



John and Thelma Jarvis
Sales Representatives

MAKING THE JOURNEY AS REWARDING AS THE DESTINATION

Great Year for Rosseau

2010 was quite a year for sales on Lake Rosseau, with 28.9% more sales translating into 64% more sales dollars over the year. The average sale price of a cottage on Lake Rosseau increased 27% from 2009 to 2010. This does not mean that the price of a particular cottage rose by 27%; it means that many more expensive cottages sold over the year, raising the average. Specifically there were 7 more sales in the 3-5 million ranges in 2010 than in 2009 on Lake Rosseau

Overall, the total number of cottage sales was lower across the 3 big lakes than in 2009, because there were 11 fewer sales on Lake Joseph, and 8 fewer sales on Lake Muskoka, in 2010 than in 2009.

However, total dollar sales across the 3 big lakes increased \$14,753,368 from \$205,108,632 in 2009 to \$219,862,000 in 2010

To understand how the price of an individual cottage changed, you need to see paired sales information. This is included in our 2010 Summary Report emailed out in late February, along with information forecasting the Muskoka Real Estate market for 2011.

If you do not receive our monthly statistical report, please call or email us to get it sent automatically to your email address.

Also remember to let us know if you have a change of email address.

thelma@royalpage.ca or **705-645-2110**.



Murray's Wisdom about

Boat Chrome

John and I have always felt that we take very good care of our boats. But this winter, Murray Walker pointed out to us that we are unintentionally harming the chrome on our boats by covering them in the fall.

Murray Walker knows how to care for chrome, having a magnificent collection of Muskoka boat heritage carefully preserved in his boathouse, so we were pleased that he shared his wisdom with us. The chrome on our Greavette racer was becoming pitted from our misguided care, but luckily can still be saved with some very heavy elbow grease. Murray told us that putting a bit of motor oil on your finger and rubbing it along all the chrome on the boat is the best way to keep it in good condition over the winter. In spring, you just carefully clean it off and the chrome is left sparkling, with no pitting.

You can dry your boat with a hair dryer or a leaf blower, rather than risk scratching the surface with a towel. This is especially important with an expensive finish on a wooden boat. We also leave a ceiling fan turning in our boathouse, in the winter, to keep the hoar frost out of the boathouse and off the boats.



How We Survived...

The Blue Screen of Death

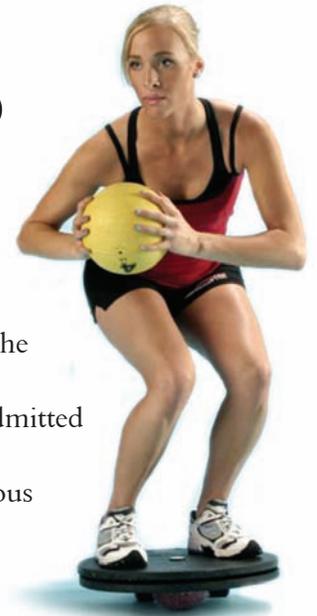
We suffered through a month of difficult times with my computer until it finally bit the dust, at only 2 years of age, in early January. I became familiar with the dreaded blue screen of death 3 times before I decided that I would simply get a new computer. Accumulated weeks of time with my computer at the shop were not fun.

Although it was very frustrating, I like to focus on what is good about a situation and there were certainly a couple of lucky breaks that we had. First, it all happened while we were on holidays in winter and had lots of time to deal with the frustrations. Secondly, we have our computers backed up on Carbonite.com which holds the data in the cloud, rather than on an external hard drive, on which it would likely be encrypted. Being backed up on Carbonite enabled me to access everything on my computer, from John's computer, by simply going on the internet to Carbonite.com and putting in my password.

Carbonite is \$ 55.00 a year to subscribe to, and provides a free 15 day trial, which you can arrange for them to extend to 3 months with a phone call. This simple program saved me from losing my data, as well as allowing me the convenience of accessing my data from any computer anywhere. By simply putting in my carbonite password, I can access my files on any computer, and continue to function. Carbonite also has a helpful app for your smart phone. I learned about Carbonite on the free podcast called "This Week in Technology", which is accessible on iTunes.

Balance Yourself to Enjoy Muskoka

- Forty percent of admissions to long term care homes are falls-related.
- Every 10 minutes in Ontario at least one senior will visit the Emergency Dept. after a fall.
- Every 30 minutes in Ontario at least one person will be admitted to the hospital due to a fall.
- Over 60% of seniors who fall do not return to their previous functional levels.
- Falls and falls-related injuries are the leading cause of death among seniors in Canada.



In Muskoka, having good balance is critical to navigating uneven terrain, walking on uneven deck boards, and getting in and out of boats. It is never too early to make balancing an important part of your daily exercise. Maintain your balance by working on it regularly, rather than having to regain your balance when you are older.

Standing on one foot with your eyes closed, and building up the time you can sustain this position, is a great start. John and I worked up from about 15 seconds to almost 2 minutes balancing on each foot, over the first six months of including it in our workout.

Using wobble boards to strengthen your ankles, mimicking Muskoka's uneven terrain, is also a good plan. Also try using free weights or stretch bands, while balancing on one foot, to strengthen your functional balance. Balance deserves a place with stretching, weight lifting, and aerobics in your exercise routine, at any age.

Source: Mississauga Halton Local Health Integration Network, 2008.

A Great New Muskoka Cottage Kayak

Our friend, Murray Walker, introduced us to an innovative new kayak, while we were in Florida this winter. I have always been a bit nervous of possibly flipping a traditional kayak over, and not being able to get out. That is no problem in this craft. You sit on top, but in a fairly deep hollow, which keeps you dry, but in no danger should you tip over. Mind you, it is so stable, that I can't imagine that turning it over would be of concern.

The innovative part of this kayak is that you can paddle it, pedal it, or sail it! That's right- it has dolphin-like fins below the waterline that move this kayak like a dragster. They can be lifted when you are in very shallow water and lowered when you are in deeper water. You can paddle it traditionally or if you are tired of paddling and want to really move, you can use your leg power. When peddling, there is a small handle that moves the rudder, so you can change direction quickly and easily. The pedals are engineered such that short regular strokes with your leg provide maximum speed and acceleration.

Above deck, it's designed for maximum hauling capacity. Three enclosed stowage spots (bow, amidships and stern) and a generous stern cargo area facilitate everything from a quiet evening paddle to a multi-day adventure.

There is a sail that can be purchased, or inflatable outriggers for additional stability when fishing. Removable wheels help you maneuver the kayak effortlessly on land, and are conveniently stowed right behind the seat, so that it is easy to launch anywhere, without having to run back to put the dolly wheels in the car. The seat is very comfortable and has extra lumbar support for your back.

The Hobie Revolution is a truly versatile kayak that can safely be used by cottagers of all ages, and all skill levels. It can handle rough water while you remain dry. I maneuvered it right over a ski boat wake and did not get a drop of water on me. It would be great for day trips, exploring other lakes, as two of these kayaks could mount easily on a car, or you could purchase the two seater version. There is even a special blanket which attaches to the roof rack to facilitate pulling the kayak onto the roof of your car.

We used it in Florida, but were pleased to learn it is sold in Toronto, at Fogh Marine
416-251-0384 • <http://www.hobiecat.com/kayaking/>



Do You Use "211"?

We're all familiar with the emergency number "911", but "211"?

It's been available in Muskoka for over two years, but 211 is still an unknown entity for many.

211 is designed to improve public access to community, social, health and government services. Ontario's Community and Social Services have a wide range of programs to help individuals and families during difficult times. 211 can help you find the right service. Dialing 211 provides callers with access to information about the entire human services system, as well as a helpful professional, who is trained to assess the caller's needs, provide accurate information and suggest a referral to the most appropriate service or program available.

For dependable help through a maze of services call 211.



A New and Worthwhile Children's Book for Cottage Reading

With a thick finger he slowly traced the path of a stray raindrop that had landed near the corner of his eye and trickled down his cheek. And he thought to himself that it was probably a very good thing that gorillas didn't know how to cry.

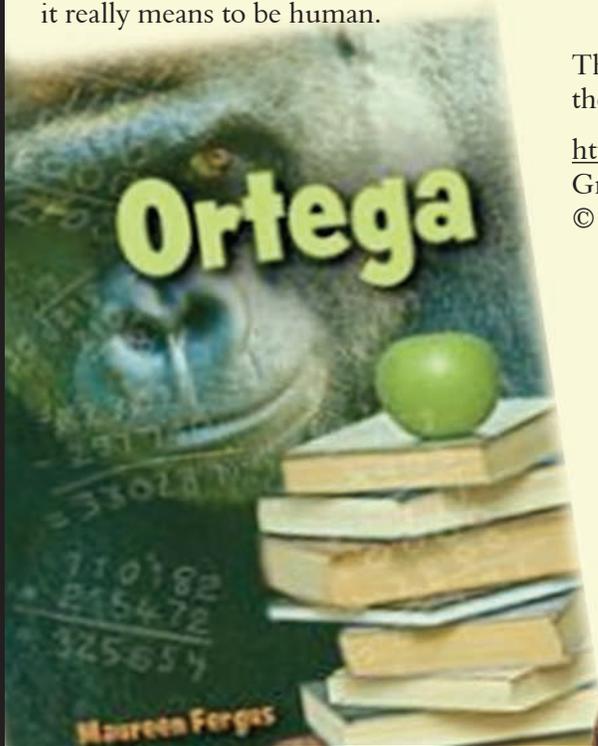
Raised in a laboratory, Ortega might seem nearly human to his scientist-caregivers, but to the children at his new school, a talking gorilla is nothing but a freak. Unless he wants to spend the rest of his life locked in a cage, however, Ortega is going to have to change people's minds. More than a comic-adventure novel, Ortega asks the reader to reflect upon the limits of science, imagine how it feels to be profoundly different from those around you and, most of all, consider what it really means to be human.

This is a book that is worthwhile reading with your child or grandchild, for the interesting discussions that would take place.

<http://www.kidsanpress.com/Canada/Ortega-P5916.aspx>

Grades: 4 to 6 Ages: 9 to 12

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We are ready to work for you.
Call us for all your real estate needs.

Thelma and John Jarvis

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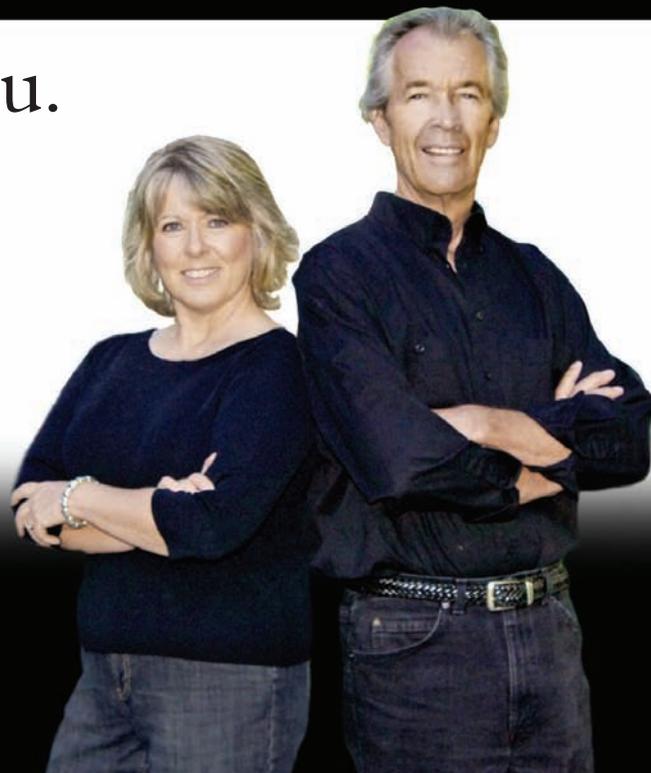
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