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Preparing for Winter on the Lake and Remembering our **COVID Summer**

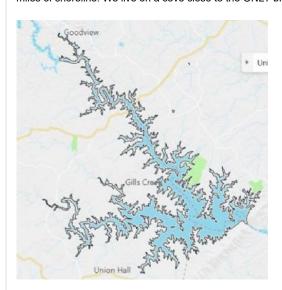
Friday, October 23, 2020



Our power boat is winterized so now we can only experience the lake in our "quiet boats"

For me that will mean bundling up if I don't want to freeze. We are not as sturdy as our Canadian friends. Once a visitor from a town called "Medicine Hat" went swimming here in October. Our neighbors were quite shocked.

At 2 to 3 miles per hour in a kayak or canoe, we really can only see a tiny part of the 40 mile length (500 miles of shoreline. We live on a cove close to the ONLY bridge across the lake.



The puzzle I'm working on only shows the main channel and the surrounding roads.

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Now I can add one more event to my "Anniversary Dates" to forget - 6/7/2021

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But each cove is unique and often as large as some lakes I have visited in other areas. Using my runkeeper app, I discovered that our cove is 1 1/3 miles long. It ends in a marshy area fed by several creeks. Our house is ½ mile from the point so we often paddle out onto the main channel.

That's granddaughter Carrie in the lead. She worked this summer at a marina on the other side of the bridge.



It's only 2 minutes to work by jetski, but 15 minutes by road. It would be a 1 hour commute from her house which is why the plan was for her to live at our lake house for the summer.



Our cove is wide and deep enough for assorted water sports



A flock of ducks are ahead



One decided to jump into DDs kayak. A misjudgment? Tired of swimming?



Ospreys like to nest on these poles



Blue herons like to fish from our dock
Their population has greatly increased over the last few years.
Usually they congregate far back in the cove, but lately we see them flying around the main channel



This is the first time we have ever seen a white egret. According to my Merlin bird app, he is very uncommon in our area. He seems to be alone.



He stays way back in the cove and does not appreciate our company



When the lake is high after a heavy rain, we can navigate past the end of our cove and explore the creeks that feed into it.



I would like to continue this activity even as the weather gets colder. DH suggested "Why not wear DD's wetsuit?" "Oh look, it fits you"



Since finding Spark 11 years ago, I no longer outweigh my son-in-law, but I will never be able to share clothes with my daughter (Hayburner1969)

I should explain that for most of the summer we left the lake house for our children and grandchildren to enjoy. Since they were working, they didn't want to risk infecting us old people with COVID. So Joe & I relocated to the house in town that belonged to my now deceased parents.

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TOMATOCAFEGAL Staying busy. Get your spark on!





CAROL J35

216 days ago

Wondering what lake you are on. One son lives in Ohio on Lake Erie. Other son has Lake House on Lake Gaston in NC and we spend much time there as we have our own suite. Otherwise we are in FL.

Thanks for sharing.

Editing to say I did see Smith Mountain Lake, but don't know where that is. $224 \; \text{days}$ ago

