



Property Spotlight: Donation of Russell Island Reserve, Port Severn

by Brooks Greer, Land Protection Program Manager, and donor Dave Russell

Late in 2011, Dave Russell facilitated a donation of a 3.5-acre island in the Port Severn Wetlands Natural Area to the GBLT on behalf of his deceased father, William H. Russell. The property is nearby to the GBLT's large existing Port Severn Wetlands property.

The area is interesting because it lies in the transition area or "contact zone" between the Precambrian bedrock that defines the Canadian Shield, and the Paleozoic bedrock that characterizes extreme southern Ontario. As a result, flora and fauna is present at both the northern and southernmost edges of their ranges.

Property in Port Severn is almost entirely privately owned and is under some developmental stress. Since there is little protected land in the area, the Russell property has been a welcome and important addition.

From property donor Dave Russell:

Island 67C in Muskoka was originally purchased from the Department of Indian Affairs on April 27, 1944 (for \$50) by Charlie Sheppard, the president of the Georgian Bay Lumber

Company. He purchased it as a private mooring location for his yacht. With the post war boom in recreational boating, his private location became the main channel and therefore he never used it. William H. Russell purchased it on July 27, 1957, again for \$50 dollars, because Billy was a favoured youngster of Mr. Sheppard's around the GBLC mills and stores in Waubaushene.

With the pressures of business and family, the island remained for the most part unused, save for the occasional picnic or as a fish-cleaning site. Over the years it became clear the island was a magnet for migratory birds, wildlife and natural fish spawning grounds. Bill's children, amazed by the overwhelming development of the Port Severn area, felt any further use of the island (a last refuge) would be detrimental to the animals that had come to call it home. The GBLT was a perfect fit for their wishes and they know that this land will remain protected for future generations to enjoy.



Russell Island Reserve

What's inside... New Board Appointments • Board of Directors Retirements • Partner Spotlight

A Unique Charity Event • Welcome to Summer Students • Visitor's Guide for GBLT Properties

Stewarding Your Own Cottage Property • Sarah Burke's Georgian Bay Connection • Frogs of Georgian Bay

Environmental Concerns of Dock Flotation Debris • A Recipe to Enjoy for a Perfect Picnic • Artist Spotlight

"West Wind: The Vision of Tom Thomson" • Georgian Bay Query • Upcoming Events • Tributes • Sponsors

New Board Appointments



The Georgian Bay Land Trust is excited to announce the appointment of three new Directors.



Fred Dalley

Frederick F. Dalley lives in Toronto, and is married to Susan with two children, Geneva, 21 and Fenner, 19. Fred has had a cottage in the Wah Wah Taysee area since 1997 and previously rented a cottage in the

Sans Souci area for five years. He spent time as a youth with relatives outside of the Key River area.

Fred is a graduate of the University of Western Ontario and spent 30 years in the asset management business. He is currently a Managing Director of Arrow Capital Management (CDN) and Generation Asset Management (UK).

Fred has been a long-time supporter of the Nature Conservancy of Canada and the GBLT.



Nick Eyles

Nick Eyles holds a PhD (East Anglia) and D.Sc. (Leicester) and is a Professor of Geology at the University of Toronto. His prime research interest is in glacial sedimentology and he has many years' experience with fieldwork at modern glaciers. He has authored more than 150 publications in leading scientific journals on ice age geology and environmental geology and has conducted geological fieldwork from the Arctic to the Antarctic.

He is well known for his public outreach activities and the well-known 'Rocks' series of books published by Fitzhenry and Whiteside. Two other books, 'Canadian Shield – The Rocks that Made Canada' and 'Road Rocks - Geological Wonders of Ontario' will appear shortly. 'Earth Rocks' is in preparation.

Nick was on the road with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation for seven months in 2009-10 as host of *Geologic Journey – World*, a five part 'Nature of Things' series with David Suzuki.

Nick is a frequent contributor to the GBLT and has hosted geological events, walks and outreach initiatives for the organization. We fondly refer to him as our GBLT "rock star." He has a cottage in Carling Township.



David Doritty

David Doritty has worked on Bay Street for thirty years, initially on the Institutional Equity Sales side with First Marathon/National Bank for fifteen years and more recently as Vice Chairman at

Dundee Capital. He is currently at Aurion Capital Management, helping build their Private Client business. He is a member of the charitable committee at National Bank, which oversaw \$2 million annually to children's charities, and he sat on the Board of the Fragile Research Foundation of Canada for 10 years.

David graduated from the University of Western Ontario in 1979. He and his wife Ann have three children, Robyn, Jonathan and Michael. David has been in Pointe au Baril for over 30 years but Ann's family started coming to this area in 1927, making their children the 4th generation. David and Ann bought Castor Island, the first island to be sold by the Crown in 1896, in 2005.



Save your Bay

*by becoming a Friend or
Pledge for the Bay*

Board of Directors Retirements



The Georgian Bay Land Trust recognizes the contributions that our two retiring directors, Tom Scoon and Dana Porter, have made to the Land Trust and indeed to the wider Georgian Bay community.

Tom Scoon was an active board member for seven years, holding appointments as former President, Past President, Director, and acting as the head of stewardship and land protection for two years. He will join the advisory board and continue to be involved with the Land Protection Committee and the Pointe au Baril Neighbourhood Committee.

Dana Porter has been the corporate secretary and legal counsel for the board for eight years and has been a great resource for advice on legal matters. He will join the advisory board.

The Board wishes to thank both Tom and Dana for their guidance, generosity and sustained efforts resulting in the advancement of the purposes of the GBLT.



Tom Scoon



Dana Porter

Partner Spotlight: The Nature Conservancy of Canada and the Georgian Bay Land Trust



by Janet Lougheed, Director of Development

Sometimes when we work with a conservation partner for a long period of time, we forget to tell others about our shared successes. Committed partners like the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) have made the GBLT's land preservation success on the Eastern Georgian Bay Coast possible.

Thirteen years ago we began our first venture with NCC to raise money for our Legacy Stewardship Fund. The fund now has approximately \$900,000 endowed and supports crucial stewardship work in Georgian Bay. More recently, 600 acres of land that is valued at over 5 million dollars, including the Alexander Islands and priority habitats on Sandy Island, have been secured in partnership. NCC contributed 2.1 million dollars to the latter project and supported the GBLT in raising \$600,000 in stewardship funds to help protect this island forever.

"The wealth of knowledge in managing habitats for rare species, conservation planning and our GIS agreement are great assets to the GBLT," says Mark Carabetta, GBLT's Executive Director.

Today, our work together focuses on securing priority coastal properties that adjoin the Georgian Bay Islands National Park.

"I really value the strong working relationship we have with GBLT staff," says Erica Thompson, NCC's Georgian Bay Huronia Program Manager. "Partnership is at the heart of what we do."

The GBLT is only as good as its partners. We thank NCC for being one of those strong partners. Our collegial and professional relationship has helped the GBLT permanently protect over 1,300 acres together as well as stewarding and protecting more than 4,000 acres of critical habitat with other partners.

A Unique Charity Event!



The Scotiabank Group Charity Challenge in conjunction with the **Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon, Half-Marathon** and **5K Run/Walk** is a signature event drawing thousands of runners every year who are seeking a challenge. This year, we're encouraging you to join our Charity Challenge on **Sunday, October 14th, 2012** to walk, run, or wheel in support of preserving the Bay we love. As a result of your fundraising support, you will help raise money that will preserve our unique archipelago and the GBLT will have the

opportunity to win one of nine cash prizes!

Please join our GBLT team today, put together a team from your Georgian Bay community or choose to pledge our "Bay Girl" or "Bay Boy" who will walk/run on your behalf. **Help us reach our goal of \$15,000!** Great prizes for the top fundraisers and a great opportunity to participate as a family or community team in a unique fundraising experience! More information can be found at www.gblt.org.

Welcome to our Summer Students!



We're happy to introduce two new faces to our Summer Conservation Intern Program. Catriona Boyd has spent most of her summers on an island in Cognashene where she was involved with the Cognashene Cottagers Association for ten years as a participant, volunteer and instructor. She also worked for the Georgian Bay Township and has recently graduated from the University of Western Ontario.

Paige Stewart has fond memories of growing up in the Wah Wah Taysee area at her family cottage on Steer Island, otherwise known as Minwahsin Island to the locals. She enjoys exploring her local area by kayak and canoe and looks forward to spending the summer outside meeting people who feel the same way about this incredible land. Paige is currently working on an honours degree in Humanities and Biology at Carleton University.



Paige Stewart



Catriona Boyd

Introducing our new Visitor's Guide for GBLT Properties

We are excited to announce the launch of a new Visitor's Guide; a friendly set of guidelines to allow our visitors to leave no trace as they enjoy GBLT properties. The Visitor's Guide will be available in our property guest boxes on our 5 busiest properties and is available on our website.

When visiting a GBLT property, we ask you to help inform others that may be less familiar with this Visitor's Guide and point out problems to stewards or staff if they are present. When stewards or staff members are not present, we encourage you to politely talk to the individual(s) so that they are aware of the guide. By following the Visitor's Guide, you are playing a big part in supporting GBLT's work.

This guide is also a great tool for you and your family to use; bringing best preservation practices to your own property as well as GBLT properties. Together, we can ensure the natural state of flora and fauna is kept for future generations.

VISITOR'S GUIDE

I'm doing my part to save the Bay!

I understand that visiting GBLT natural reserves is a privilege. If we all follow these few simple rules, we can all help to keep these special places safe for visitors and the flora and fauna – for today, and for the future.

Every time I visit a GBLT property, I always:

Trash my trash – If I brought it in, I bring it out. I know this includes all biodegradable materials, especially human and pet waste.

Leave it as I find it – If I pick the flowers or collect the rocks, you can't enjoy them. With many people visiting the properties, the less impact we each make, the longer we will enjoy what we have.

Keep wildlife wild – I respect wildlife by observing it from a distance, and leaving it in peace. I avoid any conflict, and I don't feed the animals.

Manage my dog – I keep my dog nearby and under control; I pay

attention to signage, I ask others before allowing my dog to say hello, and I always pick up after my dog.

Keep it small and short – To reduce the impact of my visits, I keep my group small (fewer than 10 people) and I only stay for a couple of hours so others can enjoy a visit too. I read the signs about access and I know that red flags mean a property is at capacity.

Cold not hot – Although cooking hotdogs over a fire is fun, I NEVER use portable stoves or BBQs, and I NEVER light fires on GBLT properties. I know that even small fires damage rocks.

Keep it light – I love visiting GBLT properties for low-impact activities like picnicking, swimming, taking photographs, hiking and bird watching. I NEVER camp overnight, light fires, leave garbage, damage or remove natural materials, make loud noise, or use motorized vehicles.

Spread the word – I share this guide with others in the Georgian Bay community so they can help too.

Stewarding Your Own Cottage Property



By Geoff Honsberger, Pointe au Baril

After enjoying 29 summers on Georgian Bay, including six with the GBLT and two with the PaBIA Marine Patrol, I'd like to share a few stewarding tips I've learned over the years that you can use on your own cottage properties.

Know Your Co-Inhabitants

Many cottage properties are host to endangered species and diverse habitats. It doesn't take much effort to learn about the plants and animals that make the Bay unique. Conversely, it pays to know what *invasive* plant species you may be unwittingly harbouring in your cottage garden. Visit the GBLT website for a list of good/harmful plants.

Maintain Your Equipment

Replacing an old 2-stroke outboard with a newer 4-stroke model helps protect the environment and lowers your fuel bill. By design, a 2-stroke engine expels raw fuel directly into the water. Keeping your septic system in top shape is also important. Lack of maintenance causes excess nutrients to leach into the water creating algal blooms and low-oxygen dead zones.

Protect Crown Land

Treat crown land as if it was your own property. After all, in a way, it is. If you see garbage, pick it up. If you choose to make a campfire, use an established pit. Bring your own firewood to avoid stripping the island of deadfall.

Talk to Your Neighbours

Like you, most cottagers on Georgian Bay care about the environment and want to strike a balance between preservation and enjoyment. Why not compare notes on effective ways of stewarding your own property?

Help out the GBLT!

Volunteering with the GBLT is a great way to gain first hand experience in maintaining your own property. Become a steward, or just tag along with one. I guarantee you'll learn something new.

Let's all be stewards (official or unofficial) of this unique part of the world. Remember, protecting Georgian Bay is the responsibility of all those who enjoy it!

Sarah Burke's Georgian Bay Connection



By Cathy Cooper, Cognashene

In January 2012, the world lost its top female half-pipe skier, Sarah Burke. She died of injuries sustained during a training incident in Utah. Canadians can take pride in her many accomplishments; she pioneered her sport and successfully fought to gain Olympic recognition for both Women's and Men's half pipe skiing at the upcoming Sochi Winter Olympic Games. Winner of 4 'X Games' gold medals, Sarah also won the coveted World Cup 'Crystal Globe' twice, including last year's competition. She had been favoured to win the first Olympic gold medal ever awarded for her sport. It was her dream.

While the media reported that Sarah grew up in Midland, what many people may not realize is that Sarah was a "Bay" girl. Like her mother, Sarah grew up spending her summers on Delasco Island in Cognashene, Georgian Bay. Her mother's family, the Phelan's, owned Delasco for over 40 years. Mother and daughter both felt that Georgian Bay is the most special place in the world. Jan Phelan, Sarah's mom, is a GBLT supporter and has donated her art works to the GBLT art auctions. She was also a steward for Lizard and Alexander Islands for several years before relocating to B.C. to be closer to her two daughters.

The current owners of Delasco Island, Charlotte and Bob Snider, heard about Sarah's connection to the Bay and the fact that she had spent her childhood summers right there on Delasco. They were so touched by this tragic loss that they have made a

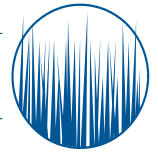
donation to the GBLT in Sarah Burke's name to honour a very special young lady who shared their passion for the Bay and, specifically, their own Delasco Island.

Our hearts go out to Jan and her family.



Jan, Anna and Sarah

Frogs of Georgian Bay: Ancient and Amazing!



by Barb Zimmerman, Go Home Bay

We are blessed with an abundance of flora and fauna in Georgian Bay and one very interesting group is frogs. For tens of millions of years amphibians and the ancestors of frogs were the dominant land animals. Amphibians are vertebrates with permeable, non-scaly skin and aquatic larvae that metamorphose into adult form. Some of these ancient creatures achieved crocodile-like sizes and terrorized swampy ecosystems as the top predators. An ancient vertebrate lineage, frogs are the only land animals to lead two totally different lives: one underwater with a body plan to match and a second life with four legs on land.

The frog tadpole is essentially a free living embryo which is a developmental trait that harkens back hundreds of millions of years ago to when the first chordate ancestors of all vertebrates evolved in the seas. The 10 or so frog species native to southern Ontario and Georgian Bay all retain this primitive trait of aquatic larvae. Interestingly, a large percentage of frog species in the tropics have evolved reproductive mechanisms for skipping the aquatic stage and removing their eggs and tadpoles from predator-filled pools. Such mechanisms include guarding or carrying their eggs through to metamorphosis on the backs of the parents, in nests on the ground, underground or in trees, and, in one incredible case, in the stomach of the mother.

North American frogs are stuck with the ancient tadpoles-in-water reproductive strategy. Therefore, in Georgian Bay, we see and hear frogs in or near ponds and marshes where they congregate to breed during the spring and summer. There is some variation in preference for specific environmental features in a breeding pond such as water depth, oxygen level, and aquatic plant density. For example, the earliest breeders are spring peepers and wood frogs that will breed even when ice is present in melt-water pools. Green frogs and bullfrogs like warmer temperatures and more permanent ponds. Tree

frogs prefer smaller ponds and adjacent forest with oak trees. However, two environmental factors are highly correlated to the presence/absence of Ontario frog species: fish and mixed deciduous forest. Fish eat frog eggs and tadpoles. Therefore, frogs seek to breed in pools where fish are absent. Hence, the presence of pools where larger fish cannot reach is an important environmental feature that supports a frog community. Mixed deciduous forest provides habitat for adults to feed, shelter and over winter whereas pure evergreen stands do not for most part. Therefore, at least some landlocked ponds containing emergent vegetation for cover combined with adjacent tracts of mixed deciduous forest must be present for a species rich community of frogs to thrive in Ontario. Happily, we still preserve these features in much of the Bay.

Georgian Bay verges on the northern limit of most Ontario frog species with only wood frogs, spring peepers, American toad and boreal chorus frogs (a species not found in the area) able to survive much farther north into evergreen boreal forest. Although our frogs may appear backward regarding their ancient reproductive method when compared to their tropical cousins, they have evolved amazing adaptations for surviving winter north of the 49th. Bullfrogs, green frogs, leopard frogs and other members of the Ranidae frog family in Georgian Bay (namely; mink frogs, pickerel frogs, northern cricket frogs and spring peepers but with the notable exception of wood frogs) hibernate underwater under the ice. While over wintering underwater, these species depend on gas exchange through their skin rather than pulmonary respiration. Therefore, dissolved oxygen is the crucial variable on which over winter survival depends. Mass die offs occur if aquatic oxygen levels decrease below a critical point. Even so, these species have a backup strategy if oxygen were to become depleted in their hibernation pool. Tadpoles from the previous summer are physiologically much better adapted to withstand lower levels of oxygen. The double life of our northern frogs with both an aquatic and terrestrial phase no longer appears so primitive but rather could be viewed as an exquisite adaptive balance between avoiding larval predation by fish and surviving prolonged freezing temperatures: the latter evolutionary challenge not faced by frogs in the tropics.

Wood frogs and grey tree frogs take over wintering a step farther: they take cover on land and freeze. Both species, which are not closely related, evolved a physiological mechanism for releasing glucose and urea into their body fluids. In essence, they manufacture organic antifreeze that keeps tissue destroying ice crystals from forming. Northern explorers of past centuries write of thawing out wood frogs by their campfires (an historic form of amusement?).

Species composition of Georgian Bay ecosystems is in flux. Notwithstanding the lighter footprint of humans on the Bay compared to regions south, within only a couple of decades we



One of the earliest true amphibians inhabiting swamps of over 300 mya and thought to be distant ancestor of frogs: the 15 ft long *Eogyrinus* ("dawn tadpole")

have lost many native species of birds, fish, insect and mollusc and are now poised to lose bats completely because of an introduced disease with almost 100% mortality. Globally, it is known that frogs are not faring well. In addition to well-studied negative impacts of habitat loss, pesticides and invasive species, an introduced fungal disease known as “Bd” is decimating frog populations worldwide. Add rapid climate warming to this mix of threats and some scientists fear that having survived for 300 million years through asteroids, past (gradual) climatic changes, and the rise of other vertebrate groups, amphibians may not withstand the ultimate invasive species: us.

Locally in Georgian Bay it is unclear how well frog species are managing because there have not been enough population surveys performed over the years to conclude objectively whether a particular species is declining or maintaining its abundance. Presently, no species of Georgian Bay frog is classified as endangered. Non-listing, however, does not necessarily mean all is well in “frog land” because the government has not assessed the status of these various species. What has been well documented is that historic populations of all Ontario frog species have declined greatly due to clearing of mixed deciduous forest. On a more positive note, the Bd disease is not impacting frog populations in northeastern North America nearly as seriously as in more southern and westerly regions.

There is one frog species endemic to southeastern Canada that we know is doing well –although not necessarily in Ontario. The bullfrog, *Lithobates catesbiana*, terrorizes swampy ecosystems where it has been introduced in over 45 countries. Our homely, iconic bullfrog is considered to be one of the world’s most harmful invasive species. Bullfrogs are voracious predators and will eat any animal they can fit into their mouth including small mammals, birds, snakes, frogs and tadpoles.



Reconstruction of Palaeobatrachus gigas, one of the first true frog species that lived 135 mya and was purely aquatic

They are also vectors of the deadly Bd frog disease to which they appear resistant. In their non-native countries, bullfrogs tend to out-compete and suppress native species leading to degradation of marsh ecosystems. People in countries where the bullfrog has invaded also complain about the noise – a “noise” that many of us from southern Ontario associate with idyllic warm summer evenings in paradise. Who would have thought that we could have exported a terrible frog from our beloved natural ecosystem of Georgian Bay? Perhaps it will be our bullfrog that survives the age of man and gives amphibians a chance at another 300 million years.



Help us build a strong community of Bay lovers by becoming a GBLT Property Pal!

Share your stories and pictures of what you love about the Bay by visiting www.gbld.org

Enviromental Concerns of Dock Flotation Debris

By Scott Sheard, PaBIA Marine Patrol Coordinator

The PaBIA Marine Patrol Program is a strong supporter of the GBLT and plays a key role in monitoring GBLT properties in the Pointe au Baril area. For the last two summers, the Marine Patrol has catalogued different types of garbage found in and around our water-based community. Our modest effort to determine what types of garbage are present has highlighted several concerns.

Expanded polystyrene dock flotation (EPS) is present in many parts of our area and points to an ongoing environmental and educational issue. Most of us are accustomed to seeing large pieces of flotation during certain times of the season or after a storm but it is now abundant in very small pieces.

So why are we concerned when these formerly large pieces can be easily removed from shoreline by considerate and responsible cottagers?

Our patrollers have found small bits of dock flotation in serious volumes throughout wetland inlets and often 2 to 3 feet beyond the waterline. It is so widespread that it has even turned up on the western exposure of outer islands. It is extremely difficult to remove from the environment once the flotation breaks down into small pieces.

This threatens marine, bird, and animal life that can mistake the foam for a food source. These small bits can be ingested and pose a choking hazard. This is also an aesthetic problem: to view our pristine wetland areas and beautiful bays with blue, orange and white foam pieces is disturbing and upsetting.

Where is it coming from?

Any bare piece of flotation will break into small pieces or beads when washed up along rocky shores, or within the dock structure over time. We have all seen an older floating dock disgorging bits of flotation from its interior. Poor condition of the dock structure from aging will allow friction against



the flotation bats. Furthermore, rodents, such as beavers and muskrats, will often chew through docks to access them for nesting purposes. In the process, they chew and dig at the bats, releasing small pieces into the waterways. Lastly, fuel in the water from engines, or spilled on the EPS while re-fuelling at a dock, will start the deterioration process as well.

So what can we do?

Inspect and ensure existing docks are well maintained and utilize wire mesh to ensure wildlife cannot access the dock flotation. Take the extra time to carry gas tanks up on land to re-fuel away from the dock. Stop to pick up any pieces of flotation, no matter how large or small. Play a part in cleaning up this unsightly blight on our environment!

Consider the many alternatives to bare polystyrene dock floats in the marketplace. Encapsulated dock floats utilize the benefits of foam without allowing its escape into the environment. There are also various plastic and steel pipe dock solutions. Let's work together to ensure that loose polystyrene foam is minimized in our beautiful water based communities.

What Our Visitors Are Saying About Our Properties

FROM THE 2011 GUEST BOOKS

Alexander Islands

"Our spiritual home" – Audets and McAllisters

"This is an awesome island. Thanks 4 keepin' it clean"
– Brooke and Claire

"Where time stops and rests for a while" – Geoff and Gail

The Lizard

"Great job, stewards!" – Bev, Sharon, Karl

"We come at least two times in the summer and always find something new and beautiful to appreciate here. We picnic here

in the winter time. You should try it! Thank God that things just don't ever change here." – Scott & Christina Northey Family

"The people come and the people go, but the rocks stay the same" – Rick

South-east Wooded Pine

"This island is spectacular. Wish there were more islands uninhabited." – The Robinson's

"We come every year and are awe inspired at the beauty that we are so privileged to enjoy...many thanks" – Lade Family

"A true blessing to be back home again" – Lisa Marie Hill

A Recipe to Enjoy for a Perfect Picnic

by Trish Magwood, Pointe au Baril



Good friends enjoying a picnic outing!

**From the intro and thanks from
“In My Mother’s Kitchen”:**

...“to all those Pointe au Baril women who put together my favourite cookbook, The Cottage Cookbook, thank you for sharing your favourites and for allowing me to share your secrets.”

What I have learned over the years of recipe collecting, testing, writing, teaching, cooking and eating is that there is a massive interconnectedness in food. We inspire, teach and help one another, challenge and make changes, and then create things we call our own. There is a familiarity in good old recipes that show up, in different forms and versions, time and time again. They spark a discussion or at least a comment, or even friendly competition—“that’s my mom’s cheese dip recipe from Winnipeg,” a similar dip found in Sudbury and another on the shores of Georgian Bay. In this age of endless information and constant change, a few things have remained the same—we all long for a piece of our past, we all crave good food and we all want simple, quick recipes, and the tips and tricks that go along with them, so we can sit for a moment at the end of the day and enjoy a meal with family, in some variation, even for a moment, and say, “That was good. Thank you!”

This is one of the most popular summer cottage meals in our family. It is great for making ahead, serving a crowd and eating the leftovers cold. It’s perfect for picnics, and the kids love it!

Mom’s Zephyr Island Barbecued Pineapple Chicken SERVES 8 TO 10

INGREDIENTS

- 18 pieces bone-in chicken (thighs, drumsticks, breasts)
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 ¼ cups (300 ml) brown sugar
- ¾ cup (175 ml) soy sauce
- 1 tsp (5 ml) ground ginger
- 2 cloves garlic, peeled, halved and smashed
- 2 cups (500 ml) crushed pineapple with juice (from a 19-oz/540 ml can)

HOW TO

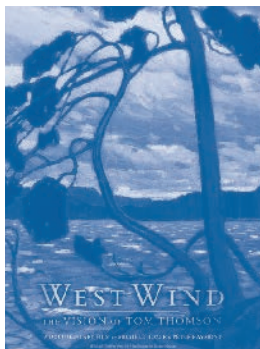
- Preheat oven to 400°F (200°C).
- Wash chicken, pat dry and sprinkle with salt and pepper.
- In a medium bowl, whisk together brown sugar, soy sauce, ginger and garlic. Stir in crushed pineapple. Divide marinade between two 9- x 13-inch (3 L) baking dishes. Add chicken, flipping a few times to coat.
- Bake, covered, for 35 to 40 minutes or until juices run clear. Do not overcook. Turn chicken pieces over and cool completely. Cover and refrigerate 24 hours.
- Preheat grill to medium-high.
- Remove chicken from marinade and discard marinade. Grill chicken 5 minutes per side or until you have nice grill marks and chicken is warmed through.

Kitchen Notes: I would love to encourage you to use fresh pineapple, but the canned with its juices is better.

You can use boneless thighs and breasts, but you’ll be compromising a bit of the tenderness and flavour. If using boneless breasts, reduce baking time to about 20 minutes or until juices run clear. Do not overcook.

Please visit trishmagwood.ca for more recipes and follow me @trishmagwood for food bits and tips.

Winterlude: Film Screening of "West Wind: The Vision of Tom Thomson"



Friends of the Georgian Bay Land Trust enjoyed an off-season reunion and viewing of "West Wind: The Vision of Tom Thomson", a visually stunning and thoughtful documentary of Tom Thomson with introduction and Q & A with the film writer, Nancy Lang, at this year's Winterlude event held at Bishop Strachan School.

Filmed in Algonquin Park, Georgian

Bay, Toronto and Seattle, "West Wind" is a portrait of Thomson as a young, developing artist and is as beautiful to look at as Thomson's interpretations. This 90-minute documentary features never-before-seen paintings by this gifted Canadian artist and rare archive recordings and written memories of those who knew Tom Thomson.

If you missed the screening, we hope you will join us on **Monday, July 16th at 7 p.m.** at **St. Christopher's Parish Church, McGregor Bay** or on **Monday, August 6th at 6:30 p.m.** at the **Ojibway Club, Pointe au Baril** for additional screenings.

Artist Spotlight: Geoff Kelk - Bayscapes Art Auction



Geoff Kelk bowl

On Friday, **November 2nd, 2012**, we will be holding our annual Bayscapes Art Auction at the Capitol Event Theatre in Toronto with Honorary Chairs, Ed Bartram and John Hartman. We invite

you to come out and visit with your community friends and celebrate preserving the Bay together.

This year will feature fine art, unique handcrafted works of art

and one-of-a-kind experiences donated by our Georgian Bay community of supporters. One such craftsman is Geoff Kelk who is a full-time wood turner specializing in turning large practical wood bowls. He transforms rough blocks of solid southern Ontario hardwood into elegant and balanced forms. Each bowl has a natural, organic look and feel making it a joy to pick up and use every day.

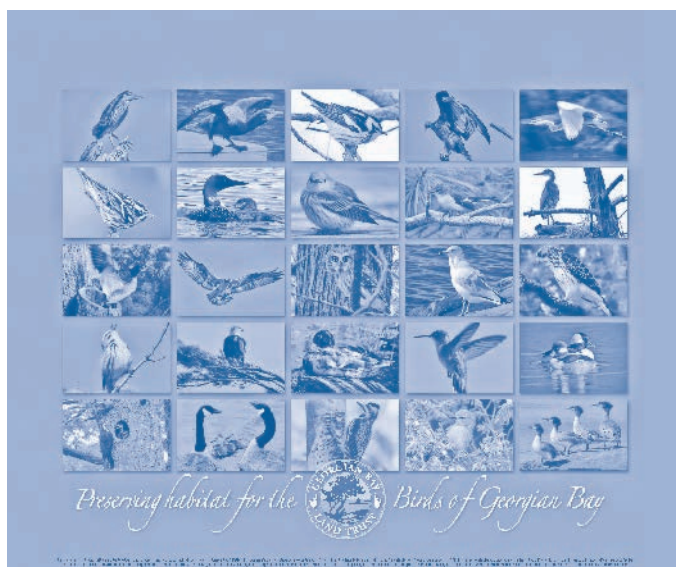
Geoff's workplace is called Woodlot Harvest Studio and is located northwest of Toronto in Dufferin County. He and his family have cottaged in Cognashene in Georgian Bay since the 1950's. Geoff is pleased to be able to support the Georgian Bay Land Trust by donating one of his unique and beautiful bowls to this year's Art Auction.

Birds Poster

Birds of Georgian Bay posters are available at the following locations:

Artistic Dimensions, Midland; Georgian Bay Country, Parry Sound; Jackson's Toyota, Barrie; Parry Sound Books, Parry Sound; Pioneer Handcraft Furniture, Port Severn; Sojourn, Barrie and through our website www.gbtl.org.

Posters make great anniversary, birthday, graduation and retirement gifts!



Georgian Bay Query



"Are Bald Eagles Returning to Georgian Bay?"

by Donald Fraser and Don "Sandy" Sutherland

Over the past several years, a number of cottagers and visitors alike have reported seeing Bald Eagles in eastern Georgian Bay, either for the first time ever, or for the first time in many years. Is this an indication that the Bald Eagle, which until very recently was designated as an Endangered Species in Ontario (as well as throughout much of northeastern North America), is finally rebounding from its precipitous population decline during the mid-1900s?

There are undoubtedly more Bald Eagles in southern Ontario now than ever before in our lifetime. There are now over 1,300 documented nest locations in the province, with more than 100 of these reported from the area south of the French and Mattawa rivers. However, eagles have never been a common sight along the east coast of Georgian Bay and, until quite recently, were very rarely observed during the nesting season (which in this part of Ontario can commence as early as March and extend through to late September).

Bald Eagles are most often encountered during fall migration and in winter. Many of us now spend much more of the "off-season" at our cottages, coupled with greater environmental interest and awareness, which is likely contributing to this increase in sightings.

In providing an answer as to whether the Bald Eagle is really "returning" to the Bay, one first needs to examine its local status from an historical perspective. Evidently, few Bald Eagle nests have ever been documented in Georgian Bay. The first Bald Eagle nest in the Go Home Bay area was reported by the late Don Wilkins in August 1947 from Southeast Wooded Pine Island. Wilkins observed a large, conspicuous stick nest in the upper branches of a tall White Pine. This pair apparently relocated to nearby North Wooded Pine Island soon after and was last reported at this location in 1952.

It was not until more than a half-century later that the Bald Eagle returned to Georgian Bay as a nester. In 2006 a pair was observed building a nest on Green Island, near Honey Harbour, and successfully fledged young in both 2007 and 2008. The nest blew down in the fall of 2008 but was rebuilt the next year. Last year Bald Eagles nested on the Bustard Islands for the first time. The only other location in eastern Georgian Bay where nesting may have occurred recently is on Sandy Island off Parry Island (Parry Sound). Don Sutherland has observed eagles soaring over the island on a number of occasions in the past five years, all in early-to-mid September. As these dates are a bit early for Bald Eagle migration, he speculates that these birds may well be of local origin. However, to date there is no confirmed nest known in this part of Georgian Bay.

It is clear that the Bald Eagle has always been a rare nester in Georgian Bay. The Green Island nest and the spate of recent



eagle sightings up and down the eastern coast are certainly encouraging signs. There is irrefutable evidence that the Bald Eagle is experiencing an overall population increase in Ontario. Generally, Bald Eagles do not breed until after their fourth year of life, when the characteristic white head and tail and contrasting dark 'adult' plumage is attained. In rapidly expanding populations such as southern Ontario, particularly when there may be a shortage of available nest sites, adults may not breed until the age of six or seven. Therefore, some of the recent observations of adults in Georgian Bay may involve mature but non-breeding birds. In areas with less dense populations, such as Georgian Bay, where there are fewer birds but an abundance of available nest sites (in addition to building their own nests, Bald Eagles often usurp Osprey nests) some pairs may comprise an adult and a three-year old bird in 'immature' plumage. Such nestings are usually unsuccessful. Finally, because Bald Eagles continually add sticks and other fresh material to their nests they soon become huge, conspicuous structures and are unlikely to be mistaken for anything else. All of the scientific evidence suggests that, in future, we will likely see both more eagles and more nests in Georgian Bay.

Readers who encounter Bald Eagle nests in Georgian Bay are encouraged to report their observations, ideally accompanied by photographic evidence of the nest itself, if possible, to the Natural Heritage Information Centre at NHICREQUESTS@ontario.ca

Donald Fraser is a Wildlife Biologist and cottager at Go Home Bay.

Don 'Sandy' Sutherland is a Zoologist with the Natural Heritage Information Centre, OMNR, in Peterborough and a former cottager at Go Home Bay.

Upcoming Events 2012

Saturday, June 16 – 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Doors Open Georgian Bay – Honey Harbour/Port Severn
Closing Reception and Silent Auction, 4:00 pm Delawana Inn

Saturday, July 14th – 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Cognashene Environment Day
Deeks' cottage, Minnicog Island, Cognashene

Saturday, July 14th – 4:30 pm

History of Georgian Bay Talk with Jamie Hunter
Sue Vale's cottage, Cognashene

Monday, July 16th – 7:00 pm

"West Wind: The Vision of Tom Thomson" movie screening
St. Christopher's Parish Church, McGregor Bay Association

Saturday, July 21st – 4:00 pm

Chamber Music on the Rocks with the Georgian Bay Quintet
Bill and Kathy Davis's cottage, Cognashene

Saturday, July 28th (rain date Sunday, July 29th) – 1:00 pm

Picnic and Rock Walk with Nick Eyles, Professor of Geology,
University of Toronto
The Lizard, Cognashene

Thursday, August 2nd – 11:30 am

depart from Ojibway Club docks, 1:30 pm Rock Walk

Picnic and Rock Walk with Nick Eyles, Professor of Geology,
University of Toronto
Little McCoy Island, Pointe au Baril

Monday, August 6th – 6:30 – 8:30 pm

"West Wind: The Vision of Tom Thomson" movie and a snack
Ojibway Movie Hut, Ojibway Club

Saturday, August 11th

Sailing Rendezvous and Pig Roast
David Sharpe's cottage, Pointe au Baril

Sunday, October 14th

Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon Charity Group Challenge
Visit our website for more information on how to participate.

Friday, November 2nd, 2012

Bayscapes Art Auction
Capitol Event Theatre, Toronto

Tribute Gifts

Received from January 1 to May 16, 2012

In Memory

Sarah Burke
Eugene Farley
Donna Jean Farley
Russell Hewetson
Betty Johnson
Fritz Kiehne
Jody Ortved

In Honour

Tom and Virginia Atkins
Kerry and Brenda Benson
Jamie and Gillian Coyles
Bruce Croxon
Stephen Griggs



Thanks to our generous sponsors



*By including Georgian Bay Land Trust in your will you
are helping to create a legacy of nature conservation
for future generations.*



Editor LANDSCRIPT: Cathie Bowden.....bowden.cathie@gmail.com
Executive Director: Mark Carabetta416.440.1519 ext 1
Director of Development: Janet Loughheed 416.440.1519 ext 2
Communications-Development Administrator: Laura Gibson416.440.1519 ext 3
Land Protection Program Manager: Brooks Greer.....416.440.1519 ext 4
General Information416.440.1519 ext 3
For a list of our Directors, visit our website at www.gbtl.org/directors

Georgian Bay Land Trust
1179 King Street West, Suite 213
Toronto, Ontario M6K 3C5
email: info@gbtl.org
www.gbtl.org

