



Alumni Newsletter

A BIT OF MAGIC MARKS THE SPOT

Whether it was last year or 50 years ago when you last set foot on John Island, there is undoubtedly one spot that repeatedly comes to mind when you think of the camp. For some it is Chapel Point, watching and listening to the waves beating on the rocks, or it could be the high water dock late at night watching the stars or Northern Lights with friends. Others have talked of the solitude and privacy of a walk around Ivy Island.....a day hike at First Beach.....jumping off the cliff at the Dive.....a quiet paddle in the back bay listening to the loons.

While the hustle and bustle of activity at camp consumes most of our day, it is those "magic" places that most of us remember. They allowed us to reflect on everything from our friendships at camp to the next stage of our lives after camp. Has any other stage of our life been able to offer such a rich venue combining physically enriching



YMCA Sudbury



activity with spiritually enriching reflection? The many joys and occasional tears all combine to make our summers at camp so key to our growth that we never forget our experience.....and that "magic spot" that has become engraved in our minds.

This summer a new collection of campers will gather at John Island from all over the world and will experience many of these same feelings. Chapel Point may have one less tree than it did in the 1970's, but it still offers the same incentive to reflect. The water level

in the back bay may have changed a bit from the 1980's, but the cool breezes and loons are still there amongst a background sound of chirping frogs. Yes, the rest of the world has changed faster than some of us can keep up with, but those "magic spots" at John Island are still offering the same experiences that we remember.

This is why the renewal of the physical plant of John Island is so important. For campers of the present and future to experience the same beauty and learning experiences of the natural part of the island, the upgrading of the cabins and other facilities is critical. Fifty-five year old cabins that are more than well worn by the use of thousands of campers like us will no longer cut it in camping. We need to continue the upgrading of the camp. If you have already supported our "Share the Treasure" Campaign to renew the John Island facilities, thank you. Your gift is much appreciated. If you have not yet had an opportunity to make a contribution, your gift is much needed. Please do not wait for someone to contact you individually for a contribution, just fill in the pledge card with this newsletter and return it as indicated to YMCA Sudbury.

Please help share the treasure that you found at John Island Camp.

Donor Appreciation Night

There will be a John Island Camp Redevelopment Campaign "Donor Appreciation Night" on Friday May 29th at the YMCA in Sudbury. The evening reception will recognize our donors, showcase our accomplishments and thank those who have worked on the campaign. On Saturday May 30th donors are invited to John Island for a day of island fun, and to show off the work done to date. Invitations will be mailed shortly to donors - but please mark these dates on your calendar today.

Gowan cabin scheduled for demolition this spring.



MEET PETE KERIGAN

OUR NEW CAMP DIRECTOR....



On January 1st, Pete Kerigan took over the controls as the new Director of John Island Camp. Pete came to us from the largest YMCA camp in Canada – YMCA Camp Wanakita where he was Asst. Director for the past two and a half years. Camp Wanakita is a four season camp in Haliburton, operating very successfully throughout the year. Amongst his responsibilities, Pete headed up the staffing for the camp and program delivery. Pete brings with him a wealth of experience and success based on his ten years of YMCA camping involvement. Pete is also keenly interested in John Island's past history from the early years of the camp's operation all the way back to the days of the lumber mill. While the challenge of directing a camp with such a rich history was most appealing to Pete, the location, traditions and reputation of the camp made the opportunity to come to Sudbury and John Island Camp an easy decision. We welcome Pete, Amanda and Pete's dog Cohen to YMCA Sudbury and YMCA John Island Camp. Pete can be contacted at: pete.kerigan@sudbury.ymca.ca

WE REMEMBER - JOEL SCHWARTZ

JOEL WAS A VERY SPECIAL PERSON AND WILL BE MISSED BY MANY.....

On March 3rd, Joel Schwartz passed away at the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto just a few weeks shy of his 26th birthday. Joel died quite unexpectedly from complications resulting from a seizure. Anyone connected with John Island Camp between 1997 and 2003 will remember Joel as a camper, leadership participant and in his last three years at camp as a maintenance assistant. Julie, Joel's mother, wanted to thank everyone who helped make Joel's years at John Island so rewarding for him. She commented that John Island was the first experience Joel had where he was accepted for just who he was.

Joel had a great sense of humour and the gift of conversation. He loved spending time with the camp's communication systems and was the resident expert on Greyhound schedules and railway travel in Canada. He would often embarrass railway employees by knowing more about their operation than they did. For the past several years Joel worked as a courier in downtown Toronto.

Joel was a very special person and will be missed by many who knew him - his phone calls with happy birthday wishes or just to say hi...his concern for others...his love of campfires...his jokes...and a million other memories. He would have been 26th on April 29th. Joel's mother welcomes anyone to contact her about Joel by e-mail at: juliesue@rogers.com



BUILDING OUR ALUMNI - WITH YOUR HELP

HERE ARE A FEW THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP US REACH MORE PEOPLE.....

Our John Island Alumni has grown over the past few years to just over 600 past staff and special friends of the camp. However, with every issue, we get 20 or 30 returns in the mail when people have moved. We realize that when alumni move they are most likely not going to remember to let the camp know their new address. When we get a returned newsletter, the first thing we do is send the individual an e-mail requesting their new address – if, of course, we have their e-mail address. Here are a few things you can do to help us reach more of our John Island Camp Alumni.

If you have an e-mail address, send it to us so we always have a way to keep in touch with you. If you move, please let us know your new address. If you are still keeping in touch with some of your camp friends from years past, please send us their mailing address OR e-mail address so we can keep them up to date about John Island.

Here are some of the people we are looking for current addresses for: Paul McCubbin, Veronica Hann, Des Hann, Michael Tovey, Stuart Spec, Carson Wells, Karey Lambert, Karla Oates, James Waddell, Meredith Chalmers, Jeremy Levan, Darryl Sillanpaa, Nolan Semrau, Pat Sutherland, Jane McMaster, Robert Odette, Jack Herrington, Mel Beaulne, Susan McWhirter.

To contact us, please e-mail at: gary.gray@sudbury.ymca.ca or regular mail at:

Gary Gray, YMCA Sudbury, 140 Durham Street, Sudbury, Ontario, P3E 3M7

Thanks for your help.

THE BALLAD OF THE JOHN ISLAND DELCO GENERATOR (1965)

THE BEGINNING AND THE END OF THE FIRST ISLAND GENERATOR.....

UNKNOWN AUTHOR

One day late in August, 12 years from its start,
John Island Camp had a blow to its heart.
One day late in August, while the cool breezes blew,
The life of the Delco was finally through.

The legend of that Delco, although not that old
Is a legend we know and one to be told.
So sit back a while and listen right now
As we tell you the story as best we know how

It once stood in the DEW Line, up in the cold
And gave light and heat to the men as we're told
But it was not strong enough, so was taken away
And sold to our camp on a cold winters day.

The Kismet next summer was loaded right down
As the Delco arrived in that cool Spanish town.
But the boys at the helm said they still had more room
So on went the Delco as they lowered the boom.

After twelve miles of storming the boisterous waves
The Kismet reached camp through the water it craves
And there on the stern, looking just like it ought to
Was the 5,000 watts in the form of a Delco

They heaved and they tugged and finally a smile
As they got our new Delco on the tractor in style.
Then they held on tight as from the dock it was driven
Soon they'd have power and would really be livin'.

They worked all that night and the next week-end too
As the connections were made by the electrical crew
And finally the moment they'd all be waiting for
The flick of a switch and – there was nothing more!

Something was wrong, the machine would not go
The book said it should, but the Delco said NO!
An then by sheer luck, as someone gave it a stare,
The wires to the battery were hanging – in mid air.

Now everything was ready, they would try it once more
As the man who would start it walked in through the door
Up went the warming switch and everyone lurked
Then on went the starter switch and, by golly, it worked.

For ten years without trouble it worked out its heart
Then one year in stopped, and it wouldn't restart.
The director of camp - he got quite concerned
And they flew in some experts of whom he had learned

They looked the machine over and sighed in dismay
As it still wasn't going at the end of the day.
They thought some parts were worn and now had to go
And others needed repair, a jolly bad show.

A few days later they all returned to the camp
In hopes that the Delco they'd be able to revamp
But after more work they still had to luck
And it looked like the camp was going to be stuck.

But then by good fortune another diesel-type man
Came out to see if he could give us a hand
He got out the manual and read, "Check the fuel"
But to suggest this wasn't done would be terribly cruel

But he filled up a cup and then started to scratch
Poured it on the ground and he threw on a match
Up went the flames and five days of work
There was gas in the oil drum, thanks to some jerk!

For two more years the Delco hammered away
It looked as though it were really there to stay
But one day in August, as the cool breezes blew
The life of the Delco was rumoured to be through

It had exhausted itself, really ran itself down
And as it slowly gave way, the camp gave a frown
Its parts were plain worn, there was nothing to be done –
The Delco at camp might never again run.

So in camp that August, in the summer of '65
The question in camp was "Will the Delco survive?"
But nothing could be done till camp was well over
And the men in the city could look the thing over.

So as camp ended that year, for the first time in years
No Delco could be heard by the many little ears.
And next year at camp we're not sure what will appear
But if its not our old Delco, it may be a tear.

The men in the city say it would be too much trouble
And the machine that we know was nothing but rubble
And that's who the Delco which was once a camp fixture
Came into being and then passed out of the picture.

SPRING WORK WEEKEND 2009 - MAY 8th to MAY 10th

EVERYONE WELCOME TO VOLUNTEER!

The ice will be gone from the Whalesback Channel and the power turned on at camp so we can have a terrific work weekend this year. Alumni (and their family) are especially welcome as it gives us an opportunity to get back to the Island and spend a weekend doing work at the camp and getting to know some new friends and renewing some old friendships. The camp always suffers a bit during the long winter months and there will be painting, brushing, cleaning, log cutting, carpentry, and a variety of jobs for all age groups and levels of skill. We provide the tools, but if you have your own favourite tools and would like to bring them that is certainly fine. There is no cost to join us and we will provide food and a place to stay - come see all the changes we have been working on. If you are interested in coming along and helping out this May – rain or shine – send an e-mail to pete.kerigan@sudbury.ymca.ca and we will make sure you get all the information.

JOHN ISLAND - A COMPASS FOR LIFE

PASSING MY MASTER CANOE TEST - I DID IT.....

By: Bill Pigott (Staff 1960 - 1963)

A compass for life is my way of defining the unique character of the John Island experience I had over several years as a camper and staff member. We all share a common bond because of our great memories of our time on the Island - so many special people, canoe trips, campfires, nature at it's finest and endless sing-songs!! What hi-lites all of it and gave me a basis for my life ahead were people that I learned from and who gave me encouragement to achieve.

My career of nearly 40 years with the Canadian YMCA had it's birth at John Island and provided me with a life compass that has guided me through the last five decades and counting!! I've had a great time thinking back - thanks to Gary Gray asking me to reflect on my J.I. time - so many people come to mind, unique & memorable events, moments of real fun & meaning.

Mr. B was always in the background but very much the dedicated leader of the Sudbury YMCA - instrumental in me getting to Sir George Williams University in Montreal and the YMCA Fellowship program. Millie was always in the forefront and a cheerleader of life, the YMCA, of me and today we have the Spirit of the Y Millie Award at the Sudbury Y - so aptly named!!! I always looked forward to her J.I. visits and her 5000 watt smile!!!

The dynamic duo of Mrs. Miner and Ron Mahood created amazing meals in the J.I. kitchen - of course, the hi-lite was easily Mrs. Miner's chelsea buns!!!!

.....and in no particular order, some more of my memories: Jim and Mac Sinclair - J.I. staffers who were upbeat, giving great support to campers, on the waterfront, in the dining hall, cabins and canoes.... Trying to beat Ron "Ticker" Bolton in Ping Pong on the porch of the Dining Hall (I never did).....Jack Smith's Dining Hall cheers and songs (Ham and Eggs!!!)..... Gary Gray's creative work producing beautiful crests and swimming/canoeing badges to be proudly worn on my jacket..... Winning the Annual Fishing Derby---still have the trophy on the wall at the Pigott camp on Long Lake!!..... Sharing some amazing canoe trips with Jim Wilkinson and our campers - stopping to overnight on the Spanish River with a Drive-In right across from our camp-site!! Wilkie and I have been life long friends and still talk about our good times together..... The Mitchell Family - what a treasure to have them work and dedicate themselves to insuring campers/staff/visitors and supplies got to and from the Island and everything worked well while we were there!!!!..... George Koski was the Davey Crockett of my hike and trip life - as Director of Tripping, he inspired me to work hard on trips, cooperate on all fronts and learn about nature.....an outstanding leader and role model..... Passing my Master Canoe Test - I did it!! [Thanks,George]..... The waterfront beach....only beach in the North!!..... The beautiful and majestic tall pines..... Tuck night---when chocolate chunks were for sale - didn't get any better than that!!

I guess you learn from so many people in so many ways....the basics of leadership, forming a set of values that will guide your life.....John Island was a school of life for those learnings for me.... And now it renews itself - new resources, new buildings, and new equipment to continue to teach and involve campers and staff in the years ahead.....without a doubt one of the most important and effective parts of the YMCA's Mission.



Bill Pigott at John Island Camp - 1991



Left: Ironsides - 1972 - the original Ironsides was widened and lengthened by six feet in the years after this photo **Right: the original bridge** - over the Kwai in 1965 - notice the lack of trees and undergrowth on the shoreline, replaced and raised years later

The UNIVERSALITY OF CAMPING

GOOD FRIEND, I AM BUILDING THIS BRIDGE FOR HIM

By: Jack Pearse (Founder, Owner & Former Director - Camp Tawingo)

In 1973, GARY GRAY and I were part of the leadership team that launched the Newfoundland & Labrador Camping Association, at Burry Heights Camp. It was particularly historical in that it completed the quest of the Canadian Camping Association to establish Associations in every Province - and you know what? Everyone there garnered something extra to enhance and improve our individual camping needs. For me, it was 2 hints from the Kitchen. When we had hot porridge for breakfast, it was served with hot milk. Doesn't that make a lot of sense? In addition, the pancake syrup bottles sat in a tub of hot water before being brought into the Dining Hall. Thirty six years later, we still go through the 'hot-syrup' routine at Camp Tawingo. When GARY brought me up-to-date on the fabulously successful endeavour to renew, rebuild and update John Island Camp and followed up by suggesting I might write an article on the outreach of YMCA Camping, I responded with, "You bet, let's do it!"

GARY talked about the 'Universality of Camping'. This is paraphrasing what he said: "If you have been a Camp staff member at one Camp, you have a commonality (hence a common bond) with just about every other Camp staff from anywhere in the world." As usual, he is bang-on with that astute observation. At Camp Tawingo, we represent just a small portion of those who have unending gratitude to John Island Camp for your tremendous extension of Camp leadership beyond your Camp gate. What a colossal boost we received from IAN GLEN, DAVE GLEN, DOUG FRASER & BRENT PIGOTT.....the Fab Four from John Island. On top of their unfettered range of outstanding Camp skills, their children became exceptional leaders at Camp. Isn't it marvelous when that kind of beat goes on? (Writer's note: BRENT, I owe you a letter - have for almost a year now. Will this do in its place? Didn't think so!!)

There are many, many stories about the Fab Four and how they raised the bar for Camp Tawingo staff. Here is just one of those stories: when IAN GLEN was in Law School at Queen's University, he and his class-mates were discussing what they would be doing for the summer. Most were going into law offices or law departments of businesses. IAN said "I'm going to Camp." The retorts were all the same. "When are you going to grow up?" IAN's reply was priceless, "If growing up means I can't go to Camp, I don't want to ever grow up!" Now I ask you, how can that kind of approach to life **not** be an enduring and positive influence when leading others? And IAN GLEN has carried this attitude through-out his life. You don't have to wonder why the Mother of our 4 children says, at the drop of a hat, "Oh my, how I do love that boy!!" (Just a little postscript: when our family moved from Ottawa to Waterloo, it was a privilege to serve on the K/W YMCA Camp Committee, chaired by JOHN SCHMITT's very dedicated father. John's whole family was a most significant boon to the YMCA camping program there.)

I didn't really appreciate thoroughly, the 'Universality of Camping', until we formed the International Camping Fellowship (Washington D.C. 1987) and traveled the globe to fulfill our Mission of "bringing together a world of outdoor experience". Our most salient discovery is the incredible impact the YMCA has had on Camping.....everywhere in the world. And the most resounding revelation is that we have learned something we can utilize, at home from Camping people....from Siberia, Mongolia, Hong Kong, Nicosia, Athens, Nagano, Melbourne, Caracas, Bogota.....everywhere we went, just like we acquired from the Camping enthusiasts at Burry Heights in Newfoundland. What you folks are doing exceedingly well, is a veritable reminder of my favourite poem: Bridge Builder by Will Allen Dromgoole



An old man, going a lone highway,
Came, at the evening, cold and gray,
To a chasm, vast, and deep, and wide,
Through which was flowing a sullen tide.

The old man crossed in the twilight dim;
The sullen stream had no fear for him;
But he turned, when safe on the other side,
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim, near,
"You are wasting strength with building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day;
You never again will pass this way;
You've crossed the chasm, deep and wide-
Why build you this bridge at the evening tide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head:
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,
"There followeth after me today,
A youth, whose feet must pass this way.

This chasm, that has been naught to me,
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building this bridge for him."

Now, isn't that what Camping is all about? Isn't that what Camp leadership is all about? For that matter, isn't that what LIFE is all about?

Editor's Note - In 1932 JACK PEARSE began his life-long love for Camping at YMCA Camp Kitchikewana. From that day until now, he has spent an entire meaningful and rewarding career in youth work, education and Camping, and Jack says he owes it all to the YMCA.

LOOKING BACK WITH: NOSTALGIA, WONDER & LOVE

IT WAS QUITE SOME TIME BEFORE I WAS BACK IN EARL'S GOOD BOOKS

By: Bill Taylor (Staff, Director & YMCA Sudbury CEO 1967 - 1977)

You can't imagine my surprise when I got a telephone call from Gary Gray on March 3rd. telling me he had difficulty tracking me down and asking me if I would write a piece for this edition of the John Island newsletter. I responded by saying I was pleased and honoured to be asked. My association and involvement with John Island began in the spring of 1967 when I, this Newfoundland raised young fellow, was hired by Lionel Burgess, the Sudbury YMCA's General Secretary. My new job with the Sudbury "Y" was to develop and manage children and youth services including, directing John Island Camp. My direct involvement with John Island was as: Assistant Director the summer of 1967 and as Director from September 1st 1967 to June 1st 1972, at which time I moved into my new role as Executive Director of the Sudbury YMCA. From then, until I left the Sudbury "Y" in October 1977, I had a responsibility to oversee John Island, but not to direct it's operation day to day.

When I first think of John Island my thoughts are of: friends, wonderful life long relationships, a great sense of satisfaction and accomplishment that come with learning new skills, the breath-taking beauty and peacefulness of John Island and of course the good times, fun and laughter. Oh what great memories!! I remember with gratitude and pride our dedicated, enthusiastic and excellent volunteer and staff teams. I understand that one of our valued senior John Island staff of those years is today President and CEO of Ontario Hydro and another valued senior staff member is General Manager of Hancock Forestry Management in New Zealand. I am as convinced today as I was 40 years ago, that no experience can beat a good camping experience for it's positive impact on a person's growth and development.

Let me take a few lines to share with you an example of what I mean from one of many former post camp letters I received. " *This summer you helped to sponsor Paul to go to camp. I have had the privilege and honour of working with him throughout the year and wished to let you know how much of an impact camp had on his life. I truly believe that small miracles can happen in the lives of youth through healthy relationships and opportunity. Paul glowed when he came back from camp. His grandma, whom he lives with, said he could not stop talking for days. He recounted stories to her for hours about his adventures and successes. He speaks of wishing to return for longer and one day becoming a camp counselor. He left camp feeling successful. These successes will be*

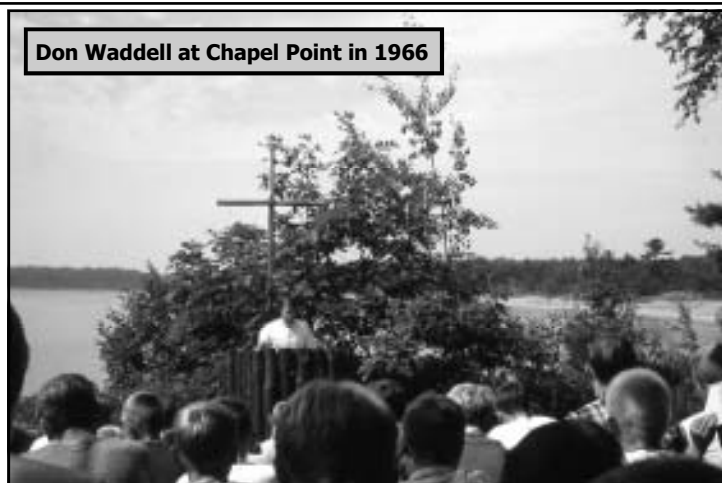
instrumental throughout the year and beyond for Paul. Already, we have started reflecting on the successes he had there. Paul often felt like he did not fit into his community; at camp he found a place his heart resonated. Thank you for all the work you do! Thank you to your counselors, staff and administrators for all the hard work. Thank you to the donors who give generously. It is a true gift sending a kid to camp. I am honoured to witness the effects."

Gary also asked me to highlight some of the developments or changes that took place during this period, so here goes: in 1970 we pushed to expand John Island's operating season beyond the summer months and as a result outside groups began to book for leadership development experiences. One such group was the Sudbury and District Camping Group which held it's leadership training workshop at John Island from June 19th to June 23rd, 1970. During 1970 and 1971 with extensive help and support from YMCA volunteer Grant Pilkey, briefs were presented to the Sudbury Board of Education and teacher groups outlining the benefits of an outdoor education experience for their students at John Island. School groups began to respond and the first outdoor education programs for these groups were offered at John Island in the spring of 1971. By the spring of 1972 this program had already grown to see 452 different students take part in this spring session.

(.....continued on next page)



Bill & Barbara Taylor - Victoria B.C. - Oct. 2008



Don Waddell at Chapel Point in 1966



Dining Hall in 1965

The summer of 1972 also saw the successful introduction of a two-week period of boys and girls co-ed camping at John Island with 47 campers in attendance. Wilderness camping, as part of John Island's program, went through considerable expansion during this period. One of the more memorable and exciting trips was the wilderness canoe trip the summer of 1972 under staff member Barry Hodgins leadership that operated in 2, two week blocks canoeing from Michipcoten on Lake Superior all the way to James Bay.

There were also considerable physical changes taking place to John Island's facilities during this period which included the following: to compensate for lower water levels in Lake Huron a new dock had to be built in the back bay and the bridge over the river Kwai completely rebuilt to get to it, a new shower house was built, with hot running water..... a real luxury!!, two new cabins were constructed in the junior section to replace cabins Dalrymple & Dewdney, and a small environmental science building was built to support our outdoor education programs. However, the most challenging facility project at the time was the dismantling and removal of all Camp Y-land buildings from Gaillard Island in Lake Ramsay and transporting those materials to John Island. The external funding to enable the Sudbury YMCA to operate Camp Y- land came to an end in the spring of 1972 and the "Y" was forced to cease operating the camp. The Island property was sold to The Junction Creek Conservation Authority in February 1973 with the agreement that the YMCA could dismantle and remove the buildings as long as it was done and complete within the next several months. These buildings consisted of a large dining hall, a large multipurpose building and 8 camper cabins. My sanity and the sanity of a core group of dedicated volunteers came under question when we undertook this mammoth project. This project included: dismantling the buildings, rafting the materials across the lake to be temporarily stored at Bell Grove (Lilly Creek area). From there, the materials were loaded on large flat bed trucks and transported to Earl Mitchell's dock in Spanish. Once there, the materials, over more trips than I care to remember, were loaded on Ironsides and a wooden barge and transported to John Island where they were off loaded on to a flat trailer and hauled up into a open area away from the main campsite and off loaded again. Those questioning our sanity at the time are not alone....in retrospect I'm doing the same now!! All of us involved in that undertaking owe a special debt of thanks to Falconbridge Nickel Mines with special thanks to Gordon Slade and Russ Buckland for arranging and supplying: the forklift, flat bed trucks and equipment operators to move the materials from Bell Grove to Mitchell's property in Spanish. Those materials were used in the construction of the following facilities at John Island: the environmental science building, forest greenway cabin, cook's cabin and staff cabin. Additionally, those materials were also used to make repairs to existing buildings. In hindsight, the person to feel most traumatized by this particular project was our good friend and supporter Earl Mitchell, who, had at that time, more than a 25 years direct association with John Island Camp. Although he had been asked, he really had no idea as to the quantity of material that would be arriving and he was in a state of shock when he saw the huge mass of building materials that we were off loading on his property. I can tell you it was quite some time before I was back in Earl's good books.

Well, I could go on and on, which I guess I have. Even after all these years I still have such great memories of John Island, the Sudbury YMCA, the friendships formed and the great times we had together. As we say about John Island, this Camp will provide you with wonderful memories that will last a lifetime.....AND BELIEVE ME, IT DOES!!!!

Editor's Note: Following Bill's years with Sudbury YMCA and John Island Camp, Bill went on to be CEO of the YMCA in St. John's Newfoundland (Bill's home) and later to the YMCA-YWCA of Victoria as CEO. Bill and his wife Barbara are now living a retired life in Victoria.



Top Left: Skeet shooting on Front Beach 1910 (ever wonder what those black pieces of clay are from) Right: the steamer "Midland" in the back harbour 1911

Bottom Left: Sawmill worker bird hunting on John Island in 1916, Bottom Right: Relaxing on the porch of the 2-storey boarding house on John Island in 1915

CAMP RENEWAL CAMPAIGN COMING TO AN END

THE RENEWAL WORK WILL CONTINUE IN 2009 AND BEYOND.....

The \$895,000 capital campaign to finance the John Island renewal program is about to enter its last stages. Response from camp alumni and friends of the camp has been phenomenal. Over \$760,000 has been raised to date from alumni and friends of the camp and donations are still coming in. But, more help is still needed to reach our goal. If you have not yet supported the capital campaign, we need your help. Help keep John Island Camp the "treasure" that it was for you by providing for new cabins, new composting toilets, new kitchen and more. Pledges can be spread over the next 3 years and every donation helps. To make a donation, a pledge or for more information, contact: Gary Gray, YMCA Sudbury, 140 Durham Street, Sudbury, Ontario, P3E 3M7 (gary.gray@sudbury.ymca.ca)

WINTER VISITS TO JOHN ISLAND

PHOTOS FROM VISITS TO THE ISLAND IN 1909, 1967, 1969 & 2009

Clockwise from top left: the Dining Hall and unknown snowmachine driver 1967, winter canoeing ??? 1969, residents of the Island and saw mill workers 1909, the new shower building March 2009, the Kismet March 2009



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