

BEHIND THE BOOK
(Town of Caroga History)

by Barbara McMartin

As of this moment I still do not have a title for the history Emma Krause asked me to write for the Town of Caroga's bicentennial celebration. By the time you read this, I will have had to decide on a title and a picture for the cover, but right now, I am stumped. Somehow, A HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF CAROGA, sounds too stuffy, and it is a fun history. So I think that should be the subtitle, and I am desperately searching for a title. Some of the wild thoughts that have crossed my mind are, FROM SAWS TO SWINGERS, WOODLANDS TO VACTIONLANDS, TANBARK TO TANNING, or LOGGING TO LOAFING.

They are all terrible, but I'll keep thinking. Meanwhile, the book is nearly finished and I just stopped to think about a few of the things that went into it.

How many people do you suppose I have talked or written to? A hundred, you think? Way off! I have letters from 196 people. My phone bill is astronomical.

Over a thousand pictures were submitted and copied for the town's permanent records. I had to cut that down but there will still be over 400 illustrations in the history.

The book is either going to be 248 or 252 pages long. I sent 279 pages of typed manuscript to the typesetter. Then I had to type up 14 pages of captions for the pictures. I have had three people reading it for errors and typos and misspellings. It's a hopeless task.

On the other hand, I have never had so much fun researching anything in my life. Among the unusual bits of information I discovered was the date of the first Fourth of July fireworks celebration at Canada Lake. Would you guess 1910? Not even close! You will have to read the book to find out, but I'll give you a hint. It was over a hundred years ago!

There are stories about the earliest motor boat racing on Canada Lake, and I have illustrated them with pictures of the winning launches.

We have all heard about the elegant hotels that were on Canada Lake, but how many do you think there were? Two? Wrong! There was a very beautiful third hotel, one of the Adirondack's first show places.

How many steamers do you think there were? Two or three? I think I have counted eight so far, with hints of several others. And, I have pictures of most of them.

Who were the lakes first summer residents? This one really surprised me, for it was a bunch of tenters in West Lake that no one I know had ever heard of before, and the pictures of them are so fantastic I am sending some to the Adirondack Museum.

Have you ever seen a plank road? Would you like to know how to fill an ice house?

The only thing wrong with the book was the fact that some of the people I interviewed kept saying, "We sure had fun in those days. We did a lot of wild things." "What?", I'd ask. "Oh," would be the reply. "There were great times, but we cannot tell, and you could not print the stories." So, I'll never know, and I'll never get to put the wildest tales in the book, but there are still enough good stories in the book to keep you reading all summer, even if it is a rainy summer.

**Notice from
CAROGA LAKE VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Please join us at the Open House held at the Fire House on August 7, 1976 from 12:00 to 5:00 P.M. to help celebrate the Company's 25th year of fire protection.

*Mildred H. Busch, President
Caroga Lake Fire Auxiliary*

ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

Two newly constructed cushioned latexite surfaced courts at Kolod's Kamp-sites, Pine Lake.

LIMITED MEMBERSHIP - Unlimited play.

Schenectady Phone 393-4887

Pine Lake Phone 835-3895 (Weekends only until June 25)

PLEASE SEND ME MORE INFORMATION

Name _____

Address _____

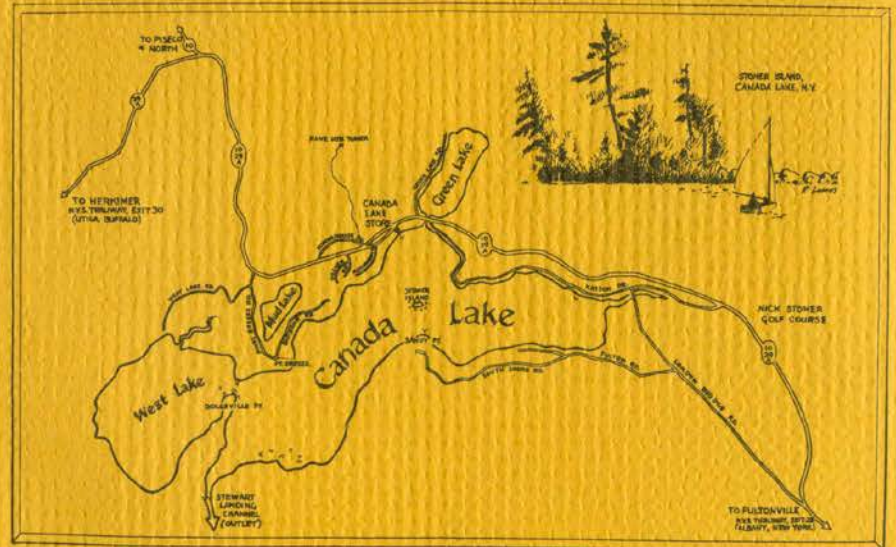
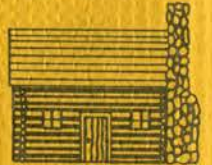
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

MAIL TO: Gary Kolod
162 Dartmouth St.
Schenectady, N.Y. 12304



1776-1976



x's on map indicate approximate location of rock hazards in lake. Caution is advised when boating in the vicinity of any indicated hazard.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS SUMMER — 1976

JUNE

26 C.L.P.A. Director's Meeting 8:00 P.M.
Bernie Caringe's camp

JULY

4 Flare lighting 9:45 P.M.
17 C.L.P.A. meeting 8:00 P.M.
Wheelerville School
21 Luncheon & Card Party 12:00 Noon
Pinnacle Restaurant

AUGUST

5 Dinner Meeting with Town 6:30 P.M.
Bd., Pinnacle Rest.
26 Bd. of Directors Meeting 8:00 P.M.
Bernie Caringe's camp
28 Flare Lighting 9:00 P.M.
29 Boat Parade 2:30 P.M.

Please note that additional dates of special bi-centennial events for the summer season, 1976, are listed separately in this bulletin.

1976 OFFICERS

President Doug Leaf - 835-8454
1st Vice Pres. Bernie Caringe - 835-3887
2nd Vice Pres. John Kasson - 835-6571
Secretary Mabel Kane - 835-4070
Treasurer & Budget
Director Gerry Theisen - 835-2516
Directors 1 yr Bill Bates - 835-4170
Mildred Carsky -
Bob Wilbur -
Arden Zipp -
Directors 2 yrs John Brower -
Warren Denny - 835-8160
John Kasson - 835-6751
Clare Mason - 835-9645
Al White - 835-8560
Directors 3 yrs Hazel Batty - 835-6041
Ron Buckner -
Dennis DeLorier - 835-8559
Hal Egan - 835-2344
Maurie Evans -
Bill Fielding - 835-6069
Jack Fielding - 835-6061
Dick Hall - 835-2284
Peter Jung - 835-2861
Mert Lesser - 835-2526
Dick Ruby -

1976 COMMITTEES

Bicentennial Ginger Mason, Cindy Leaf
Boat Parade Arden Zipp
Bridge Parties Clare Mason, Barb Leaf
CLPA Representatives Bob Wilbur,
to Stewart Landing Assn. A. Zipp
Dam B. Caringe, H. Egan, J. Kasson
Echo Bill Bates
Flares Hal Egan
Fire Safety John Kasson, Dennis DeLorier
Fishing Mert Lesser, John Kasson
Island Maintenance Dennis DeLorier,
Bill Fielding
Membership John Fielding
Nominating Clare Mason, George Hansen,
Henry Stueber, Bob Wilbur
Planning Board & Hal Egan,
Environmental Comm. Hazel Batty,
Mildred Carsky, John Kasson
Pollution Phil Boyd, John Brown,
Ron Buckner, Warren Denny
Publicity Arden Zipp
Sailing Gerry Theisen
Water Safety Al White, Maurice Evans,
Bob Wilbur
Youth Activities Dennis DeLorier

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our nation's "Bicentennial Year" has arrived. Let's all fly the flag and get involved in our "Bicentennial Program".

Last year brought us further progress on our fire safety and protection program. More remains to be done and we ask your cooperation and assistance. We need volunteers. This would be a great place for our young people to participate. Please come forward.

Despite adverse weather conditions, the water ski show put on by our young people was a great success. Many people put in a lot of hard work and practice to make the show an event to remember. They plan to repeat the ski show and expand their program. Let's all get behind the youngsters and give them the support and cooperation they so richly deserve. (Continued, page 4)

Please notify Mr. John O. Fielding, 27 Midline Road, Ballston Lake, N.Y. 12019, if your address has been changed recently.

ECHOES

Bob and Eleanor Wilbur, Dolgeville Point, spent the winter in Florida, trailering in their new Holiday to such points as Clearwater, Homosassa, Melbourne and Leesburg. Robert and Barbara and family live in Bushnell, making many family reunions possible. The Wilburs are also occupied with square dancing.

Bill Wilbur, Ann and the twins, are residing in Panama where Bill is pastor of a Community Church for Government workers.

Larry Wilbur with wife Pam, and son Joshua, are in Cheyenne, Wyoming, where he is stationed at Warren A.F.B. Captain Wilbur is a Helicopter Pilot.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto W. Stahler spent a week in Lake Tahoe skiing and then went to San Francisco for a week with their son, Lt. Scott W. Stahler, who is a Navy Pilot stationed at Moffat Naval Air Station. Scott is a 1971 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. The Stahlers have had a camp on Kasson Drive for 30 years.

News of the Short family: Son, Thomas Short, age 33, was killed in an airplane crash in Utah on August 1. His body was located on September 29th, after two months of searching.

Ned Wells, father of Marg Short, and a real old Canada Laker, passed away at the age of 88, in March.

Peggy Anne Short Watson and husband, Paul, will both be getting their Doctorates at the University of Texas this year.

Walt and Marg Short are great, and looking forward to a wonderful summer on West Lake.

The James C. Bates family from Atlanta, Ga., will be spending most of the summer at their new cottage on Channel Road.

Douglas and Barbara Leaf are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, Cindy, to Mark Riess. Mark graduated from Bucknell University in May. Cindy, a Junior at Bucknell, will graduate next May. Cindy will be working at the Canada Lake store again this summer, and Dee-dee has a job at Pine Lake.

News from the Bill Bates family: Deonie recently graduated from St. Michael's College, Burlington, Vt. on May 30; and Jeff Bates will be spending most of the summer at Camp Dudley on Lake Champlain.

Note from Ed and Margaret Vosburgh, Dolgeville, N.Y.:

We had a visit from Eleanor and Lorenz Franz. They stopped in Durham on their way to Florida and Louisiana. They went to see Kurt Franz, at Tulane.

Our daughter Diane, husband Lowell and children Liana and Ward will arrive in the East in time to join the celebration of the Bicentennial in Dolgeville. They report that their Vietnamese family of five (who stayed in their home 3 or 4 months) are now completely self-supporting. Lowell and Diane feel that they will make fine citizens. They attend church regularly, go to night school and two of the children are doing well in school (the third child is still too young to go.)

Mrs. Helen Powell writes that her family, Bill, Jerry, and one daughter, plan to be in camp for most of the summer, arriving late in June. Bill is now retired from the Navy so can stay until he has to get Penny back for college. Bill's son is an ensign in the Navy, and his other daughter is married.

The Whites (Mr. & Mrs. Alvan W. White, Jr.) are looking forward to a wonderful summer at Canada Lake. Donald has just finished his second year at St. Lawrence University. He is looking forward to his job as Resident Assistant during his Junior Year. He will be painting camps at the Lake again this summer. Susan spent a happy winter working at the Round Top Ski area near Killington, Vermont. She enjoyed skiing many other Vermont areas on her days off.

George Rohrs Jr. and family now live in Winnetka, Illinois, as George works for J. Walter Thompson Co. in Chicago.

Chris Rohrs has just been appointed National Sales Manager for the Albany, N.Y. television station WTEN - Channel 10. He now lives outside Albany "on the way to the Lake".

Judy (Rohrs) Donnelly and husband Bill lost their cow barn at Morrisville in an arson set fire last October. New barn now going up.

This will be the 57th year at Canada Lake for the Rohrs-Healey families.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert E. Bacheider have had a wonderful winter in New Hyde Park and Florida. They bought a house in Beverly Hills, Florida, and expect to spend their winters there, and summers at Canada Lake, at their cottage on Kasson Drive.

(Continued, page 5)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(from page 2)

New York State has agreed to our request to hold the water level to 1542.83 ft. between May 15 and October 1. There will of course be fluctuation in the water level due to spring thaw and flash rain storms but this will be our objective.

I would like to express my thanks to all your officers and directors for the fine job they are doing. All of these people put in a lot of time and effort in your behalf. They make your association what it is.

We urge you to attend the annual meeting on July 17th and give us the benefit of your thoughts on our endeavors. The C.L.P.A. is your association. Promote membership in the C.L.P.A. with all your neighbors. Please send in your dues as soon as possible if you have not already done so.

Welcome to the 1976 season at our beautiful Canada Lakes. We wish you a healthy, happy and safe season and look forward to seeing all of you soon again.

Sincerely,
Douglass Leaf, Jr.



photo by Nancy Young

SAILING

Dear Sailors & Lovers of Sailing:

Welcome to the 1976 Sailing season at Canada Lake!

The '75 season is behind us and represented an innovative year in which two series of eight races each were established and successfully completed. The winners are listed below by Series, Class and Place:

	July Series	August Series
Sunfish A	1. R. Fink 1. D. White 3. M. Cannon	1. G. Theisen 2. R. Fink
Sunfish B	1. E. Partenope 2. R. Fischer 3. M. Osborne	1. A. Fiedler 2. A. DeLorier 3. C. Kirsch
420	1. C. Young 2. R. Loomis	1. R. Loomis 2. J. Castilloux
Open	1. D. Cannon 2. B. McIntosh	1. C. Cannon 2. B. McIntosh

Two special events in '75 drew many participants from all parts of our Lakes. The Fourth Races consisted of an exciting two race series with the following winners and placers:

Sunfish A	1. G. Young	2. N. Young
Sunfish B	1. E. Partenope	2. B. Fischer, M. Evans
420	1. C. Young	2. C. Michaels
Open	1. W. Gay	2. C. Cannon

The Sunfish Team Races attracted 7 teams of 3 boats each. The winning team was selected via sailing a round robin series with each team sailing against the other six teams. Thus there was a total of 21 races sailed in one afternoon - many thanks to an exhausted committee! The winners of the perpetual trophy, the Patterson-Long Team, nosed out the White team by just 1 1/4 pts; each team won 5 out of its 6 races!

The Bogart Trophies are traditionally awarded to the most persistent and improved young sailors on the lake and in '75 went to a very deserving Chris Kirsch and Bob Fischer. We look for their continued participation and sportsmanship in the coming summer.

The '76 season is just around the corner. Your sailing committee has again established Two Series of eight races each. The specific dates for the July Series and for the August Series are listed on the schedule in this "Echo". Please note that skippers may sail only 3 of the 4 race days in a series and still qualify for trophies in that series. Special events are planned in addition:

- the "Fourth" Trophy Races on July 4,
- a Special Bicentennial Handicap Trophy Race on July 17 (3 PM),
- The Annual Sunfish Team Races on August 15, and
- the Olde Tymers' Race on September 4.

An interesting array of Social Events awaits sailors and all friends of sailing at Canada Lake in 1976. Whereas the Traditional Pot Luck has yet to be decided upon (give your opinions at the annual meeting!) you may add the following to your social calendar:



photo by Nancy Young

July 4th: The Yuenger-Michaels Bicentennial Kick-Off Cocktail Party from 4 to 6 PM on the Yuenger dock. Period costumes should be worn if possible! There will be a prize for the most appropriate costume!! Also the 4th of July Race Trophies will be awarded.

July 31st: The July Series Awards Party at the camp of Paul and Marty Franz. A keg-o-beer and a canoe-o-soda are planned - 5-7 PM.

August 28th: The August Series Awards Party at the camp of Court and Nancy Young. A grog and soda combination is planned - 5-7 PM.

Be sure to place the socials high on your list of priorities this season. Remember that dock space is limited at all 3 events, so team up for transportation. Keep a watch on the Sailing Bulletin Board at the Canada Lake Store for details and race results.

Two very special groups of people make such a full season possible. The Safety Boats provide an important rescue service (when needed) and make it possible for our novice sailors to participate. The operators of these boats volunteer their time and gas to reduce the number of premature gray hairs on the heads of concerned guardians! The volunteers who sit in the committee boat starting and scoring our multiple races while the hot sun beats down also deserve our praise! A hearty thanks to these enthusiastic supporters of our sport!!

Post the schedule, make a special effort to attend the clinics (they are for you) and practice hard for this bicentennial season! See you at the **Annual Meeting on July 4** at 9 A.M. on Jean Curran's Dock. LUCK!

Your CLSC directors,
Court Young, Jean Curran
Dick Loomis, Charlie Michaels,
Paul Franz and Gerry Theisen

ECHOES

(from page 3)

Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Knapp are now living at 7221 Fairway Blvd., Miramar, Florida 33023. Their daughter, Donna, is a student at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. They are looking forward to their summer on Canada Lake this year with extra interest. Their son, Bill, is getting married on August 14 to Miss Anita Esper, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John Esper of Gloversville. Bill is a fireman for the city of Gloversville.

TOWN OF CAROGA CHURCHES

Caroga Chapel

Starting July 4 thru Labor Day -
Sing-a-long at 10:45 A.M.
Services 11:00 A.M.

St. Barbara's Chapel

June: Sat. Mass 5:15 P.M.
Sun. Mass 9:00 A.M.

July - Labor Day:

Sat. Mass 5:15 P.M.
Sun. Mass 9:00 A.M.
10:30 A.M.
12:00 Noon

After Labor Day in Sept. - same as June

Oct: Sun. Mass. 9:00 A.M.

Father Flannigan - Tel. 725-3197

NEWS FROM CANADA LAKE STORE

The ice went out of the lake over the beautiful Easter weekend we had this year, but it doesn't seem too springlike with the various snowfalls we've had in May. On May 19th at least 5 inches of heavy snow fell.

However our thoughts are still directed to the summer season ahead. But before we become too busy, another Fielding will arrive on the scene in early June.

We are very pleased that Cindy Leaf, Sheila McIntosh, Brian McIntosh, and Jane Sheffer will be returning to help us in the store.

A whole hearted support of the post office, which will open June 14th, should certainly be a large consideration for all of us. The garbage collection service sponsored by the store for those not located on town roads will also resume.

We have a limited number of the new Liberty Sunfish made by AMF Alcott in honor of the Bicentennial.

We have discovered some unique Adirondack stationery and animal track charts that should interest many of you. In addition, we are expanding our cheese department for all those cheese lovers.

The Bicentennial book of the Town of Caroga will be sold in the store as soon as it becomes available.

We are looking forward to seeing our old friends and making new ones too. We hope that everyone has an enjoyable summer.

Bill & Dorothy Fielding

Enclosed is a reprint of an up-to-date bulletin pertaining to the status of the Wheelerville Union Free School.



BI-CENTENNIAL NOTES

Hi Folks!

Well, the summer is approaching and I and my co-worker, Cindy Leaf, feel that we have mapped out for you some fun-type activities for this Bi-centennial year. Many of you have responded with enthusiasm and some have offered their own ideas. This is great! The following is a reprint of our program with a change of date. The boat parade has been changed from July 4th to August 29th at 2:30 P.M. We are still in need of chairmen for the canoe races and the swimming races. Let me know if you are interested. I hope that you are all making things for the bazaar and I am still taking recipes, if you haven't sent them yet.

We are planning 4 major activities for the coming Bi-centennial Celebration in 1976. We hope that you will help us in planning, or by participating in one or more of the activities.

Please check off the events that you would like to participate in, and send to Ginger Mason, 178 First Avenue, Gloversville, N.Y.) or phone me during the summer at my Canada Lake number, 835-9645. Thank you.

SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL BI-CENTENNIAL EVENTS for SUMMER of 1976

July 10 - Anyone interested in swimming races or canoe races for Bicentennial, meet at Mason's dock, South Shore Road, on Saturday at 10 A.M.

July 17-18, BI-CENTENNIAL WATER SHOW

Sailing Races, Canoe Races, Water-skiing Show, Swimming Races

July 25 BI-CENTENNIAL BAZAAR Host or Hostesses

Handcrafts - We hope that those of you who make, paint, or sew things, will make something to sell at our bazaar. Next summer, baked goods will be needed.

Aug. 8 - CANADA LAKE HISTORICAL HOUSE TOUR

Aug. 25 - SKIT, SONG AND GAMES NIGHT

NEEDED - Actors for Skits, Singers for Barbershop Quartet, Game Organizers, Other Talent, Refreshments

RECIPES - Send your oldest and most favorite recipes to Ginger Mason for a Recipe Book.

COSTUMES - Dig up Grandparents' old clothes for skit costumes.

Chairman, Ginger Mason
Co-chairman, Cindy Leaf

SPECIAL NOTICE

Under separate cover a reprint of a booklet explaining the early development of Canada Lake is being mailed from the Canada Lake Post Office. The original copy of this publication was loaned to us by Emma Krause. The C.L.P.A. Officers and Directors felt this might be a nice keepsake for all members to have in this 1976 Bicentennial Year. If you don't receive a copy, please contact Dorothy Fielding at the Canada Lake Store, or call Bill Bates on 835-4170.

NOTICE

Below is a recap of information received from the New York State Fisheries Management Dept. to the C.L.P.A. Fishing Committee.

Canada Lake has been a real "problem child" to us in recent years, and we really want to make a substantial improvement in the fishery there.

To this end, I am tentatively scheduling the lake for a full scale investigative survey in 1976 to see where we go from here.

Gene A. Lane
Regional Fisheries Manager

AT CANADA LAKE

by Joann V. Mason

We're at the lake again.

It is spring.

The air is cold and blustery.

The camp is still there.

It smells like fresh pine inside.

We find no visitors there from the previous winter.

It is always nice to back in the woods.

The woods are cold and deep, tho' still bleak.

The mountains slope swiftly down to the water's edge.

The mud is soft and gooey.

Leaves have blown over the earth like a spring blanket.

Sticks crackle beneath your feet on the path.

The deep blue waves whip across the lake.

They are powerful and free.

The small white camps with red roofs look like doll houses across the lake.

The island welcomes us back.

Its trees are like three small sentinels in a solitary place.

Again! Again!

We are back at Canada Lake for another year in the sun.



LADIES!!

A warm invitation is extended to all the gals on our lake to attend the annual lunch and card party to be held Wednesday, July 21, at the Pinnacle Restaurant. Come at noon for a cocktail, enjoy a relaxing lunch in a beautiful setting and stay on, if you wish, for an afternoon of bridge or card game of your choice. (Bring your own cards, and we'll supply the prizes!)

This has always been a very pleasant way to get together with old friends and to visit with others we don't have a chance to see as often as we'd like. So do get a table together, and call in your reservation to Barbara Leaf at 835-6454 or Claire Mason at 835-9645. We'll let you know as soon as possible the cost of the lunch. See you at the Pinnacle!!

Barbara Leaf, Chairman

Reprint from Gloversville-Johnstown Leader Herald dated Sept. 11, 1975.

The first Canada Lake Regatta was held Sunday Sept. 1, 1929. Hundreds of visitors were attracted to the northern resort. The racing course was laid out over 10 miles to give the cottagers an opportunity to witness the races which they sponsored.

The starting line was opposite the Hawley dancing pavilion and buoys were set to mark the course to and around Stoner Island. Once around made a lap of two miles.

The first race, four miles, was for rowboats with kickers for which William Lacek of West Canada Lake won a prize of paddles and a life belt. The second race, six miles, for runabouts was won by Fox Sponable. The third race, six miles for Class B outboards was won by A. F. Boblin.

Clayton O'Dell, Johnstown, won the Class C 6-mile fourth race and the fifth race, eight miles, for Class D outboards was won by C. Nealy. Nealy also won the 10-mile free-for-all. A silver cup was awarded the winner of each race.

At the start of the fourth race a near tragedy was averted when John Strong, Gloversville, went to the aid of Ford Trask, who in swinging his craft to avoid a collision with another boat tipped over. His life belt caught in the rigging of the boat. Strong, realizing his predicament, plunged into the lake to help Trask.

Judges for the races were Burt Z. Kasson, Ernest Lucas, W. W. Strong and Frank Willard.

The event was such a success that a second regatta was held Sunday Aug. 17, 1930. The program included outboard, inboard, canoe and aquaplane competition. Professional drivers from Albany, Schenectady, Lake George, Utica and Syracuse participated.

Local and vicinity winners were Chandler Sodin, W. Angus and Bobby Boblin. Thrills were furnished when William Stilwell won the aquaplane race and also excelled in fancy maneuvers.

The prizes were silver loving cups which had been on display at the E. L. Durkee Company store on Main Street. The committee in charge of the races consisted of Clayton O'Dell, E. G. Willard and A. Boblin. The judges for the races included Burt Z. Kasson of Gloversville; O'Dell, Willard and Harry S. Sponenberg, all of Johnstown.

Frank Tyoe, Canada Lake, representing the New York State Motorboat Racing Association, was present and commended the officials for staging the regatta.

During the year, if you have any personal news items, or news items pertaining to Canada Lake and vicinity, please forward to Bill Bates, 15 Union Ave., Slingerlands, 12159