

Cottagers' Newsletter

Compiled and
Edited by
Barb Renton
May 2010 Issue

The President's Corner

Spring has sprung! Every April these eloquent words from one of Tennyson's poems run through my mind:

Lo! in the middle of the wood,
The folded leaf is woo'd from out the bud

With winds upon the branch,
and there

Grows green and broad, and
takes no care,

Sun-steep'd at noon, and in
the moon

Nightly dew fed...

Having been up at the lake in mid April for the board meeting, I can attest to the fact that there is plenty of "wind woo-ing" going on in the woods surrounding Lake Louise! Buds are popping, creating an emerging blanket of soft green forest views around the lake

far earlier than one would expect at this time. It won't be long before leaves are "green and broad." If you enjoy seeing the trillium, I hope you planned your visit earlier than in past years. Some of the blossoms were already showing on April 16th.

-Kathy Gilbert, Cottagers' Council President

Cottagers' Council News

- Our first meeting this summer will be held on Monday, June 28, at 7:30 PM. Vaughn will be our speaker that night giving us an update on issues related to our lake community and ministry.
- We will again sponsor dumpsters for summer clean-up. Dumpsters will be available in the meadow bordering Pioneer Trail from June 25 through July 5th. Kirk Halsted, Cottagers' Council Vice President, will be handling this project and will be communicating with you regarding what type of materials are appropriate for putting in the dumpsters.
- Last August we were informed at our Cottagers' Council meeting that Charlevoix County has an ordinance that all addresses need to have a visible green reflector sign with their house address to facilitate fire, police, and ambulance emergency services (I called Charlevoix County to confirm this). These signs may be purchased at the Boyne Valley Fire Department, the Charlevoix County offices in Charlevoix, and Ace Hardware. I understand they run about \$23. Another option is to purchase your sign from the Kiwanis Club of Petoskey and Charlevoix. For \$30 they will create your sign and install it in your driveway. This is a fund-raising project for them. We have enclosed an order form from their website <http://www.petoskeykiwanis.org/id11.html> for your convenience if you should choose to go this route.
- Hudson Township has ordered the fire pump, and it should arrive before summer. Because of the DNR grant, our share now is approximately \$800. This is down significantly from the \$2,000 we had initially allotted for this purchase. Shawn Bauman, Hudson Township Fire Chief, plans to give us a demonstration of how the fire pump works using our lake water at our August Cottagers' Council meeting.

911 HOUSE NUMBERING PROJECT



*House numbers created and installed by your local **KIWANIS CLUB** for the nominal sum of \$30.00. Proper house numbering and identification facilitates all emergency services including fire, police, and ambulance.*

*Proceeds from this important fund raiser will be used by the **KIWANIS CLUB** to fund a variety of services for our youth and our community.*

For more information please call: (231) 347-2135

To order, complete form below ...

... IF YOU FEEL YOUR HOUSE WILL BE HARD TO FIND - PLEASE INCLUDE A SIMPLE MAP OR DIRECTIONS ON THE BACK OF THIS INFORMATION FORM.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ COUNTY: _____ FIRE DEPT: _____

TOWNSHIP: _____ PHONE: _____

HOUSE ID NUMBER: _____

Mail information to: **KIWANIS CLUB of PETOSKEY**
P.O. Box 572
Petoskey, MI 49770

(Please enclose check for \$30.00 made payable to **KIWANIS CLUB of PETOSKEY**)

Our 76th Summer

Vaughn Maatman, Executive Director, LLCC

We had so much fun in our 75th summer, we decided that we should repeat some of that fun for our 76th in the summer of 2010! We are keeping things simple to encourage everyone to join in wherever they can. A few details are still in the works, but get these dates on your calendar now. Events and details are organized out of the LLCC office, with help from some of the cottager faithful. If you are inclined to help, give the office a call.

Community Potluck—Saturday, June 26, 5 pm, LLCC Retreat Center.

Bring a dish to pass and your own plates and utensils. Beverages will be provided, and the Camp Store will be open so you can get the latest in Lake Louise fashions and accessories. Ted Halsted will sign copies of the newest edition of Spring-Fed Waters: The Story of a Lake in Northern Michigan.

Community Connect: Food and Fun—Friday, July 9, 7-9 pm, Charlevoix County Park, east end of the lake. Bring a snack to share, a beverage of your own, beach games if you'd like, and lawn chairs for lounging with friends old and new. Coordinator: Jane Hazle

Run n' Walk—Saturday, July 10, 9 am, Camp Athletic Field

Grab your running or walking shoes and your water bottle. Join family, friends and neighbors for a little morning exercise on an *almost* 5K route down Pioneer Trail and back. Coordinators: Bill Gilbert and Rick Helwig

Choir Camp Concert—Saturday, July 10, 10 am, Horner Center at the Camp

A concert by the child and youth choirs of Choir Camp for parents and cottagers.

Art at the Lake & Chili Cook-off—Saturday, July 10, 10 am-3 pm, Kresge Field at the Camp

Come and see the beautiful works produced by artists from Lake Louise and its neighbors. Buy lunch at the picnic area and sample the chili from the Chili Cook-off.

Boat Parade—Saturday, July 10, 4 pm, starting from the Camp waterfront.

Paddle, row, motor or sail around the lake with your neighbors – or watch from your dock – to celebrate our lake and enjoy the recreation it provides. Coordinator: Sue Korte

Firebowl Sunday—Sunday, July 11, 10 am, Camp Firebowl.

Michigan's United Methodist Bishop Jonathon Keaton will lead us in worship at the water's edge. Boat worshippers welcome.

Sailing Regatta—Saturday, July 24, in the afternoon (Rain date, July 31)

Sailors are invited to vie with each other for the coveted Lake Louise Cup. Course details TBD. Coordinator: Mike Townsend

Golf Scramble & Dinner Saturday—August 7, Black Bear Golf Club

Open to LLCC cottagers and their guests. Tee time 1 pm (arrive by noon). Dinner for golfers and non-golfers alike, 6 pm. Reservations required (call the LLCC office; 231-549-2728), cost and details TBD. Coordinators: "Birdie" Bill Mate, "Krusher" Karl Janka and "Go-for-it" Kathy Gilbert.

Walk Around the Lake—Saturday, September 4, 9am, Charlevoix County Park, east end of the lake

Join friends and neighbors for an end-of-the-season walk around the lakeshore.

Hazardous Waste Pick-up

Hazardous waste will be collected at the Camp Maintenance Garage on June 10 & 11 for the Charlevoix County Hazardous Waste Pick-up. LLCC staff will take collected materials to the drop-off site. Materials accepted for drop-off include: oil-based paints, solvents, lubricants, cleaners, pesticides, oil and gasoline products, computers and printers. No tires or appliances.

Louise's Conservation Corp

A committed group of volunteers gathers each Wednesday morning for projects at the camp, a good coffee break, and the camaraderie that comes from doing good work for a good cause. Join us at 8:30 am, each Wednesday, July 7 through September 1. Additionally, Louise's Conservation Corp volunteers staff the camp store mid-day during the week. Contact Myke Sherman, Operations Director, at 231-549-2728 if you are interested in volunteering.

Jeanne Sherman's Letter

Living here at Lake Louise year-round is a wondrous experience and each day brings some quiet miracle. In the winter it can be a day of sun and blue sky, suddenly turning into one of falling snow. In moments the woods may have a whole new, freshly scrubbed countenance. This year the first snow fell on December third, and on the ninth a blizzard closed all the schools in northern Michigan for three days. After a snowy December and a cold, nearly snowless January and February, we expected a wintry March. Ah, it was not to be! Following an 8" snowfall January 27, we had no moisture until rain and light snow fell in early April.

This was the earliest and most beautiful spring we can remember. From March 27 through April 4, it literally EX-PLODED!! All the ice vanished from the lake, and in consecutive nights leeks, bloodroot and spring beauties popped up. By Easter the brown forest floor had become a lawn of green. Temperatures in the eighties brought blooms to the daffodils and buds covered the tulips, trees and shrubs. Sweet miracles that a couple inches of snow didn't discourage a bit.

We counted 112 species of birds here at Lake Louise last year, but have been disappointed not to spot a single redpoll or pine siskin in 2010. A beautiful Carolina wren stayed with us all winter and a pair of cardinals still brighten each day. A few less friendly visitors drop by occasionally - sharp-shinned and cooper's hawks and northern shrikes - and have been seen flying off with an unlucky chickadee. All bluebird houses were occupied last summer, but only two of them by bluebirds. As usual tree swallows set up housekeeping in the rest. One brood were probably late in fledging and huddled back in the nest for warmth, for we found four frozen there when we cleaned the houses last week. A heart-breaking discovery.

No unusual wildlife appeared this year, though we've had plenty of creatures enjoying the bird feeders. Red, gray and black squirrels mass there everyday and some bring surprises. One black squirrel with a partial snow white tail masquerades as a skunk and another with his great auburn plume appears to have just visited the salon. They're all quite clever at inhaling nyger seed from the tiny feeder holes and wrap themselves around the feeders like fur stoles! We did have one special treat last week when a red fox trotted down our walk and up on the front porch.

The loveliest miracle at Lake Louise is the human one - the precious gift of friends and neighbor who are here for you always, whenever you need them most. We are profoundly grateful to them.

The wonder of faith is especially vibrant in our beautiful surroundings. How blessed we are to be a part of this sacred place. One of sun, snow, rain, sparkling water, life-changing camps, treasured friends and God's enduring, endearing presence.....the greatest Miracle of all!!

Roadwork

Parking lot work and a new drive to the LLCC offices were completed early this spring. The entrance for all events, visits to the LLCC office, Sunday worship, etc. is now at the main entrance sign. Please use the designated visitors lot for visits to the office. Additionally, the second of our efforts to upgrade LLCC roads around the lake to accommodate emergency vehicles was finished in April. Selected trees were removed along Forest Drive, the road was widened and straightened, and gravel was brought into stabilize the road surface to accommodate EMT or Fire Department vehicles. The wood was cut up into fire-place lengths and is available free to adjacent cottagers.

The Almost Unbelievable

**Spring Beauties, Trout Lily and
Trillium are in bloom on
April 15!**

On the heels of the earliest and warmest spring in memory, wildflowers are making an early appearance at the lake, and mushroomers have begun to tramp the hills.

Board of Trustees Report—April 2010

Kathy Gilbert, President, Cottagers' Council

The Board of Trustees met Friday, April 16, at Lake Louise. The board meeting began with a thoughtful discussion of positive board practices that serve to foster an organization's mission. Our discussion stressed the importance of orienting new board members, participating in shared study to increase our knowledge base as well as spiritual growth, and reaching consensus where possible.

Following are pertinent highlights of the board meeting:

- **The Forest Legacy Program** Of the 38 recommended projects, Michigan has been selected for two of them. The number 1 project involves a significant stretch of land bordering Lake Superior. Our Lake Louise project is ranked 34th out of the 38 recommended projects. We are slated for partial funding this year **IF** the Forest Legacy Program is funded by the federal government. The budget process in Washington has been slowed by Congress wrangling over other issues, and the budget for the Department of the Interior has not been addressed yet. If we receive the partial funding, only one-half of our proposed conservation easement will be involved for this year, and then next year we will resubmit for 2011 funding for the other half of our proposed conservancy easement. If we do not receive any funding this year, we will resubmit the whole project next year.
- **Development Plan, Phase 1** New stringent fire regulations have led to a minor redesign of the lodges causing them to be downsized a bit, but construction plans are moving ahead with Myke Sherman acting as the general contractor. We saw a short video of the formation of the actual logs that will be used to build the first lodge. Construction begins this spring. Vaughn is in the process of conducting interviews from a selected pool of applicants for the Program Development Specialist and expects to have one on board for this summer.
- **Finances** The resurgence of the stock market continues to help our financial picture. Currently we are financially healthy and staying within the 2010 budget. Camp registrations, however, are lagging slightly behind 2009 at this point (as is happening at camps across the state). Vaughn stressed the necessity of getting the word out about our camp whenever and wherever possible to help us increase registrations this year. As you will recall, camp registrations are our largest revenue source.
- **Timber Harvest** The proposed timber harvest for fall 2009 has been postponed until next year due to the harvester postponing the fall harvest to spring and then being caught by the very early spring up north. The early spring resulted in mucky roads that cannot support the weight of logging vehicles.

Updated Lessees Application Process We received the draft of an updated application process that was put together by a task force with representation from the board and cottagers. This updated application process continues to affirm the LLCC mission, vision, and core values. The task force will now make revisions based on suggestions made by the board.

The next board meeting is set for June 18th at Lake Louise.

Recognition for Service to the Community

Lake Louise Christian Community

Board of Trustees

Creating an environment that nurtures Christian growth and Christ-like community

Recognition for Service to the Community

Nomination Form

Nominee: _____

Home Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Summer Address: (if applicable) _____

Summer Telephone: (if applicable) _____

Nominated by: _____

Home Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Summer Address: (if applicable) _____

Summer Telephone: (if applicable) _____

Nominations should include the reasons you are nominating this person, persons, or group for recognition and elaborate why the nominee meets the award criteria. Please include reasons for your nomination either on the back of this form or on an attached sheet.

Please return this form to: Recognition Committee by May 15

LLCC Board of Trustees

11037 Thumb Lake Road

Boyne Falls, MI 49713

Or submit all the required information in an e-mail to Mary Ryckman; Recognition Committee Chair; mhfr@ryckmansite.com

Yoga Class—Barbara Marshall

SANDI has graciously agreed to teach a yoga class at Lake Louise this summer for interested cottagers. She has practiced and taught yoga for over 20 years. Her B. A. is in Elementary Education from the University of Northern Colorado and a Masters degree in Social Work from Michigan State University. She has taught through Community Education in Gaylord as well as at health clubs, churches and wellness conferences. Currently, she offers several classes each week in Gaylord.

What: Gentle Yoga: You will learn yoga warm ups to free the joints, classic yoga postures and guided relaxation.

Where: LLCC Retreat Center, 11037 Thumb Lake Rd, Boyne Falls, MI 49713

When: 10:30--11:45 Wednesdays: July. 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th.

Cost: 4 week rate: \$36. Drop In rate: \$10

REGISTRATION: By June 23rd, register by calling the office of Lake Louise Methodist Camp at (231) 549-2728, or send your check to Lake Louise Methodist Camp, 11037 Thumb Lake Rd., Boyne Falls, MI 49713. Cancellations may be made prior to June 30th. Thereafter, no refunds will be made.

A minimum of six participants is required. If there is sufficient interest another four weeks may be offered in August.

Water Quality—Tom Gschwind

The lake water quality testing will be done weekly during the summer months again this year. Our testing includes 4 things: checking for water clarity, surface and at depth temperature readings, filtering a water sample to track algae growth over the span of the summer, and a measurement of the water level. In the spring a representative from "Tip of the Mitt" water council took a sampling of water to measure the phosphorus level of the lake to compare it to other lakes in Northern Michigan.

Eurasian Milfoil—Don Renton

Help!! Manual removal of Eurasian Milfoil will help prevent it from continuing to spread around the lake. This is a very invasive aquatic weed brought in by boats that have been in lakes where it is present.

We need volunteers to help remove small patches of it where it has spread. The large areas of milfoil seem to be kept in check by the weevils planted for this purpose. We will always have some present but it is critical to keep it in check. Please contact Vaughn Maatman, 231-549-2728, if you can help out with this project.

Women's Weekly Luncheon

The women's' weekly luncheon will be held on Thursday this summer again at Black Bear Golf Course in Vanderbilt at noon, starting June 10th until the last one leaves in the fall. It is set up so you just come when you can. No reservations are necessary. There have been as many as 23 attending and as few as 3. Makes no difference. It is a great opportunity to get to know other women around the lake.

Officers of Cottager' Council

President..... Kathy Gilbert
Vice President... Kirk Halsted
Secretary..... Sandy Smith
Treasurer.....Doug Vogel

Any questions you can reach me at 549-4000.

-Barb Renton

**Lake Louise Christian Community,
Camp, & Retreat Center**

11037 Thumb Lake Road
Boyer Falls, MI 49713
231-549-2728
www.lakelouisecommunity.org

«AddressBlock»

A big THANK YOU to Tom Crowe for all his patience and ability to put this newsletter together!
He does a great job and sure has made my job easier!!

Memorial Garden

The Memorial Garden committee is looking for some new members. It is a wonderful way to help keep our beautiful garden looking as great as it does, but it needs volunteers who like to garden.

The first work session is June 14 at 9:00 AM at the garden. The first meeting is June 23 at 10:00AM. Contact Royal Synwolt for meeting location.
