA  
Membership Director



We have 95 members who are eligible for the "Early Bird" Membership draw that we will be held at our annual meeting in July. If you haven't submitted your membership dues and form, we hope you will do so as soon as you can. The Membership form is available on the MACA Web Site at [www.mymaca.net](http://www.mymaca.net).

Your membership dues help cover the costs incurred with our BBQ's that are held after our "Road Clean-Up" and "Annual Meeting", Wine & Cheese Get-Together, signage and printing etc.

Not only is a large membership a reflection of support for our Association, it strengthens our requests for repairs and improvements to our roads, signs etc. by Dysart.

Do you have a new cottage neighbour? We like to introduce new owners to MACA and its benefits. Send a quick note to our Membership Director - Phyllis McCulloch at: [phyllis.mcculloch058@sympatico.ca](mailto:phyllis.mcculloch058@sympatico.ca) and she'll be sure to welcome them to our lakes and Association.

# NATURE NOTES

by Susan Hay

We've all heard by now that there is a global pollinator crisis. Bees, both native and non-native, have been dying at an unprecedented rate due to pesticides, loss of habitat and climate change. Bees pollinate up to 30% of global food supplies – so if you like to eat, you should be concerned!



What can we as cottagers do about the pollinator crisis? We can keep our properties in as natural a state as possible. Many of the native bees in Canada are "solitary"

bees which nest alone in cavities in any area. Open patches of bare soil, dead wood, stems and twigs provide nesting areas for some bees. Cleaning up leaves in spring rather than in the fall allows beneficial insects to overwinter in leaf debris. While the leaves are decaying, they release nutrients back into the soil.

Native bees need native plants as a source of nectar and for pollination. In addition to providing habitat for pollinators, you can save yourself a lot of trouble by planting native species as they are better adapted to local soil types and weather conditions. Ask your local nursery for suggestions for native plants.

If you are planting a flower garden, plant a wide variety of flowers so that sources of pollen and nectar are available from early spring to late fall. Bees prefer yellow and blue and flat, simple flowers are easier for them to access nectar. Planting flowers in groups makes the flowers more visible to pollinators as bees have poor visual acuity. Bees love those native white and light purple asters that grow along the roadsides in late summer and fall. Milkweed are critical for the survival of Monarch butterflies, but bees like them too.

## Pollinator Plants

by Susanne James

To attract bees and other pollinators to your garden, try planting some of these perennials. Even what seems like a small contribution – just a tiny flower pot or patch – can provide valuable pollinator habitat.



**Blue Vervain (Verbena)** - plant in full sun. Moisture tolerant. Purple flowers bloom in late summer.



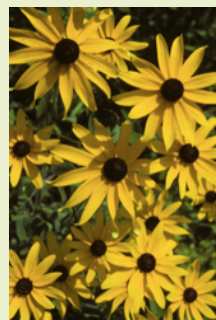
**Aster** - plant in full sun. Hardy plants seen growing at roadsides. Small white or blue flowers.



**Coneflower** - pink-purple flowers from midsummer to late fall. Plants are tolerant of poor soil and dry conditions.



**Wild bergamot** - generally an easy wildflower to grow. Likes full sun and tolerates dry soil. Leaves and flowers have a sweet fragrance. Lavender-coloured flowers attract bees and butterflies.



**Rudbeckia (black eyed Susan)** - with signature sunny yellow flowers with dark centres, these plants are easy to grow and quickly establish themselves in sunny spots, even tolerating poor soil conditions.



**Anise hyssop** - Full or part sun. Loamy soils. Starry-shaped flower heads. Showy flowers in summer, fall.

You can find these plants - and many others - at the annual Master Gardener plant sale in Minden. This year's sale will be held on Saturday June 3, 2017. It's first come, first serve – so arrive by 9:00 am to take a number, and then browse the plants. Come early for best selection. Held in downtown Minden at the Village Green park (beside CIBC). The Master Gardeners are happy to provide expert advice on plants that will thrive in Haliburton County.



Clouds over Long Lake, Photo: Peter Dilworth

**MACA FLASHBACK! 35 YEARS AGO**

Here's what was making news in the MACA Newsletter for May, 1982



Reconstruction, re-surfacing and widening of Highway 121 from Minden to Haliburton and Haliburton to Trappers Trail has commenced. Drive carefully!

We have been advised by M.O.E. that a Cottage Pollution Control Survey will be conducted on Long Lake, Negaunee Lake, and Wenona Lake, July 13 and July 28/82. Summer students will spend this time conducting interviews and preparing sketches of the properties. Please welcome these people and give them your assistance and cooperation. It's in your own best interests.

The Municipality of Dysart, in support of our efforts has requested a status report and timetable for Bell Telephone re: extension of service to our area. Three cheers for Dysart!

Highway 121/Trappers Trail "Theme Park": A large parcel of land in the area was zoned "Tourist/Commercial" ... to accommodate a "Theme Park" (Wonderland North?) We understand plans for the park have been deferred indefinitely for a variety of reasons, and efforts to contact the developer have been unsuccessful.

**Cottage Cook's Corner**

*Favourite Recipes Shared by MACA Members*

**Wild Leek and Mushroom Risotto**



For local cottage gourmets, spring is time to harvest wild leeks. Leeks (also known as ramps) grow wild throughout our forests. Don't over-harvest, only take a small amount from any one patch at a time. After pulling from the ground, cut off the root ends and wash thoroughly. You can use both the whitish bulb and the green leaves in recipes.

**Submitted by: Jim Clark**

**Ingredients (4-6 servings)**

- 2 cups Arborio Rice
- 10 pc. Ramps (wild leeks)
- 1 lb. Morels or Cremini Mushrooms
- ½ cup white wine
- 6 cups broth (vegetable or chicken) heated
- 1/2 stick butter
- 1 cup freshly grated Parmesan or Romano cheese
- 1 tsp. chili pepper flakes
- Extra Virgin Olive Oil
- Salt & pepper to taste

**Method**

- (1) Choose a low-rising and wide pot - you want to give the risotto lots of room to absorb the liquid evenly!
- (2) Sauté the cleaned Morels/Cremeni in some butter and olive oil and set aside
- (3) Sauté the diced white part of the ramps together with the chilli pepper flakes in a little butter and olive oil
- (4) Add the rice and sauté until it becomes translucent
- (5) Add wine, stirring until the liquid is totally absorbed
- (6) Add ½ cup of **hot** broth at a time, letting the rice absorb the liquid, stirring every 3-4 minutes.
- (7) After about 20 minutes (the rice should be almost done), turn off the heat, add the morels, chopped ramp greens, remaining butter and the parmesan cheese, stir well and let sit with lid of the pot closed for another 3-5 minutes
- (8) Salt & pepper to taste.



## COTTAGER'S GUIDE

### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Guide is to suggest ways to help preserve our lakes' serenity and beauty and protect our forests, shorelines and waters so that there is enjoyment for all. If you rent/loan your cottage we encourage you to post this guide for visitors to see and to encourage them to follow these guidelines.

### HELP PRESERVE OUR PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT:

Urbanization of the shoreline environment is discouraged. Natural shoreline preservation is integral to our lakes' health as it provides a buffer against contaminants entering the water. All bylaws regarding these areas must be observed by everyone. (e.g., the County's Shoreline Preservation bylaw which prohibits removal of trees within 30 metres of the lake).

Ensure that septic systems are functioning correctly. Watch "Poop Talk – It's All About the Water" at <http://www.dysartetal.ca/poop-talk-its-all-about-the-water/> for helpful septic information.

Avoid the use of fertilizers.

Help keep "invasive species" out of our lakes by complying with guidelines for launching watercraft coming from other locations. Ensure your boat is clean and dry before launching. Do not empty boat bilges or bait buckets in the lakes.

Limit the risk of forest fires by using extreme care and always be in compliance with burning regulations as directed by the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Municipality of Dysart et al.

Every effort should be made to preserve the habitat of wildlife with which we share our lakes and forests.

### HELP MAINTAIN AESTHETICS AND TRANQUILITY:

All property owners have the fundamental right to the quiet enjoyment of their surroundings. Intrusive noise likely to disturb neighbours (like loud music or fireworks) is discouraged. Preserving a quiet environment requires special consideration during the evening and night when sounds easily carry across the water.

Always take care when operating a watercraft and obey the no alcohol on-board laws.

Fireworks can be exciting, but they disturb wildlife, other property owners and the environment and therefore are discouraged. However if you wish to use fireworks every effort should be made to ensure the safety of all environs - human, water, forest and wildlife. NOTE: Fire Bans Include Fireworks.

To protect the environment from lighting pollution, property owners should keep illumination to a minimum, try not to place spotlights where they may shine over the lake or be highly visible from other properties.

### OTHER WAYS TO HELP:

**Garbage:** Keeping our roadways clear of garbage and debris is strongly encouraged. The Municipal landfill site at 222 Industrial Park Road, Haliburton, is the closest location for disposal of all waste and recycling.

**Watercraft:** Watercraft should be operated at safe speeds and away from the shoreline to help prevent erosion. A boat speed of 10 km/hr or less is required within 30 metres of the shoreline.

**Clean Water:** No soaps and shampoos of any kind in the lakes will help preserve our clean and clear water.

**Fishing:** A "catch and release" policy and "lead-free" fishing is encouraged.

### AND FINALLY:

Using this guide will help all of us preserve and protect the beauty and tranquility of Long, Miskwabi, Negaunee and Wenona Lakes so that they may remain as places, for future generations, of striking natural beauty where the mind is nourished and the spirit calmed.

Fall 2016