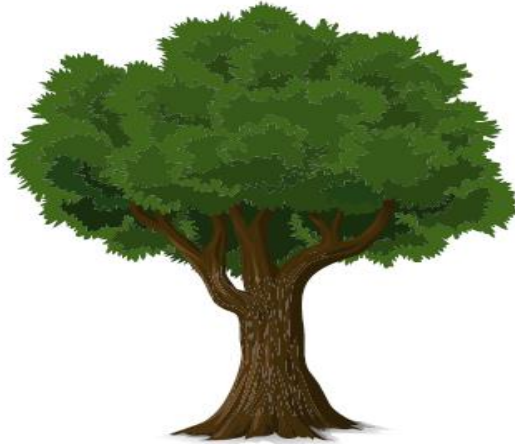


The Chautauquan

A Newsletter for and about our neighbourhood in Niagara-on-the-Lake
Published by the Executive of the Chautauqua Residents Association



President's Message– Winter 2022 . . .

I believe a community association is successful if it has both an engaged membership and is representative of the community.

We asked for input as to what you want of the CRA; you told us and we listened. You told us that:

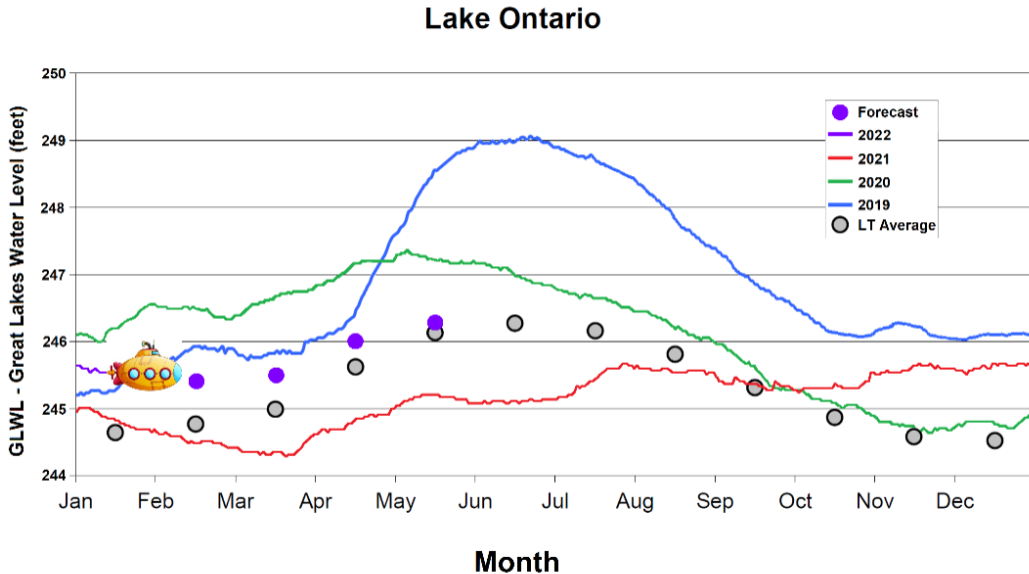
- You enjoy social events with your neighbours; towards that end the CRA hosted *Carols in the Park* in December.
- You want to keep Chautauqua a community for residents; we continue to support the changes recommended by the *Friends of Ryerson Park* addressing the previous parking and traffic problems.
- You value the tree canopy; we are planning an information session with town staff addressing the Town's Tree By-Law.
- You have concerns about the number of short-term rentals; we have created a committee to develop a position on Short Term Rentals.
- You are concerned about new builds in our community; we have created a committee to address Planning and Design Guidelines specific to Chautauqua.

For the CRA to be an effective representative of the community we need a breadth of residents as members. We encourage all residents to be part of CRA so that all voices can be heard. If you have any questions or ideas email mail me at chautauquaresidents2021@gmail.com.

Brian Crow

Neighbourhood notes:

Lake Level update (January 14, 2022) from Ron Simkus (NOTL Resident)



Excessive Speeding:



Speed complaints from residents come second only to noise complaints. The main concern in our neighbourhood stems from high performance cars and motorcycles.

The CRA through the Friends of Ryerson Park (FORP) is working on establishing a dialogue with the Town but for any chance of success, here again, we must call on all our area residents to please write to the Town and copy friendsofryersonpark@gmail.com.

Meet your neighbours . . .

Wendy and Derek Cadman



Derek and Wendy each worked for almost 40 years in the complex world of insurance claims. In fact, they fell in love when their eyes met over their desks at Insurance Claims School. Their first away date was at the Oban Inn and NOTL became a favourite vacation destination. Derek proposed at the romantic Arowhon Lodge in Algonquin Park more than 31 years ago. They bought their Shakespeare home 7 years ago and settled there after they both retired. They enjoy sightings of deer, coyotes and turkeys in the federal lands behind their home and they are avid bird lovers with special feeders for Gold Finches, Cardinals and Blue Jays. Their 15 month golden retriever pup, Callie, keeps them active with several walks a day.

Robert and Cheryl Yamamoto



Robert and Cheryl met in Ontario Place where they were working during the school holidays. They have been married 34 years but together almost 39 years. Cheryl was quick to point out that Robert is 4 years older than she. They worked in Toronto where Cheryl was an Elementary School Principal and Robert was in Commercial Real Estate. Living in Scarborough, near the bluffs, they had maple trees on the property, from which they collected sap and made their own Maple Syrup. They bought their home on William Street 5 years ago but when the home on Dixie came up for sale, they jumped at it and have been renovating since March 2021. Robert bakes bread; is the family chef; and is designing/ working on their new Dixie home. Cheryl is a member of the University Women's Club book club and works part time at Jackson-Triggs. Both are members of the NOTL Golf Club.

Carolling in the Park

The evening was perfect - the smell of wood smoke drifted through the air as residents made their way to Chautauqua Park, lawn chairs in hand, to gather round the fires and catch up with friends and neighbours. Children excitedly raced around, waiting for their ride on the horse and buggy with Santa, fuelled by toasted marshmallows and hot chocolate. An SUV was stationed in the park to collect the donations of our generous community for Newark Neighbours—it overflowed with bags and boxes of food.

“Live at the Library”, the trio of musicians who led us in song, tuned up their instruments—and the magical evening began as CRA President Brian Crow stepped up to the microphone welcoming all who gathered and reminding us that 15 years ago, we held our very first Chautauqua Christmas Carol Stroll. True, the format changed this year due to Covid restrictions, but it was close enough to “normal”, and for Chautauqua residents, who are known to love a good party, it was manna for the soul.



CRA Forms Advisory Committee on Short Term Rentals

Over the past few years, the increase in Short Term Rentals in Chautauqua has been something of resident discussion, and the CRA believed that it would be very beneficial to the neighbourhood if our organization had an official position to take on the subject. The aim of this committee is to provide a non-biased solutions-based response to a topic that has been highlighted by several residents. Our goal is not to create policy, but merely direct it in a way which is the most beneficial for Chautauqua.

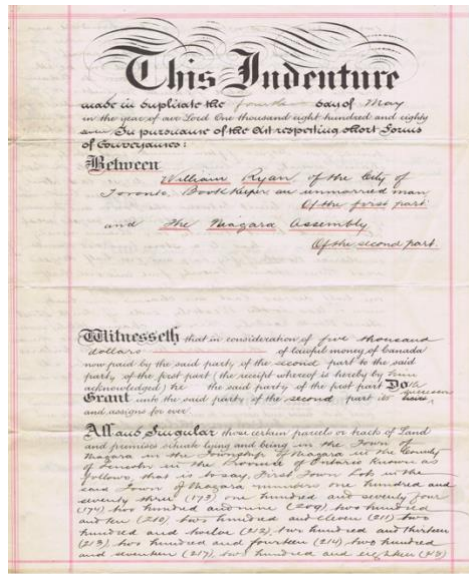
The Advisory Committee on Short Term Rentals held a very productive meeting in January during which a comprehensive document was created which highlights how Short-Term Rentals impact Chautauqua, as well as suggestions for town staff and council for the regulation of these rentals. The CRA wants to ensure that Chautauqua remains a well-balanced community and we believe that through the recommendations of this committee it will.

Chautauqua Oaks

St. Mark's e-news (November 2021) reported that 5 years ago some healthy looking oak leaves emerged from a pile of acorns in Chautauqua. Holmes Hooke, A Chautauqua resident sifted out about 50 seedlings and made an impromptu nursery for them under his porch. Three of those rescued oak seedlings have been planted in the rectory lawn at St. Mark's. Oaks live 150 to 300 years.

History of Chautauqua

Victor Tarnoy collects many historical items about Chautauqua. Here is the first page of the Deed when the Niagara Assembly purchased the Chautauqua lands in 1887.



Roger Miller, a Familiar Face Since 1965 (by Weston Miller)

Possibly one of the most iconic residences in our neighbourhood is the “Log Haven” at 68 Shakespeare Avenue, home to the Miller family since 1965. Perhaps just as iconic is the owner of that home, my grandfather, Roger Miller. Colloquially referred to as the “Mayor of Chautauqua”, Roger settled in 1965 to start a family, and has loved our neighbourhood so much he hasn’t had a single thought about moving since. There are now three generations of Miller men occupying the Northernmost block of Shakespeare, Roger, his son Troy, and myself. I believe this speaks massively to the quality of life that Chautauqua offers, for it is a place that makes you want to stay for generations.

Roger was just passing through Niagara-on-the-Lake on his honeymoon when he came across the little log cabin by the lake. The neighbourhood has changed immensely, but the soul has remained the same. Roger raised three children and eight grandchildren in the log cabin, and he is happy to see new families moving in and calling this great area home. Roger has always believed that this was the perfect place to raise a family. It is very reminiscent of the small villages in Oxfordshire England where he hailed from originally. Chautauqua is a neighbourhood where everyone knows everyone, and everyone is always happy to stop and have a chat. Rarely does one pass by another without at least a wave and a “hello”, that is very European in its essence, and is perhaps very rare by today’s standards. Roger has always strived to preserve the original “cottage” character of Chautauqua, he feels that’s one of the reasons which makes our neighbourhood so unique. “This is cottage country” he proudly avers. Over the years he has become friends with neighbours and visitors alike, those who all share a fondness for our little corner of Niagara on the Lake. Although many of his neighbours have moved away or passed on, Roger is happy to remain in the log cabin, and is grateful for the wonderful memories and relationships he has built over the years in the place he has called home for 57 years. Most importantly however, he is looking forward to all the memories still to come!



Helmi's History (Chapter 1)- arriving in Canada



Helmi Moehl, who is an artist, has lived in her house on Palatine for over 50 years. She is of German descent but lived in Switzerland when her boyfriend, Hermann, who was in Munich, got an offer from the Canadian consulate to go to Canada. Canada, at the time, was trying to attract skilled immigrants. Hermann was an engineer. Helmi obtained her passport in days; she and Hermann married immediately and they bought passage to Canada on the RMS Franconia ship of the Cunard Line. They travelled on November 9, the last ocean-liner crossing before winter.

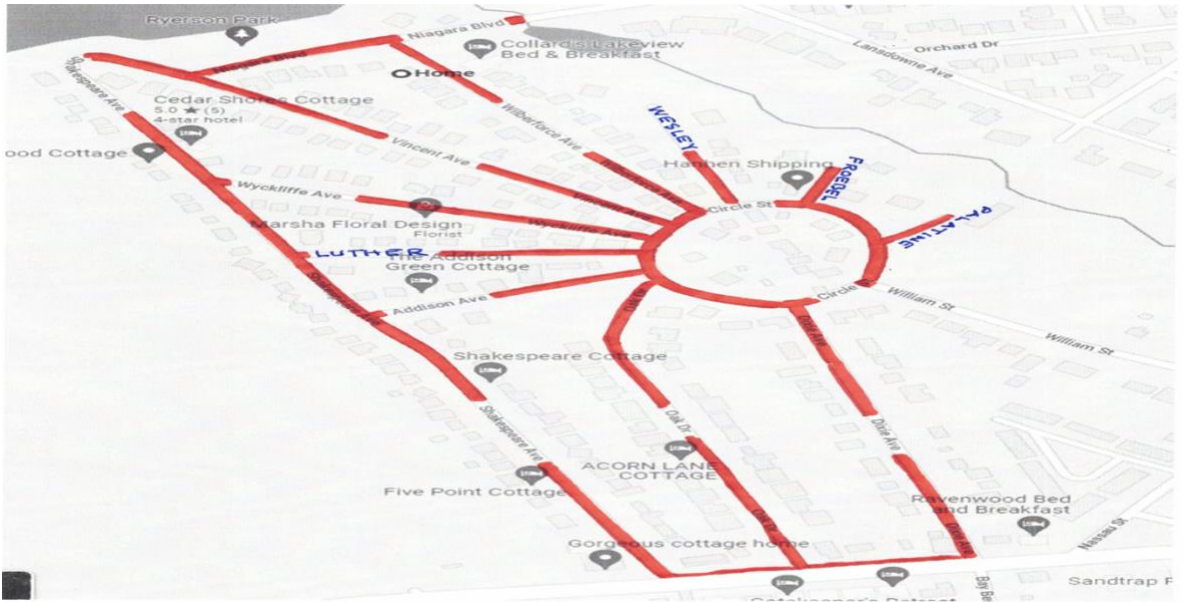
As they were unsure about emigrating to Canada, they came as visitors on their honeymoon. They ended up in Niagara Falls where they attended at the Canadian Immigration Office to “register”. Visitors in Europe, at the time, were required to register with the Immigration Office. The Canadian Immigration Office was confused by this attempt to register, but when they heard that Hermann was an engineer looking for work, they contacted him the next day with a job offer.

Helmi got a job shortly after. She worked at a law office as a dicta-typist and while she had never worked in the legal field and had no understanding of legal terminology, the office staff loved her because she was good with grammar and best of all, she was “punctual”.

Stay tuned for the next newsletter and learn how Helmi and Hermann came to live in Chautauqua.

Where is Chautauqua?

Many residents new and old have asked about the boundaries of Chautauqua; thus the map below to answer this age-old question.



Not a Member of the Chautauqua Residents' Association (CRA)?

This and future newsletters will provide information to our members on issues that need to be addressed to keep Chautauqua a residential community. It will also provide information on coming events and community information.

The cost of printing and distributing copies of our newsletter is significant and therefore future issues will be sent to members only by email. (If anyone cannot access emails we will be pleased to print and hand deliver to you.)

If you are not a member, or if you know of a neighbour that is not yet a member, encourage them to join. There is strength in numbers.

Any questions on membership contact Margot Devlin at chautauquaresidents2021@gmail.com.