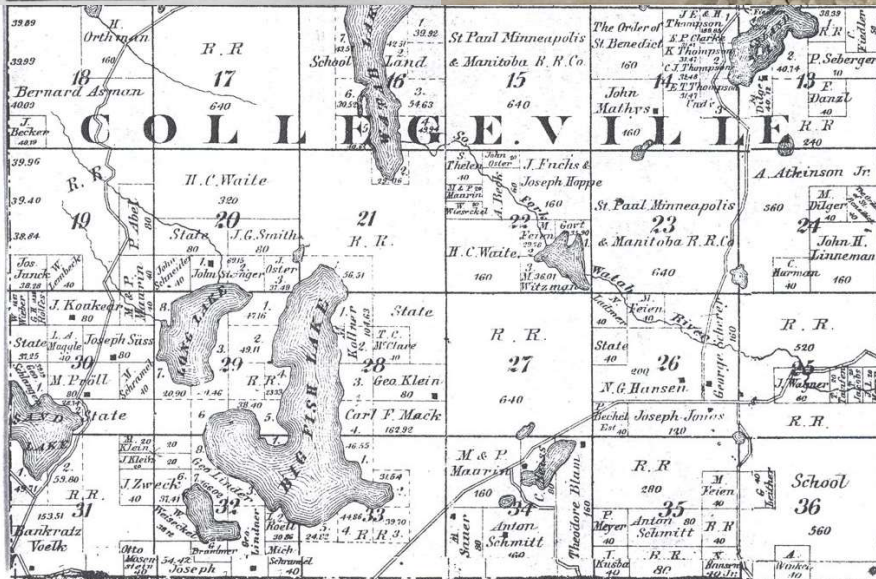


## THE BIG FISH LAKE HISTORY OF THE FERDINAND Sr. PETERS FAMILY

Ferdinand Peters Sr. married Maggie Hontheim in 1897, and built a home in Cold Spring. Ferdinand Sr. bought land on the south side of Big Fish Lake from the railroad for \$200.00 dollars. The land he bought stretched from old public beach to near Peanut Hill. The plat map shows the rail road owns the south land on Big Fish. You also notice that Hermit Lake is connected to Big Fish Lake, around 1887 the road crew use ox and cart to dump gravel to put county road 50 across Big Fish Lake.



The list below are small property owners in Collegeville township, Ferd Peters owned 4.54 acres, I am guessing Ferdinand Sr had vision to own property on Big Fish Lake

No.	Name	Acres.	Sec.	No.	Name	Acres.	Sec.
1	Margaret Ross	9.5	1-2	3	Chas. A. Beinick	3.43	10
2	Joseph Roska	5.86	1	4	Ferd Peters	4.54	33

Three years after Ferdinand Sr. purchase the land on Big Fish Lake, he built a cottage. If you look behind the people fishing and, in the trees, you can see the wood framing for the cottage going up. The picture is dated 1900. This was the third home built on Big Fish Lake!



The pictures above are of the finished cottage, that is Ferdinand Sr. driving his Stanley Steamer car. Also noticed how small the trees are. I was told Ferdinand Sr. planted over 400 trees after he bought the land on Big Fish Lake.



The picture above is very rare, looking south on Ferdinand Sr's beach. This picture shows how the trees grew up during the depression draught. Then the water came back to normal levels, and flooded the trees and made great habitate for the fish.

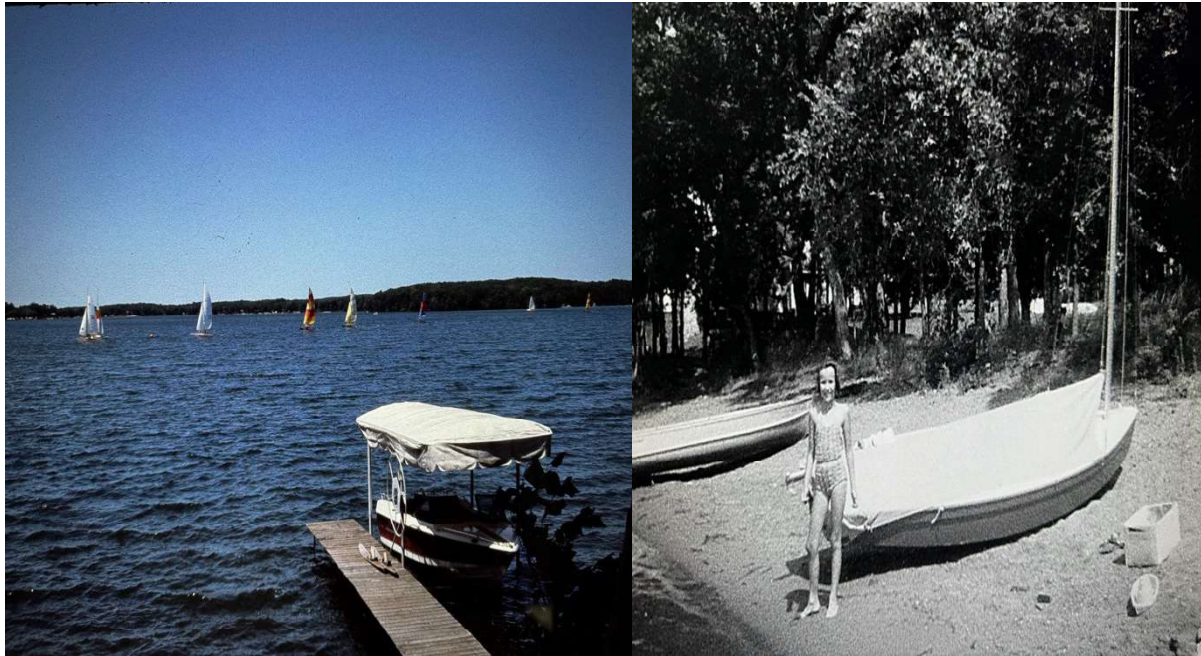


The corner stone above was when field stone fire place was built in the living room. Below is a pic of the outside view of the chimney.



1950 Ferdinand Jr married Ruth and bought the cottage for dollar. Ruth's uncle Nick (Ruth's uncle) had a cancelation on knotty pine paneling and gave as a wedding gift, you see the knotty pine in the above right picture with Maggie and Ruth in the picture. By 1955 Frosty and Ruth had 4 kids and a lots of snow and a Dog named Rommel as a wedding gift.





In the early 1960's Frosty and Jack Alexander organized to buy 10 sail boats called the nipper. There was at least 10 to 12 nippers delivered to the old swimming beach on the south side of Big Fish lake on county road 50. Because 10 nipper sail boats were bought in one sale, they got a better price per nipper sail boat. After everyone that bought a nipper sail boat on Big Fish learned to sail there nipper, Jack and Frosty and other sail boat owners organized sail boat races on Big Fish lake.

In 1967 Ferdinand's wife Ruth rallied to stop senator Henny Huron from proposing Collegeville State Park that would include Big Fish Lake, Long Lake and Big Watab lake. Ruth and all the other people that were against the state park prevented the state park from happening.

Then in 1988 there was a county park proposed located by Big Watab and Big Fish lake that was tabled due to the lack of funds.

In 1985 my brother Ferd got me interested in getting a secchi disc from the MPCA to check the transparency of the water on south side of Big Fish. Matt has been doing this for 39 years and counting.