



A Newsletter of the
Town of Sturgeon Bay Lakeshore Area
Published twice yearly

Autumn 2023; Volume 23, no. 2

President's Post

by Gary Wolkstein (2822 LFPR)

president@lakeforestparkrd.org



Greetings to the Lake Forest Park Road Association (LFPR) community. My name is Gary Wolkstein and I am honored to step into the role of President to serve this active and interesting community. As we bid farewell to the capable leadership of Jeff Feuerstein, I am excited to continue his legacy of fostering camaraderie and a shared love for Lake Forest Park Road. Jeff's energy and guidance have been instrumental in ensuring a smooth transition. I appreciate his ongoing advice.

Our community has a shared commitment to preserving the natural beauty and quality of life along Lake Forest Park Road. With the magnificent Lake Michigan as our backdrop, we find ourselves in a unique and privileged position to connect with our neighbors and share valuable information.

My wife Elizabeth and I have resided at our cottage at 2822 Lake Forest Park Road since 2002. With three children and five granddaughters, our summers are filled with music, joy, and laughter. Our journey led us to retire to Door County, a dream we now live every May through October, while winters find us in Sarasota, Florida.

My background spans music and law. From my years as a music professor at Lawrence University to my time as an Attorney and Wisconsin Administrative Law Judge, I've been fortunate to wear many hats. Together with Elizabeth's career as a professional harpist, our life journey has been diverse and fulfilling.

As we venture into this fall season, I'd like to thank some board and committee members who have been particularly helpful to the association during this transitional period:

- David Wood: Our Vice-President whose computer expertise, skillful beer brewing, and collegial spirit bring a new energy. He's spearheading an improved email system and contributing to the development of broadband in Door County.
- Kim Krueger: The creative force behind our newsletter, *Between Lake and Forest*. Her organizational and publishing skills give life to our stories, creating a bond that connects us.
- Annette Vincent: Our Treasurer, bringing years of financial experience to our team. Her dedication ensures our association's financial health, and her hospitality adds warmth to our meetings.
- Dennis and Bonnie Connolly: for their in-person warm and engaging welcoming of new residents, and for their generosity in providing the delicious treats at our June annual meeting at Crossroads.
- Paul Lutzke and Bob and Eileen Brown: for their hard work and commitment to making Octoberfest an enjoyable community celebration.
- Doug McGee: for his dedication and organizational skills in arranging our wonderful Winter Dinner.

Thank you for your continued support of the Road Association. I want to encourage new and ongoing LFPR members to contact me about volunteering in our organization; see my article on this subject later in these pages. I look forward to future events, and invite your suggestions and ideas.

Warm regards,

Gary

Calendar of Events

2023

- o **Sunday, October 1:** Fall Newsletter articles/photos DUE to Kim Krueger at 805shiva@gmail.com
- o **Sunday, October 15:** Fall Newsletter distribution deadline via email (may be earlier)
- o **Saturday, October 14: Octoberfest! 5 pm, Sawyer Park Pavilion**

2024

- o **Saturday, January 13:** Winter Dinner at The Nightingale Supper Club. Cocktails: 5 pm; Dinner: 6 pm
- o **Monday, April 1:** Spring Newsletter articles/photos **DUE** to Kim Krueger at 805shiva@gmail.com
- o **Monday, April 15:** Spring Newsletter distribution deadline via email (may be earlier)
- o **Wednesday, May 1:** 2024 Membership forms (online or paper) **DUE** to Jon Krainak at jonathan.krainak@gmail.com for inclusion in the 2024 Road Directory.
- o **Saturday, June (DATE TBD):** Annual Meeting @ Crossroads. **Annual dues** are payable to LFPRA to Treasurer Annette Vincent. 2024 Road Directories should be available for pickup.
- o **June-September, 12th of the month:** PiPPs (Picnic in Portage Park), 5 pm

Same Place, Some New Faces

We saw many changes on the road this year. New people moving in, old friends moving on, renovations to existing homes, and some brand new home construction, as well as the installation of a natural gas service line for some properties.

There have also been some changes in the leadership of the road association. On the following page you will find contact information for all of the officers, board members, committees, and volunteers of the road association.

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work



We can always use more help and would love to see new faces, so please reach out to the person or people in charge of what interests you. It's a minimal time commitment and a fun way to build community.

Please see our new Association President's article on this topic later in this newsletter.

Lake Forest Park Road Association Officers		
President	Gary Wolkstein	president@lakeforestparkrd.org
Vice-President	David Wood	vicepresident@lakeforestparkrd.org
Treasurer	Annette Vincent	treasurer@lakeforestparkrd.org
Board Member	Bob Brown	skybob70@yahoo.com
Board Member	Eileen Brown	ebrown3@aol.com
Board Member	Paul Lutzke	paullutzke@hotmail.com
Board Member	Pat Nell	patnell1914@gmail.com
Committees and Volunteers		
Adopt-a-Road	Dennis Connolly	dconnoll@charter.net
	Paul Lutzke	paullutzke@hotmail.com
	Gina Morgan	gina3@charter.net
Broadband	Jeff Feuerstein	jefffeuerstein@hotmail.com
	David Wood	vicepresident@lakeforestparkrd.org
Directory/Database Manager	Jon Krainak	jonathan.krainak@gmail.com
Facebook Page	Kim Krueger	805shiva@gmail.com
Moderators	Paul Lutzke	paullutzke@hotmail.com
Historian	John Vincent	jsvco@sbcglobal.net
Newsletter Editor	Kim Krueger	805shiva@gmail.com
Oktoberfest	Bob Brown	skybob70@yahoo.com
	Paul Lutzke	paullutzke@hotmail.com
PIPP Signs	Jeff Feuerstein	jefffeuerstein@hotmail.com
	Paul Lutzke	paullutzke@hotmail.com
	Gary Wolkstein	president@lakeforestparkrd.org
Propane Representatives	Mike Johnston	mlj.mike.johnston@gmail.com
	Rod Miller	roderickemiller@aol.com
Welcome Committee	Bonnie & Dennis Connolly	dconnoll@charter.net
	Jean Laundrie	dlaundrie@charter.net
Winter Dinner	Doug McGee	dpmcgee1925@charter.net

Changes

Please make note of the following changes in your Directory. In June 2024, we will publish a new LFPR Road Directory, which is included with your paid road association membership. Please report any address, phone number and similar updates to the Directory/Database Manager, jonathan.krainak@gmail.com. Other life changes and news may be sent to Kim Krueger at 805shiva@gmail.com.

New Association Members

Jason & Amy Bouche, 3317 LFPR

9447 Hump Road, Brussels, WI 54204
 amybouche3@gmail.com
 jasonbouche@hotmail.com
 920-493-0086 (Jason)
 920-493-1518 (Amy)

Colleen Crowell & Joey Funk, 3168 LFPR

colleen.crowell@gmail.com
 920-818-0047
 847-542-5120 (Colleen)
 773-870-1491 (Joey)

Cecilia Gerber & Daniel Elvira, 3201 LFPR

3S124 Pattermann Rd., Warrenville, IL 60555
 630-715-1528 (Cecilia)
 630-300-4396 (Daniel)

Scott & Wende Tucker, 3344 LFPR

271 EMS C29 Ln, Warsaw, IN 46582

Directory Changes

Eileen Andera and Mary & John Meisser, 3166 LFPR

New address for the Meissers:
 2705 E. Moraine Dr.
 Kewaskum, WI 53040-9750

Brad & Jenn Engel, 3224 LFPR

New address:
 4148 S. Derby Dr.
 Bloomington, IN 47401-8347

Tom & Cheryl Horvath, 3392 LFPR

New address:
 2025 Vine St. #201
 LaCrosse, WI 54601

Barbara Kanzler & Laurie Mack, 3456 NLM

New addresses:
Barb Kanzler (misspelled *Kanzer* in Directory)
 5325 Meadow Lane
 Downers Grove, IL 60515
 630-660-2998

Laurie Mack

224 Galewood Drive
 Bolingbrook, IL 60440
 630-750-3681

Members Moved Away

Charles and Joanne Dull, formerly 3650 Creek Drive, Sturgeon Bay

Moved to 1445 Village Drive, Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Passings

Catherine Farrell, 2507 LFPR

Passed away June 20, 2023.
 Survived by her daughter Anna and other family members.

Daniel Herrbold, 4520 County T

Passed away in December, 2022.
 Survived by his wife Ann and son Jason.

Volunteers Enrich Our Community

by Gary Wolkstein (2822 LFPR)

I want to invite new and longtime residents of Lake Forest Park Road to consider becoming a volunteer in some aspect of the LFPR organization.

We all know how busy and hectic our lives can be, even in retirement. However, whether you are in a pre-retirement or post-retirement stage of life, there are times when volunteering for a project of your choice or creation is a wonderful opportunity to make new neighborhood friends, feel more a part of the community, and have a positive impact on this active and diverse community.

There are two potential projects which were discussed, and in general terms approved, during our July transitional board meeting:

- 1) An outdoor art show featuring neighborhood artists, to take place in a convenient location in order to share the talents of our neighbors.
- 2) A musical performance, outside or possibly inside, to share local musical talent.

For either option, we need an enterprising, energetic person or people to step up to organize one of these projects -- or another creative venture -- for next season.

These potential projects can be great ways to connect with our neighbors, create new shared events, and enrich our lives in the community.

If you are intrigued, please email me at president@lakeforestparkrd.org or telephone me at (920) 746-0144. Thank you!

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What Do You Like to Do?

by Donna Janning (2675-80 LFPR)

Common interest groups can achieve many wonderful things. They can get us out of the house, off social media, and away from the television. They can teach us new things and let us have fun. Most importantly, they bring us together, face to face, and increase camaraderie and community.

Would you be willing to start a group? It's EASY. Just begin by asking one other person. I did it this summer with the women's book group, and now it's off and running.

Here are a few possibilities:

- Hiking as a group along one of the many Door County trails, followed by food and a few cold ones at a local watering hole.
- Kayaking in season around the peninsula.
- Board games at The Gnoshery on Third Avenue.
- Card games at any of our great local coffee shops.
- Bike riding.
- Bowling. (It's free on Wednesday nights at Cherry Lanes!)
- Music jam.



When you start to think about it, the opportunities are endless, and the results can be amazing. So take the plunge! What do **you** like to do? Call someone, and get something started.

Lake Forest Park Road Association Oktoberfest

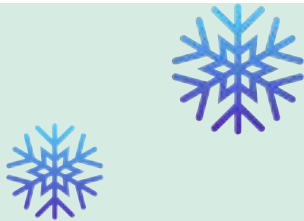
by Paul Lutzke (3301 LFPR)

Dust off your *lederhosen*, because it's time for Oktoberfest! Association members in good standing (membership dues paid up) are invited to join us on **Saturday, October 14 at 5:00 p.m.** at the **Sawyer Park Pavilion** in Sturgeon Bay.

The Pavilion is at 36 S. Neenah, at the intersection of Neenah and East Oak, on the west side of the canal, near the Oregon Street Bridge.

We will enjoy a delicious meal catered by Sonny's, featuring Italian beef and fried chicken, along with some tasty side dishes and dessert.

Please bring your own beverages and a chair if you like. There is ample picnic table seating provided at the Pavilion. *Prost!*



Winter Dinner

by Doug McGee (3268 LFPR)

In 2023, we recorded our largest Winter Dinner attendance **EVER**, with over 60 neighbors and guests coming together at the Nightingale Supper Club in Sturgeon Bay. It was a festive time with great food, and a wonderful way to catch up with old friends and make some new ones, especially after the last years of isolation.

Be sure to join the fun this year! Mark your calendars for the 2024 Winter Dinner on **Saturday, January 13**, at the **Nightingale Supper Club**. Cocktails at **5:00**; dinner from the menu at **6:00**.

RSVP to me at dpmcgee1925@charter.net or call (920) 743-8684 **by January 10**.

See you there!



A New Chapter: The Third Thursday Book Club

by Kim Krueger (3364 LFPR)

This past summer, Donna Janning (2675-80 LFPR) and a congenial group of enthusiastic readers started a women's book group.

We meet on the third Thursday of the month at Fifth & Jefferson Coffeehouse for treats and some light literary discussion. If you'd like to be a part of the group, please email Donna at dwjanning@gmail.com.



Image credit: Clare Schneider, NPR

Here's our book report thus far:

June: The First Lady of World War II: Eleanor Roosevelt's Daring Journey to the Frontlines and Back by Shannon McKenna Schmidt (biography). A fascinating First Lady, in a story somewhat dryly told.

July: The Dry by Jane Harper (mystery/thriller). Highly atmospheric and creepy murder mystery set in sun-baked Australia. Excellent writing.

August: Once We Were Home: A Novel by Jennifer Rosner (historical fiction). Fascinating tale following several World War II Holocaust orphans. This well-written book poses thoughtful questions about the meaning of identify and family.

September: Out of Darkness by Ashley Hope Perez (historical fiction/banned book). This 2015 young adult novel, inspired by a deadly gas explosion in 1937 at a Texas school, earned several national awards. In 2021, it was banned in Texas. A harrowing story, but excellently written and very compelling.

The **October** reading selection is: A Bed by the Window by M. Scott Peck, a "novel of mystery and redemption", as described by the late author.

We will meet once again at **Fifth and Jefferson Coffeehouse** on **Thursday, October 19 at 10:00 a.m.**

Please bring a few ideas of titles you'd like to read in the future and we'll work as a group to make selections for the upcoming months. The current plan is to continue the group through the winter, so if you're an interested year-round female resident, please attend the October meeting, or you can email Donna (email address above) or Kim Krueger at 805shiva@gmail.com to be added to the email list.

Happy reading!

The Pigeon Whisperer: Annette Vincent to the Rescue

by Kim Krueger (3364 LFPR)

Annette Vincent (2794 LFPR), Road Association Treasurer, can now add "Racing Pigeon Rescuer" to her résumé.

Annette discovered "Number 17", a Canadian racing pigeon who had gone astray, sitting nearly motionless on her beach. She offered him some birdseed (which he eagerly gobbled up) and brought him inside to recover.

From an ID tag on his leg, Annette learned that the pigeon hailed from Toronto, Canada, and had been in a race from Longlac to Toronto, when he went off course, likely due to bad weather. She contacted his owner, Toronto surgeon Dr. Hossam Yassein, who was very happy to learn that the bird had been located.

Number 17 couldn't have ended up in a better place, since Annette has experience rescuing animals and handling birds. "Mr. Pigeon", as she called Number 17, spent his recovery in a dog crate in the Vincents' basement. In late July, he lifted off and took flight.

He never made it back across the border. While trying to circle the lake, he was was attacked by a hawk. Fortunately, his luck held out and he was rescued by a pigeon fancier in Rosholt, WI, who adopted him permanently, after consulting with his Canadian owner.

All's well that ends well for one of the luckiest birds ever, as Number 17 (or Mr. Pigeon) enjoys his retirement in his new stateside coop.



The errant "Number 17", AKA "Mr. Pigeon"

Content adapted from "An Unlikely Door County Visitor",
by Emma Chamley, *Door County Pulse*, 8/3/2023,
with additional information from Annette Vincent.

Pets of the Road

by LFPR pet moms



Name: Ned Engel, 3224 LFPR
Hails from: I was rescued as a puppy from a bad situation and have since lived a life of utter leisure. Well deserved!
Breed: Malamute
Loves: Cheese, going for hikes, and digging in the sand on the beach.
Special skill: Watching over the grill while Dad barbecues; I take my job in quality control quite seriously!



Name: Cher Bennett, 3370 LFPR
Age/Breed: 3 year old Chihuahua mix
Hails from: Heavenly Ever After in Green Bay, but I'm a Texas gal by birth.
Loves: Snuggling
Unsure about: Kayaking



Name: Cica Sandor, 2980 LFPR
Profession: Watch Cat
Special skill: ESP!!!
I know, even while napping inside the house, when someone or something has arrived, and I meow the alert!



Name: Bailey Zwick, 3236 LFPR
Likes: Walks on the road (especially when I see my buddy Dexter), in the fen, and along the canal path.
Hates: I go berserk when I see deer!



Name: Winnie Wingert, 2914 LFPR
Age/Breed: 4 year old yellow lab
Likes: Yard exploration, playing fetch in the lake, sitting right here watching the world go by.
Personality: Gentle and loving with my family. I think everyone should love me!
Profession: Guardian of Chippewa Road, the Wingert domicile, and the beach. I am an unstoppable barker!



Pets of the Road (continued)

by LFPR pet moms



Name: Holly Wadkins, 2986 LFPR

Likes: Decorating our house with dirty laundry so I can smell my humans everywhere.

Special skills:

Fitness Trainer: Mom needs more exercise so I lead her on a marathon through all our neighbors' yards.

Social Chairperson:

Mom needs more friends so I bark at the neighbors...I don't understand why she just screams she's sorry and yells my name!

Dog-About-Town: I love to hang my head out the car window barking *super loud* to say "Hi!" Mom just rolls up the window. She's so anti-social.



Name: Taffy Brown, 3122 LFPR



Name: Dexter T. Dog Krueger, 3364 LFPR

Age/Breed: 3 year old Jack Russell mix

Hails from: Door Co. Humane Society, but I was born in Racine.

Loves: Socializing on walks, *relentlessly* fetching my bone, peanut butter, popcorn, and tunneling under the covers.

Hates: Deer, rabbits, and getting my nails done.

Special skills: I have a blast furnace core temperature - a sweat lodge has nothin' on me! I also have the body density of an NFL linebacker; excellent for tackling. I'm small but mighty.

Many thanks to Nancy Bennett, Eileen Brown, Jenn Engel, Carol Hollar-Zwick, Ruth Sandor, Mercedes Wadkins, and Katie Wingert for sharing their pets' photos and fun facts.

Kellner Fen News

On July 6, 2023, the *Door County Pulse* reported that 63.3 acres of land surrounding the Kellner Fen Natural Area were purchased by the Door County Land Trust, using funds provided by the Fischer Family Fund, managed by John and Xan Fischer of Sturgeon Bay. The Fischers own 2840 LFPR.

Residents of the road may be familiar with the Fen, located at 3219 LFPR. Kellner Fen is a rare wetland environment featuring open water with a thick floating layer of fragile sedge. The Fen is surrounded by dense trees that provide food and refuge for swans, wood ducks, teals, and other wildlife - even badgers. The rare Hine's Emerald Dragonfly also makes its home at Kellner Fen. This unique place -- the only fen in Door County -- is a habitat for rare plants, including orchids as well as carnivorous sundews and pitcher plants.

In an earlier story (May 4, 2023) by Craig Sterrett, the *Pulse* reported that our neighbor Bill Sauve (3062 LFPR) volunteers as a steward of the Fen. He keeps an eye on the property, checking that there is no dumping of garbage or construction of permanent hunting stands. He also ensures that hikers don't try to venture onto the sedge mat, as it is an unstable surface. "Local legend is [people] went out there and could not find a probe long enough to get to the bottom of the fen." A sobering thought!

Be sure to make time to visit the Kellner Fen - right in our own backyard. Thank you so much to the Fischers for their generosity.

Hine's Emerald Dragonfly
(*Somatochlora hineana*)

Photo credit: Ridges Sanctuary
Content credit: *Door County Pulse*



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Propane Updates

by Rod Miller (5087 CTH TT) and Mike Johnston (2672 LFPR)

One of the benefits of LFPRA membership is our ability to purchase heating fuel at a group discount. We have propane agreements with AmeriGas, Lakes Gas and Ferrellgas for the 2023-2024 heating season. This information is provided for your convenience and your participation is completely voluntary. Below is a summary of the agreements.

AMERIGAS: The one year fixed rate is \$1.90 per gallon. They will provide all customers with tank monitors; no cost for installation or monitoring. If you are a new customer you may purchase or lease a tank from AmeriGas. AmeriGas will charge \$194 for the tank installation. There are no rental fees on a leased AmeriGas tank. The contact for AmeriGas is Jennifer Jackson. She can be reached at: (919) 631-4593 or email at: Jennifer.jackson@AmeriGas.com

LAKES GAS: They have offered a three year term with the following pricing: Year1 at \$1.849 per gallon; Year 2 at Conway plus \$1.10 per gallon; and year 3 at Conway plus \$1.25 per gallon (Conway is the gas futures trading price and it fluctuates daily). There is no tank rental fee and no delivery fee for the three years. Lakes Gas will charge \$100 to swap out the leased tank of another provider. Tank monitoring is available at \$8.33 per month. The contact for Lakes Gas is Eric Fairchild. He can be reached at: (920) 495-7630 or (920) 743-5704 or email at: efairchild@lakesgas.com

FERRELLGAS: The one year fixed rate is \$1.77 per gallon thru May 31, 2024. Following are the additional terms and condition:

- Free lease of tank and 1st stage regulator
- Free tank monitoring
- Waived fees (no Hazmat or Fuel Surcharge)
- Free pump over of competitor's tank (if needed)
- 2nd Stage regulator, if needed, is \$89.

If anyone is interested in FERRELLGAS please email Scott Mancel at scottmancel@ferrellgas.com with the following information:

- Name of the HOA: LFPR
- Address
- Billing address
- Is this your primary residence (exempts you from tax)?
- What size tank and is it above ground or underground?
- Do you own the tank or will Ferrellgas be changing it out?
- Have you ever been a customer of Ferrellgas at this address?

If you have any questions on the above, please reach out to Rod Miller at: (972) 679-6332; email at: roderickemiller@aol.com or Mike Johnston at: mlj.mike.johnston@gmail.com

Broadband Committee Update

by David Wood (2810 LFPR)

Chair, Town of Sturgeon Bay Broadband Committee

The Town of Sturgeon Bay Broadband Committee was appointed in December 2022 to study alternatives to expand broadband internet access across the town. While most (but not all) members of the Lake Forest Park Rd Association have the option of subscribing to Charter-Spectrum's internet offerings, roughly 45% of homes across the town are considered unserved or underserved (less than 25/3, i.e., download bandwidth less than 25 Mbps and upload bandwidth less than 3 Mbps).

High-speed broadband internet is increasingly important for many aspects of daily life—remote work, telemedicine, online education, and entertainment to name a few. With Spectrum's frequent rate hikes, subpar upload bandwidth, and more than occasionally spotty service, the Broadband Committee has been seeking a partner that will provide the latest Fiber-To-The-Premises (FTTP) technology and competitive rates.

To this end, the Sturgeon Bay Town Board and Broadband Committee held a public hearing on Monday, September 18th to announce the committee's recommendation that the Town Board enter into a partnership with AT&T to provide high-speed internet across the town.

AT&T promises higher bandwidth (300/300) for \$55/month compared to Spectrum (300/10) for \$80/month. The partnership will require the town to commit almost \$2 million dollars to help construct the infrastructure, resulting in a tax levy of approximately \$0.56 per \$1000 of equalized property value.

Despite this tax levy, most town residents will pay less for AT&T plus the levy than they currently pay for Spectrum. Slides and video are available at: <https://townofsturgeonbay-wi.gov/2023/09/20/public-informational-meeting-broadband-service-2/>

The Broadband Committee is continuing to negotiate with AT&T, seeking to further reduce the Town's cost. We expect some reductions are possible because of the shared border with the Town of Sevastopol (which has also chosen to partner with AT&T) and AT&T's existing fiber assets in the town. The committee is also working to submit one or more grant proposals to tap into Federal funds that have been allocated for rural broadband expansion.

At their October 2nd meeting, the Town Board considered the strongly positive feedback from town residents on the Broadband Committee's recommendation. However, as AT&T had not yet responded to many of the questions raised at and after the public hearing, the Town Board tabled a resolution to accept the Broadband Committee's recommendation pending satisfactory responses to those questions.

The Town Board expects to take up this resolution either at the regular November 6 meeting, or possibly earlier at a special Town Board meeting. Subscribe for notifications and agendas at: <https://townofsturgeonbay-wi.gov/subscribe-to-updates/>.

If all goes as planned, AT&T predicts a completion date of 24 months from contract signing.

Local History: Scott's Pier

by John Vincent (2794 LFPR)

The next time you're strolling the beach near the Winnebago access road, try to envision a wooden trestle extending from the small road on the dune out over the beach and then another several hundred feet out over the lake. Tied fast at the far reach of this wide wooden pier is a sleek, multi-masted schooner, heavily laden with timber from mule-drawn wagons that teamsters turn around when emptied. This is precisely what it looked like here 150 years ago.

The Pier

Scott's Pier is named for William Alexander Scott who, in August of 1873, purchased Lot 1 of Section 14 on which this pier was located.¹ Although the structure and location bears Scott's name, the pier itself was likely constructed by James Tufts, during his brief period of ownership² from December 1871 to August 1873. Tufts is better known for owning and constructing similar piers to the south in Clay Banks Township, where he settled in 1860 as an experienced lumberman and became a true "jack-of-all-trades".³

The wooden piers of Clay Banks date from the mid-1860's⁴ and were constructed to support the burgeoning timber industry driven by the post-Civil War demand for lumber products. Virgin forests of pine, maple, hemlock, cedar and beech along the Lake Michigan shore provided a "seemingly endless supply" for localized lumber interests.⁵

People like Tufts, R.C. Brant, W.H. Horn, Nic Vader, and others owned these piers and developed ancillary milling, dry goods, and service enterprises as well. Between the late 1860's and late-1880's there were up to five substantial wooden piers, up to 1800 feet in length, operating in a 6-mile stretch from Foscoro at Stony Creek on the south to Horn's Pier on the north.⁶ Thriving settlements grew up around these piers that rivaled Sturgeon Bay in both size and activity. No such settlement, however, was evident in the vicinity of Scott's Pier, which may be why Tufts abandoned the site by selling it to Scott in 1873.

The notion of constructing Scott's Pier was likely in mind during the summer of 1868, when Sturgeon Bay Township laid out a new road⁷ connecting the southeastern edge of Sturgeon Bay to the lakeshore (see Exhibit 1). Ostensibly, this road (today's Buffalo Ridge Trail) was built to provide an overland route to the midpoint of the then proposed ship canal route (see Exhibit 1), but its circuitous routing suggests otherwise. Near its eastern terminus, this 1868 Road crosses the "Buffalo Ridge" well north of the proposed canal route, then takes a sharp turn to the south to touch the lakeshore at a unique point in Lot 1 of Section 14 (see Exhibit 1).

This lot is a conventional 40-acre square that is truncated on its southeast corner by the lakeshore, reducing the tract to 31.2 acres. The truncation of Lot 1 is more accurately depicted on the 1927 Survey of Lake Forest Park (see Exhibit 2), which shows it having only 400 feet of lake frontage at the high-water mark and perhaps only 100 feet at the shore itself. The fact that the 1868 Road just happened to terminate at this narrow portal to the lake is not an accident, but rather the design of those anticipating the construction of a pier.

History of Scott's Pier (continued)

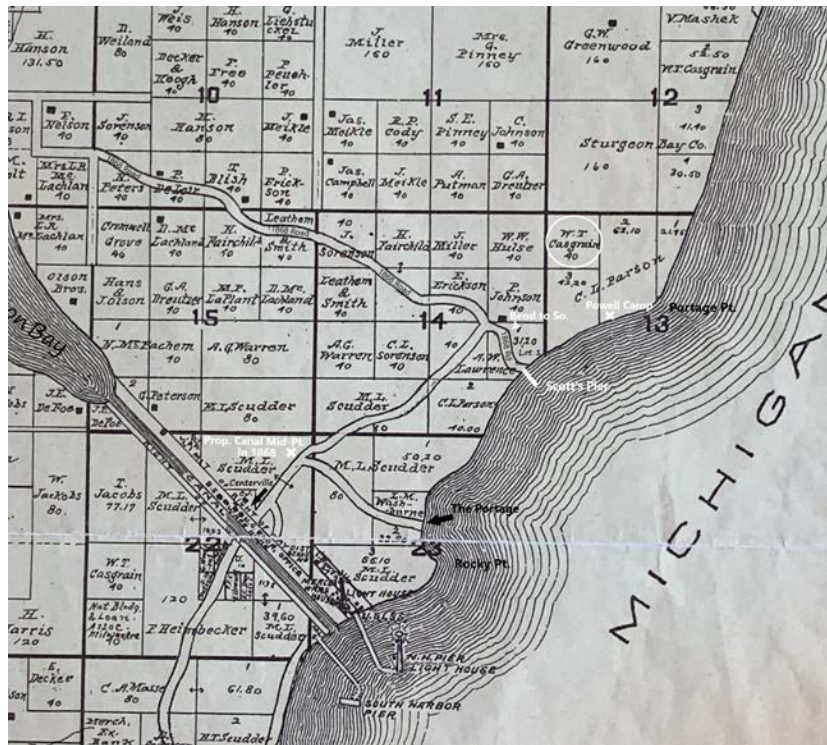


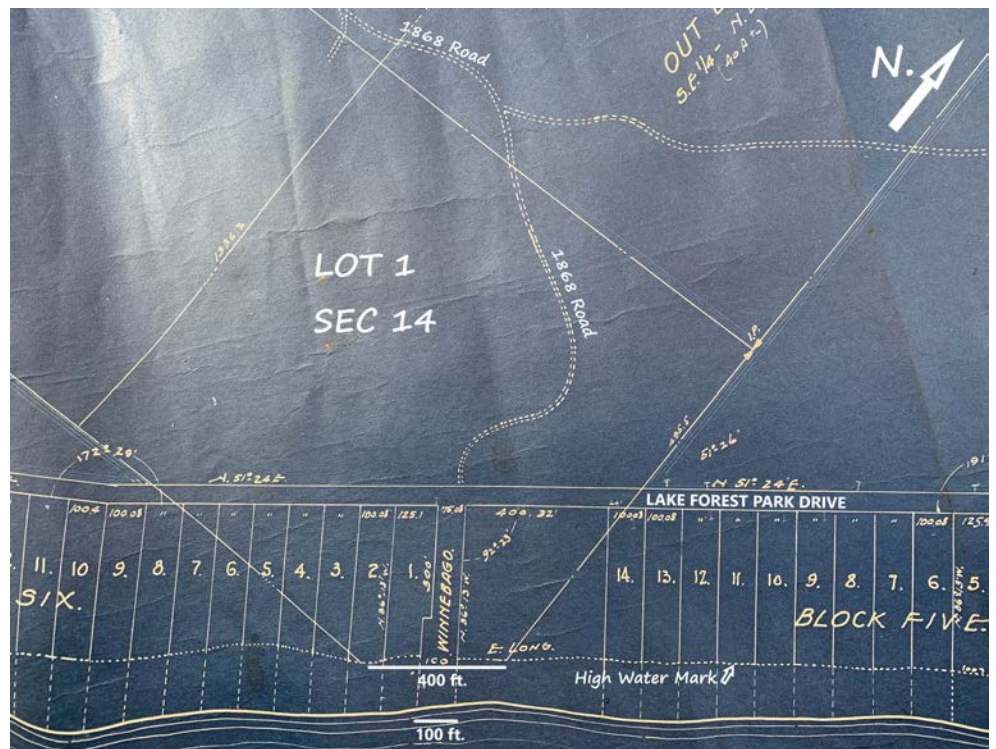
Exhibit 1

From 1899 Sturgeon Bay Township Map.

This shows the routing of the 1868 road and the location of Scott's Pier on Lot 1 of Section 14 during the 1870s.

Exhibit 2

From 1927 Survey of Lake Forest Park.
This shows the shape and detail of Lot 1, Section 14, prior to Scott's Pier in 1868.



The History of Scott's Pier (continued)

The owner of Lot 1 in 1868 was E.C. Daniels, a Door County pioneer farmer and road builder, who became a local real estate dealer and township assessor. He acquired Lot 1 in May of 1868 by paying its delinquent property taxes.⁸ Whether he initiated construction of the pier prior to selling this parcel to James Tufts⁹ for \$50 in December 1871 is unknown. It is under Tufts' ownership and name that the first accounts of a functioning pier at this location appear.

On 7/18/1872 the *Door County Advocate (DCA)* reported:¹⁰ "A party of surveyors under charge of Lieut. Powell, U.S. Lake Survey, are encamped about half a mile easterly of Tuff's (*sic*) pier, on the Lake shore." The Lake Michigan shore ½ mile distant from the Winnebago access is short of Portage Point (see Exhibit 1), which is in a more easterly than northerly direction, consistent with the *Advocate* story.

On 9/26/1872 the *DCA* reported:¹¹ "A vessel, name unknown, went ashore at Tuft's Pier, near the Portage, during the gale on Tuesday. She had come there for a load, and went ashore while endeavoring to get away. At last accounts she was rapidly going to pieces." This shipwreck clearly occurred on our bay between Portage and Rocky Points (see Exhibit 1), since James Tufts did not own a pier in Clay Banks until 1873.¹²

The next account of the pier occurs in 1874 after Tufts sold it to Scott, along with the adjoining 71.2-acre tract to the west, for \$300 in August of 1873.¹³ On 3/12/1874 the *DCA* reported:¹⁴ "A section of 250 ft. of the roadway of Scott's pier, north of the Portage, was carried away last Friday. A large body of ice had formed around the pier and in moving out weakened the roadway so that it was unable to withstand a heavy swell that rolled in during the day." It was not uncommon for the wooden piers on Lake Michigan to be damaged in this way, particularly during winter and spring storms. The following day, the *Expositor* reported on this same incident:¹⁵ "A part of the pier built by **James Tufts** (*emphasis added*), in Lake Michigan one half mile north of the Portage, was carried out last Friday by the combined action of the ice and the waves." This account confirms that Tufts did have a hand in the building Scott's pier. In March of 1875, Scott engaged Joseph Campbell, a local lumberman and deputy sheriff, to rebuild the pier¹⁶ using cribs rather than piles to better withstand the ravages of the lake.

Piers that were damaged or destroyed by the elements were almost always repaired or rebuilt by their owners. It was just too lucrative not to do so. Local timber revenue was wholly dependent upon getting forest products shipped out from piers, since there were no railroads or good roads in the vicinity until the 1890's. The proximity of piers to where the trees were cut was important because of the difficulty of moving raw timber in 1870's Door County. The harvesting of trees was often confined to the winter months when the frozen ground permitted teams to pull heavily loaded wagons and sleighs over crude roads, paths, and in some cases wooden tram roads. Otherwise, such loads would simply sink into the sand or mire in mud. This winter harvest window required vast open spaces near the pier to store, or "bank", the wood products while awaiting the opening of navigation in the early spring. Sometimes unprocessed logs would be stored in creeks behind dams near the lakeshore that would also power sawmills for processing and finishing timber. The primary raw products were cord wood, cedar posts, railroad ties, telegraph poles, piles for docks, and stripped hemlock bark for tanning leather, while further milling was required for finished lumber and mass produced shingles.¹⁷

The History of Scott's Pier (continued)

The land near the base of Scott's Pier would have been cleared for banking purposes and logging roads cut through the forest along the shore to supplement the 1868 Road for hauling in product. In October 1873, Scott sold 40 of the acres, a half mile north of the pier in Section 13, to William Casgrain (see Exhibit 1) for \$150, but retained the logging rights on the land for one year,¹⁸ which he likely harvested that winter, banking the logs near his pier.

Since there was no water source nearby for powering a sawmill, only relatively unfinished products such as cordwood, posts, poles, piles, and ties could be shipped from Scott's Pier. Lacking a mill and a supportive settlement put Scott's Pier at a competitive disadvantage versus its neighboring piers. This was evident in December 1877, when W.H. Horn of Horn's Pier decided to expand his business north of Clay Banks township.¹⁹ He bypassed acquiring Scott's working pier in order to build a new store and pier at what would become the Lily Bay settlement, then called "Sherman's Bay." This site offered a sawmill, a small settlement, a good road into town, and plenty of nearby timber to harvest. In addition, after the ship canal became navigable in 1879, forest products could be banked and shipped at Centerville,²⁰ a small settlement with a warehouse and dock near the mid-point of the canal (see Exhibit 1), providing an attractive alternative to Scott's Pier.

In June of 1876, the ownership of Scott's Pier took a bizarre turn when L. M. Washburn, the State Assemblyman from Sturgeon Bay, was granted a tax deed for Lot 1, Section 14, and the adjoining 40 acres (the 71.2-acre parcel).²¹ Washburn had previously purchased a lien on this property at a County public auction in May of 1872 (during Tufts' period of ownership) for the \$13.97 of delinquent taxes due.²² This placed Scott's ownership of the pier and the adjoining 71.2 acres in limbo.

Tufts and Scott entered into litigation²³ in July 1876 that was apparently resolved in March 1877, with Scott selling the parcel back to Tufts for \$500.²⁴ I have found no record of further shipping activity at Scott's Pier following the 1875 Campbell rebuild, and by March 1876, Scott had moved from Sturgeon Bay to Kewaunee County.²⁵

One way to ascertain the longevity of Scott's Pier as a working pier is to examine the County tax records. Such records show an assessed value (AV) of Lot 1 of Section 14 (where the pier is located) of \$175 in 1871, higher than the \$40 typically assigned to roadless and unimproved 40-acre tracts (see Exhibit 3). Under Tufts' ownership the AV increases to \$200 in 1872.²⁶ As Scott's Pier, the AV increased to \$250 in 1874 and peaked at \$275 in 1876 (See Exhibit 4). This indicates that it likely remained a working pier at least until 1876. In 1878, the AV for Lot 1 of Section 14 dropped to \$100 and then bottomed out at \$50 in 1980 with L. M. Washburn listed as the owner.²⁷ This low assessment indicates no improvements of recognizable value assigned to the property.

In 1882, there were at least 60 wooden piers still functioning on Door County's shores.²⁸ Although Scott's Pier's useful life was short-lived relative to others, its demise foreshadowed the fate of nearly all the County's wooden piers exposed to Lake Michigan. By the turn of the century, there were very few functioning piers left along the lakeshore. The short answer as to why is that the lumber ran out. After that "seemingly endless supply" of trees had been cut, some pier owners turned to shipping other agricultural products. The volume and profitability, however, was not sufficient to sustain the costs of the inevitable seasonal repairs required by the wooden piers.

The History of Scott's Pier (continued)

Also, by 1900, County roads and transportation modes had improved, facilitating the movement of products to more sheltered ports such as Sturgeon Bay, Ahnapee (Algoma), and Green Bay. The abandoned wooden piers simply withered away with time and disappeared, as did the once-thriving settlements at Horn's Pier, Tuft's Pier, Clay Banks, and Foscoro, while Jacksonport, Bailey's Harbor, Egg Harbor, Ellison Bay, and others survived the loss of their piers.

The Place

Long after it ceased functioning as a pier, "Scott's Pier" was still known locally as a destination for quite some time. For years, the vast open space of its banking ground served as a venue for school, church, and family picnics. The Evergreen School often used the site for their end-of-year outings.²⁹ In August 1904, the Congregationalists and Methodists held their Sunday School picnics there on back-to-back days, arriving at this location in a roundabout way:³⁰

"The people were carried to the canal in boats and then made their way to the grounds by following the sand beach, the distance being about one mile. Scott's Pier is located a short distance to the east of the bight which had originally been selected as the lake entrance to the ship canal by the late Joseph Harris." Try to imagine what this bay would look like today had the canal been cut through here rather than $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile to the south.

There are no indications of any residual dwellings on the grounds of Scott's Pier from its working days, and it remained so until Ernest and Laura Long purchased Lot 1 in February 1921.³¹ The Longs, who lived in Sturgeon Bay, created a weekend retreat for themselves and their friends, George and Lydia Draeb, by moving a log cabin from the ship canal era onto the clearing at the base of Scott's Pier. Any vestige of the pier had long since disappeared from the lake, although the shore was strewn in both directions with the timbers of many shipwrecks³² and undoubtedly remnants from the pier itself.

The cabin was later combined with a nearby circa 1860s logging cabin in order to provide a sleeping quarters in the rear.³³ The resulting cottage still stands today, just north of the Winnebago access road, and is the oldest dwelling in Lake Forest Park (see photo). In January 1927, the Longs negotiated a land swap³⁴ with Milwaukee developer Oscar Stegeman, which opened the door to the development of Lake Forest Park. After that, the notion of "Scott's Pier" as a locally known place was abandoned, just as the wooden pier had been some 50 years earlier.

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Contributing to this article through conversations with the author and through providing resource information were: Douglas Weimer (Clay Banks historian), Steven Rice (Door County Historical Museum), Laura Kayacan (Door County Library), Robert Jaeck (WUAA), Paul Lutzke (LFPR resident), and Robert Hays (former LFPR resident).

The History of Scott's Pier (continued)



Photograph:

The original combined log cabin as it appeared in the 1940s when owned by the Draeb family. Pictured are Grace Draeb and her husband Dale Chapman. They lived at the cabin during the post-WWII housing shortage. Grace is George and Lydia Draeb's daughter.

Footnotes

- 1 Quit Claim Deed / Indenture dated 8/20/1873 between James Tufts (& wife) and Wm. Alexander Scott, recorded in Door County on 8/22/1873 in Vol. A, p. 408.
- 2 Quit Claim Deed / Indenture dated 12/26/1871 between E. C. Daniels (& wife) and A. C. Pierce & James Tufts, recorded in Door County on 12/30/1871 in Vol. A, p. 270; and See Footnote 1.
- 3 *Ghost Port Settlements and Shipwrecks in Door County's Clay Banks Township: A Wisconsin Maritime Study* by Dr. Richard Boyd, Russel Leitz and Douglas Weimer; 2020; A Wisconsin Underwater Archeological Association (WUAA) research publication, p. 23.
- 4 *Ibid.* p. 57.
- 5 *Ibid.* p. 22.
- 6 *Ibid.* p. 26.
- 7 *Door County Advocate* (DCA), 7/2/1868, p. 4, under "New Road".
- 8 Tax Deed dated 5/24/1871 granted to E. C. Daniels by Door County, recorded in Door County on 5/25/1871 in Vol. A, p. 178.
- 9 Quit Claim Deed / Indenture dated 12/26/1871 between E. C. Daniels (& wife) and A.C. Pierce & James Tufts, recorded in Door County on 12/30/1871 in Vol. A, p. 270.
- 10 DCA 7/18/1872, p. 3, Under "Local Slivers".
- 11 DCA 9/26/1872, p. 3, Under "Vessel Ashore".
- 12 Weimer, *Ghost Port Settlements*, p 58.

Footnotes (continued)

- 13 See Footnote 1.
- 14 *DCA* 3/12/1874, p. 3, Under “Local Slivers”.
- 15 *The Expositor* 3/13/1874, p. 1, Col. 4.
- 16 *DCA* 3/18/1875, p. 3, under “Local Slivers”; and *The Expositor* 3/19/1875, p. 1, Col. 3.
- 17 Weimer, *Ghost Port Settlements*, pp. 33-35; and from conversations with Doug Weimer regarding late-1800’s logging practices in Door County.
- 18 Warranty Deed / Indenture dated 10/11/1873 between Wm. A. Scott and Wm. T. Casgrain, recorded in Door County on 10/11/1873 in Vol. I, p. 325.
- 19 *DCA* 12/20/1877, p. 3, under “Sherman’s Bay”
- 20 *DCA* 1/27/1894, p. 8, under “Sturgeon Bay Town – A large quantity of wood....hailed to the canal.”; *DCA* 12/6/1877, p. 1, under “Sturgeon Bay Canal – Midway between the lake and the bay stands Centerville”; and *DCA* 7/17/1879, p. 3, under “Grand Excursion – Centerville canal dock”.
- 21 Tax Deed dated 6/22/1876 granted to L. M. Washburn by Door County, recorded in Door County on 6/22/1876 in Vol. A, p. 590.
- 22 *Ibid.*
- 23 *The Expositor* 7/14/1876, p. 4, under “Circuit Court”; *DCA* 7/20/1876, p. 3, under “Circuit Court”; *DCA* 7/27/1876, p. 3, under “Circuit Court”; *DCA* 2/15/1877, p. 3, under “Circuit Court”; and *The Expositor* 2/23/1877, p. 4, under “Circuit Court”.
- 24 Quit Claim Deed / Indenture dated 3/31/1877 between William Alexander Scott and Sophia M. C. Tufts, recorded in Door County on 3/31/1877 in Vol. C, p. 29, Doc # 100854.
- 25 *Ibid.*
- 26 Town of Sturgeon Bay Real Estate Assessment Roll for the year 1872 for Lot 1, Section 14, Township 27, Range 26.
- 27 Town of Sturgeon Bay Real Estate Assessment Roll for the year 1880 for Lot 1, Section 14, Township 27, Range 26.
- 28 Weimer, *Ghost Port Settlements*, p 26.
- 29 *Door County Democrat (DCD)* 5/1/1909, p. 3, under “Evergreen”.
- 30 *The Advocate* 8/27/1904, p. 5, under “Local News”.
- 31 Quit Claim Deed / Indenture dated 2/2/1921 between L. M. Washburn and E. W. Long & Laura Long, recorded in Door County on 2/2/1921 in Vol. 10, p. 27, Doc # 192863A.
- 32 *DCA* 8/22/1930, p. 5, under “Glimpses of Early Door County by Harry E. Dankoler - The whole shore line is littered with the remains..... ”
- 33 From conversations with Robert Hays, an owner of the combined cabin for many years.
- 34 Warranty Deeds / Indentures dated 1/19/1927 between Ernest Long & Laura Long and Whitefish Bay Company, recorded in Door County on 3/7/1927 in Vol. 36, pp. 125-126, Doc #'s 206110A-206111A.

Serendipity

by Carol Schuster (2912 LFPR)



I'm sure you've been watching the colors begin to turn.

We may start to feel some Winter dread, because after the colors turn it's truly Fall, and after that it's Winter, with cold days and nights. But that's not too bad because we have Christmas and snow to look forward to!

It's interesting to note that the color in the changing leaves was there all along; it was just hidden by the green chlorophyll layer.

Chlorophyll is energy expensive and used for photosynthesis.

Because chlorophyll is energy expensive, the plant breaks down the chlorophyll into its

various parts when it detects the days getting shorter and colder.

Yellow leaves contain xanthophyll, orange leaves contain carotene, and red leaves (a different story) contain anthocyanin. Dark red leaves are the result of a chemical that wasn't in the leaf during the summer, because of trapped sugars that were changed to produce new pigments - anthocyanins.

Temperature and rainfall can also affect the brightness of the colors in the foliage. This is why some folks like to head north or into the mountains to see the brightest autumn colors.

