

# Owner Profile



*The Mousleys atop Scafell Pike, the highest mountain in England.*

*Phillip and Catherine Mousley have traveled around the world – in planes, on boats (large and small), on bikes and on foot. And, they've chosen Lot 18 in Old Wildlife Club as the base of operations for their greatest adventure – retirement. Still at home in England, Phillip and Catherine share their thoughts on Lake James.*

## **How did you find your way to Lake James?**

With a map! Really, it was by chance. We went to visit [another] development ... but we didn't like it. It was too developed; the Realtors didn't seem open and honest. On the way back to Virginia, the Parkway was iced over, so we had to turn back and take I-40. Lake James caught our eye on the map, so we decided to investigate.

## **You could have gone anywhere in the world ... why Lake James?**

Over the years, we have toured America quite extensively – all but three of the states. Home in England, it's historic and quaint (that could be applied to a lot of Europe), but in America you can go adventuring and Americans are truly friendly. We love your country.

As soon as we saw the northwest shore of Lake James, we realized this was something special ... When you purchase something so significant there ought to be a passion for the purchase. Lake James, the surrounding area and [our lot] certainly did it for us.

## **What are some of the aspects of your new home you can't wait to see in reality?**

We want a home. We want to use every room. It needs to “wrap” around us, and the quintessential idea of a log home in the woods is nothing short of magical.

One of the great things in America is if you want to live in the mountains, on a lake or on the coast, not only is it possible, it can be achieved at all sorts of budgets – the great American dream. It cannot be done in many parts of the world.

Our lot is three-and-a-half miles from the state road. We have sampled the undulating roadway in and envisaged the finished meadows. We have seen the glimpses of the mountains and the lake, and wild deer and turkeys by the road. We can't wait to see our log home nestled into our lot amongst the

trees and the lake in the background. Christmas has always been home in England, but we can't wait for a Christmas in our new home on Lake James.

## **What does it mean to live in a community that's dedicated to protecting the land, the lake and the native wildlife?**

If we wanted to rip all the trees out and build a home right on the water, the choices are unlimited. But there are enough of these types of developments. Thank goodness someone stopped to think about a different way to develop the balance of Lake James.

## **What did friends and family say when you told them you'd bought land in Western North Carolina?**

We have tried to pack many things into our life so far ... We have sailed the North Atlantic three times in boats under 50 feet. We have motorcycled across America and back. We have bicycled Lands End to John O'Groats, and just recently bicycled 1,000 miles and hiked the three highest peaks in England, Scotland and Wales. Friends and family just think we are on another not-so-crazy adventure.