

THE WINDERMERE GAZETTE

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE VILLAGE?

- **Windermere House** - Lots of things happening at WH. Stop in for a drink or meal at one of their lovely dining options.
 - **Windermere Pub & Patio** - Lunch & Dinner - patio open weather permitting. Reservations on Open Table
 - 12pm - 11pm weekdays, Weekends 12pm - midnight
 - Live music - Fri.&Sat. 7-10pm
 - **The Rosseau**, upscale dining, beautiful setting 7 days/week - 12-9pm.
 - **High Tea** returns June 28th - a timeless tradition
 - **The Trading Post** - Artisanal goods & produce, charcuterie, souvenirs and more.
 - **Spa at Windermere** - Daily 9am - 6pm
- **Windermere Marina** NEW HOURS! - 7 days a week - 9am - 5pm.
- **Windermere Golf Club** - Open to all for lunch and dinner throughout the season at **Iron and Strings Restaurant**. - "**Wing Night**" - every Thursday with live entertainment. **Tuesday night is Euchre Night!**
- **Windermere Garden Centre**
Mon.-Fri. - 8 - 5, Sat - 9 - 5, Sun - CLOSED
- **Taylor Farms** - Mon - Fri, 7am - 6pm. Sat. 9am - 5pm. CLOSED Sunday. Great Cappuccino and Lattes at the cafe!
More details at taylorfarms.ca/market.
Or email strawberries@taylorfarms.ca
- **Lagree by the Lake** - Fitness Studio right in Windermere. Check out **lagreebythelake.com** for hours and classes.

Windermere Lions Club is offering a bottle drop off for your recyclables - this is part of their fundraising for all the great things they do for the community and beyond. Drop off at Taylor Farms.

- **Christ Church Windermere** - services Sunday at 10:30am. Welcome all.
- **Windermere United Church** - services Sunday at 10:30am. Check out "Upcoming Events" for Taize & meditation schedule.

Muskoka's Wooden Boat Legacy

This week's article of historical interest is **Part 3 of 4** articles that we are sharing over the summer, thanks to this fascinating submission by **Ian Turnbull**, a Muskoka Classic Boat "enthusiast" (& somewhat of an expert). These were written by Ian for "**Classicboat**" - the quarterly magazine of **ACBS-Toronto** (Antique & Classic Boat Society - Toronto).

Monday and Wednesday nights were Sunset Cruise evenings, usually in Wiggy III. Our typical route was to the south end of Lake Rosseau, winding through the Pinafore Islands and Brackenrig Bay sometimes venturing up to the Venetia Islands before returning home in the dark.

Tuesdays and Thursdays were busy days. Shopping cruises to Port Carling were scheduled in the mornings, often using both launches. But the evenings were highlights, with bookend trips to Port Carling (again) and Cleveland's House at the other end of Lake Rosseau. In the '60s, live summer theatre was thriving. Two full boats were often required to deliver our guests to Port Carling in time to walk up from the docks to the Community Hall for the Straw Hat Players performance at 8 PM. Then back to the Lodge to load guests at 9 PM for the dance at Cleveland's House. Demand often required two boats and on rare occasions two trips for one or both boats, as Cleve's dances were very popular. Timing for the first trip to the theatre in Port Carling precluded waitress girlfriends from joining launchmen in transit. But they were usually free by 9 pm to join us for the trip to Cleveland's. After delivering the last load to the dance, we would cruise alone romantically with our sweethearts, perhaps under a moon, down the west side of the Lake through the Venetia Islands to Port Carling to pick up theatre guests by about 10:30 PM. The theatre crowd was well behaved, sober and inclined to respectful singsongs on the return trip to the Lodge. At Wigwassan we'd grab a cheeseburger in the Tuck Shop and head back to Cleveland's House to meet the dance crowd after midnight. In contrast, they were gloriously raucous, not sober, and inclined to disrespectful singsongs on the cruise home. To their slurred question 'How do you know where you're going in the dark?' we would say 'We follow the flag at the bow of the boat.' They would say 'Right.'

Thursday mornings were sedate and classy by comparison. The nearby beautiful Llanlar Estate would open its gardens to the public for tours with proceeds to the United Church in Windermere. While our guests were touring the grounds, we drivers would gather to tell tales in one of the boats which included:

Shirl Evon from Windermere Marina, driven by Rick Terry. Rick would carry a load from Windermere House or a charter. The **38' 1921 Ditchburn** now lives on Lake Muskoka.

Viola, driven by Bruce Wallace of Minett, with a load from Windermere. **Viola was the same vintage as Wiggy IV** with similar lines but shorter at 36'. She now lives on Georgian Bay.

Heather Belle driven by Geordie Thorel Jr. of Thorel House, a small hotel near Morinus. The **1902 36' cabin launch** now lives on Lake Muskoka.

Lady Elgin driven by Irvin Wallace of Minett, with a load from Cleveland House, or Paignton House, or Elgin House. Lady Elgin was a **36' livery boat** built for Irving's grandfather Captain Henry Wallace. The boat now lives on Lake Rosseau.

UPCOMING EVENTS

If you have a community event to announce, let us know!

Muskoka Arts and Crafts at the Village Hall!

Open 6 days a week for July and August.

Sept 16th @ 7:30pm @ Windermere United Church *"Peace and Presence in Taizé Tradition"* -

Sept 10, October 8th @ 7:30pm
Windermere United Church is holding *Mindfulness Meditation in the Zen Buddhism tradition.*

August 21st - Taryn Rose @ WG&CC

August 22nd, from 7-10PM - Taryn

The Windermere Gazette will NOT be publishing September 16th or 23rd.

If you have any Fall events you would like our community to know about it, let us know. ASAP

Every Friday all summer long!!
The Windermere and District Lions Club
will be hosting their fabulous BBQ!
On the Wharf - 11:30am - 2:00pm

Submissions, content, or to subscribe
windermeregazette@icloud.com

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Police - Non-Emergency 705-645-2211

Fire Department 705-765-3156

District of Muskoka Office 705-645-2100

By-Law Office Township 705-765-3156

Wharf Master 705-769-3611

Windermere Golf Club 705-769-3381

Windermere Marina 705-769-3661

Windermere House 705-769-3611

Taylor Farms 705-769-2368

Windermere Garden Centre 705-769-3238

Archives windermereandareaarchives@gmail.com

Lions Club - windermereclubmuskoka@gmail.com

Viola



To See **MUSKOKA LAKES**
TAKE THESE TRIPS ON
THE "VIOLA"
OPERATED BY BRUCE WALLACE - Phone 5 - MINETT



Wiggy III & IV



Shirl Evon (left), Viola (left Centre)



Shirl Evon

Windermere Garden Centre Celebrating 50 years!!

For nearly 50 years, **Windermere Garden Centre** has been woven into the fabric of the Muskoka community. Founded in 1976 by Marshall and Joan Emmons, the family business grew from a small nursery into one of the region's most respected garden centres, built on a belief in serving the community and caring for the land. Through the dedication of the Emmons family over the decades, generations of residents and cottagers came to know Windermere Garden Centre not only for its quality plants and landscaping, but for its friendly service, trusted advice, and commitment to helping Muskoka flourish.



Today, that legacy enters a new chapter. Following decades of stewardship by the Emmons family, Windermere Garden Centre is now under the ownership of Arnie Coulson, Adam Fitzmaurice and Jamie Doran, keeping the business locally owned and guided by the values on which it was built.

Leading the day-to-day operations are Kristy Conway and Collin Dunnett, two familiar faces who each began their careers at Windermere Garden Centre years ago before pursuing their own entrepreneurial paths. Their return to Windermere brings valuable experience, a strong connection to the garden centre's roots, and a shared commitment to honoring its history while helping guide the business into its next chapter.

While ownership has changed, the heart of the business remains the same. A deep commitment to serving the community, protecting Muskoka's natural beauty, and believing in a greener tomorrow continues to guide everything Windermere Garden Centre does. As Windermere Garden Centre celebrates 50 years, it proudly carries forward a tradition of helping generations of families grow, plant, and enjoy the landscapes that make Muskoka home.