

Chas & Leslie Goulet History

5438 West Shore Dr., Clark Lake

now owned by Lelines, used as vacation home by Chas & Leslie Goulet  
says Leslie

My grandmother, Anna Copple was born up here on the Johnson farm on County I in 1885. She and her family would walk down to Clark Lake at a "pavilion" known as Goeck's place (which we later called the "haunted house") near Frank Butts during the turn of the century, for picnicking, while the menfolk fished.

Enclosed: a photo of my great-grandfather, August Johnson, fishing on Clark Lake 1906

Looks a lot like a brother I know.

Clark Lake and Fernwood Gardens were very much part of the Johnson summers

Anna moved down to Chicago in 1905 and married Sam Copple. They still returned to visit family and stayed in the Wieterman cottages on the east shore in Miller's Bay.

In 1948 they bought lakefront from Rand DeFaut at what is now 5438 West Shore Drive. Copples had their brother-in-law, Jack Simon and Ben Olson to build it. I'm sure my grandpa helped as he liked making things.

They did a great job, using local cedar and many paned windows—panelling entirely of knotty pine inside and rough cedar outside. The only parts that have deteriorated are the ones added later by us. Many nice details like the pine trees on the shutters are reminders to the craft and care these early builders took.

The Copples stayed here summers from 1950 to 1968 and dug a well—one of the few at that time—it was free-flowing and every morning I'd wake to the sounds of neighbors filling pails at the pipe at the corner of our cottage where my granpa had a little minnow pond and a cup on a nail for folks to get a drink---and how cold and iron-rich that well water was! Copple said it came all the way from Lake Superior—I wonder?

The cottage was much smaller then with a big screen dining porch we later enclosed and a potbelly stove. My family, that is my brother Paul my parents, Pat and Will Leline, would come up from Chicago or Glen Ellyn for two weeks in the summer. How did we all squeeze in?? Kids in the attic and two bedrooms downstairs. But we did and had fun too. Which is why when asked what we should name the cottage I said "Happy Hollow" as my mother was reading me *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* on the way up in the car.

My grandparents were great ---- Nana (as we called our grandmother) was always fussing around the garden tending her phlox and my grandpa would make us little furniture, show us how to make willow whistles, cherrystone baskets, take us fishing, telling me how Wildcat Point got its name (has anyone else heard about the eagle and the bobcat who lived in the same tree?) or stories of the Indians who used to live here. Do you remember

the Indian Trail which is what we called the ridge that ran along the west shore in front of the cottages?

After my grandpa retired from Standard Oil, the Copples moved to Sturgeon Bay on 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. where our cousin now lives and our family gradually took over the cottage.. raising it on a foundation, enlarging the attic, holding tank and all. After my parents retired and moved to Clearwater FL, they spent from May to October up at the cottage and my brother and I would visit for as long as we could. Now our parents are gone and my brother who now lives in Baileys Harbor and teaches biology at Sevastopol comes out to Clark Lake with his wife and kids who are almost grown

My husband and I, who were teachers in Chicago, spend as much time as possible at our favorite place in the world and hope to make it our permanent home one of these days."