

MY HUMOROUS STORY AT SACHEEN LAKE

by Janet Kemp

We purchased our property on the point in 1977. None of our relatives ever had lake property and all were avid fishermen and women. So, with this new lake property that had no dock, we set out to invite the older aunts and uncles, brothers and sisters, etc. to come fishing. We had a flat bottom boat, which I took my dear Aunt Lee, in her 70's (that somehow doesn't seem that old anymore...) out on. About 15 relatives were on the shore facing west, watching us fish and doing some fishing of their own. We were about 20 feet from the shore. Dear Aunt Lee decided to stand up in the boat and reach for some more bait. Well, that put us way off balance and the boat tipped over on its end. As Aunt Lee and I were going over, I was able to grab my purse before it went into the lake. The boat is flipped over, with us in the water.....now that doesn't seem like a funny story, does it??

The humor is to be found in how everyone on shore reacted to this situation! Let me tell you, it all happened within a five minute period. Dear Aunt Lee was fine, I had her hold onto the side of the boat while I dove under the water and got one of the floatable seat cushions that didn't want to give up its spot under the boat! After that struggle, she had the cushion handles secure on her. We started going towards shore. So, what happened on shore? My sister said my mother just started shaking, thinking I was going to drown. So my sister was focused on her melt down. My Dad decided he would cast his fishing pole bobber out to us to try to hold onto, to stay afloat. My brother sternly kept telling him that would not work. That was a continuous argument, as we had to dodge getting hit by the bobber! My brother-in-law stripped down to his skivvies and dove into the water to get to us. In doing this, he lost his glasses in the water. Some of the other aunts were a little embarrassed that their nephew was only in his underwear! Now add on top of that, everyone else giving directions, yelling at each other, and chaos continued. I swam with my cool and calm Aunt Lee to shore. She and I were fine, but everyone else was in a tizzy!

Bill made a campfire so all of us who had been in the water could get warm. Everyone talked about their reaction and how chaotic it was with each person trying to figure how to get us out of the water. We all ended up with a great laugh and continued to have more fun fishing memories at Sacheen.