

Davisville Summer Vacations, 1925-2018

By Dean A. Lundgren

Davisville is the part of East Falmouth that extends from Route 28 south to Nantucket Sound and from Green Pond on the west to Bourne Pond on the east. It is characterized topographically by outwash plain, remnants of glaciers that melted more than 10,000 years ago. It contains estuaries, extending northward from the Sound by, in some cases, two miles. Adjacent sections of Davisville have Native American names, with Acapesket to the west and Menauhant to the east. Two prominent families were among the principal early residents of the Davisville peninsula, the Baker and Davis families, with this area taking its name from the latter.

Our family has been privileged to have five generations spend their summers here in Davisville since 1925. My maternal grandparents – referred to by the Swedish terms



Dean Lundgren fishing at the age of five.
Courtesy Dean Lundgren

of “Mormor” (mother’s mother) and “Morfar” (mother’s father) – emigrated separately from Sweden to the United States in 1903 and 1905 respectively. Mormor and Morfar met in America, married in 1912 and began their life together in Attleboro, Massachusetts, a city known for jewelry manufacturing. In fact, while my grandparents did not know them personally, six of the seven founders of the neighboring colony to the east, Menauhant, were in the jewelry business in Attleboro, thus the main north/south dirt road in Menauhant is still named Jewelers Row.

After renting one summer season in Teaticket off Maravista Avenue, they decided to look for land on which to build their modest “Stuga.” Many Swedish families built a summer cottage, known as a Stuga, to spend the delightful long



A 1929 photo of Dean Lundgren’s mother and her brothers Elsworth and Elmer Johnson in front of the family Stuga built in 1925. Courtesy Dean Lundgren