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## ***The Original Ferry Tales*** - a folk history of Conneaut Lake

Ferry Pictures - 1908 to 1966 - Conneaut Lake Navigation Company  
(download intensive!)

### **Early 1900s:**



**Early 1900s the original Outing under steam.** *The Outing, Conneaut Lake, Pa. Distributed by Harry H. Hamm of Erie, PA.* A picture of the original Outing that was brought to the Lake in 1906, it shows the boat sailing under steam power. The original clearly shows a large, dark object (the boiler and engine) amidship along with passengers dressed

in victorian-era clothing. The pilot is standing in the bow of the boat - all of the smaller steamers had the wheel in the bow.

The same hull and wheel designs were used when this boat's replacements, the Outing and Redwing were built in 1927. Those old enough might remember the circular hole in the passenger compartment panel in the Outing and Redwing's bow. Post card from the collection of Kate Hilton.

### **1940s:**



**Sam Orr and Bob Cannon at the Park dock.** Back in the "good old days" of ferry boating there were, most times, two crew members on board - a pilot and a purser. This division of labor - one to drive, the other to handle the money - was, in many ways, a holdover from the very early days of steamboating on the Lake. Yet, while you always needed a pilot, the call for a purser was based on the number of

passengers riding that particular time of day. Less ridden morning and late-night runs were often made without a purser. Usually a young man's job, many pursers went on to be pilots. By the early 1960s the ferry usually ran with only the pilot. By the 1970 the purser was no more. By the way - I could use the flags on the roof to date the photo - if I only knew the years in which they were used. Image © and used with permission of Vera Bean.