

GBLT Winterlude 2011

Don and Marion Wheeler

We were pleased to be part of this presentation in Toronto on February 3, thanks to the leadership of Pinky and John McAllister. The Georgian Bay Land Trust has been instrumental in acquiring properties on the Bay to preserve for the enjoyment of future generations. This annual gathering signals the beginning of thinking about the coming ice free season and its hold on most of us and our families. You might want to consider attending this event next year – it is a lot of fun and good to see cottage friends again.

Along with Brent Warga, from Kinneras Bay, we participated in a discussion of winter on the Bay. Our list of things to consider when planning a trip to the cottage in the off season is included with this note.

Also on the agenda at the meeting, and of particular interest, was a presentation by a young artist who has captured the essence of our Bay in various seasons, and who is currently engaged in painting amazing scenes in the Canadian Arctic. Do take the opportunity to visit Cory Trepanier at <http://www.facebook.com/video/video.php?v=10150390539080268> or his other sites such as http://www.trepanieroriginals.com/CTC_Project/ctc_home.html.

The Georgian Bay Land Trust continues to host an annual poster contest. This year the topic is *birds*, and you are invited to participate. Check for details on www.gbtl.org and also find out how to be part of the 20th anniversary celebration. It would be great to have a contribution from SCA!

As of this writing in mid February, our first trip to the island was a mixed blessing. The slush was worse than anything we had seen in 30+ years of winter travel. Nowhere was it possible to travel by foot, snowshoe, ski or sled without encountering sometimes very deep wet areas of water soaked snow. At any temperature below freezing this becomes a gradually increasing ice coating.

On the other hand, the regular fluffy snowfalls, which cause this problem, create spectacular scenery, and the situation with the slush could change at any time. We are looking forward to a return trip!

And of course to breakup, when we can once again begin to pick up the familiar rhythm of waves, sun, family and fun!

The Georgian Bay Land Trust seeks to preserve the unique archipelago and the adjacent water b