

LAKE LOUISE NEWSLETTER

FALL 2008

From the ED's Window

On Oct. 22, we saw the first signs of ice on the water in the marshy area between my house and Ray and Martha Burgess' cottage. The leaves are 10 or 12 days past peak, and given the hard frosts we have had in the last several nights, the leaves are falling like rain. The fall was later, shorter and more red than last year. I can hear Charlie's leaf blower whining in the background as I write, as we move mountains of leaves from around buildings in the camp and into the surrounding woods. It seems there are fewer waterfowl this fall, but Eber Sherman thinks they are just a little later in heading south. I saw a few more ducks yesterday and today. A small group of elk has moved into the area around Standard Lake and the fields east of Standard Lake Road. A bear has been seen several times along Magee Road near Stafford, and near the corner on C-48. On Tuesday a wolf was spotted crossing the recreation fields at the camp with a turkey in its mouth. A wolf was seen on the north of lake earlier in the fall, and Charlie heard one howling at daybreak yesterday when he was beginning work. The people move out

and the wildlife takes over...

A group of artists (not to be confused with the wildlife, or at least not this group...) is occupying the Retreat Center this week. The floor in parts of the lower level has been covered in plastic, and the plastic is covered with drying pieces of art and calligraphy. Many of the artists are calligraphers, but some are also doing painting, computer graphics, and photography. One of them is doing silk painting. Millie Janka is among their number, and she is putting the finishing touches on a logo for Lake Louise's birthday.

As to the birthday, SAVE THE DATE!! LLCC's "**Seventy Fifth Anniversary: Our Heritage, Our History and Our Hope**" will be a summer-long series of events in 2009. Planning has begun. July 10-12 is the centerpiece of our celebration, our homecoming weekend for Lake Louise alums, renters, friends, donors, and of course, cottagers. The Art at the Lake Festival has also moved to July 10-12. Jane Seaton (hjseaton@bellsouth.net, 706-549-3334) and Ellen Brubaker (johnellen5@comcast.net, 517-575-0668) are the co-chairs for the

entire 75th anniversary summer. Call or email them with your suggestions. We particularly want to know the contact information for former cottagers, renters, campers, and others who might be interested in the events of the summer. Send their contact information to Jane Seaton at the email address above so they can be included in our mailing/emailing database for the summer activities. Kathy Gilbert is the chair of Homecoming Weekend, July 10-12, and Bill Mate is heading up Communications. Stay tuned for announcements of other events and dates as our birthday approaches. Last night I had a lovely dinner with David and Marcia Strong. After a tour of their historic cottage, our conversation touched on personal histories, family, the coming national election and the financial crisis, and the transitions tugging at our community and ministry. I am not sure we came to any firm conclusions (except we will vote for the same candidate...), but it was reassuring to be in the company of two people who care a great deal about the community and the ministry and are working to understand the

community's fermentation and where it may lead us.

As we enter this Seventy Fifth Anniversary year and we face the challenging choices it holds, it is my prayer that thinking about and celebrating **Our Heritage and Our History** will help us rediscover our identity and purpose, for in that is **Our Hope**.

-Vaughn Maatman
Executive Director



ROADS:

We did finish our summer project along Pioneer Trail to trim vegetation and trees to accommodate emergency vehicles. In terms of plowing, we will keep plat roads open through January 1, as we did last year, to accommodate family visits through the holidays. Beyond January 1, we will keep the way open for permanent residents around the lake. If you intend to use your cottage regularly through the winter months beyond January 1, give Myke Sherman a call (231-549-2728). We will continue to evaluate roads around the lake for improvement, plowing, widening, and tree removal for emergency vehicles.

2009 Camper Bus Program

MEMORIAL GARDEN:

The Memorial Garden Committee is still accepting brief bio's for those whose ashes are inhumed in the Memorial Garden. The bio's will be included in a book being put together by the Committee. Please limit text and pictures to one page. The Committee has been surprised by how few bio's have been received to date. Please take some time in the coming months to write a one-page bio about your family member(s) whose ashes are in the garden and send it to the LLCC office, 11037 Thumb Lake Road, Boyne Falls, MI 49713.

CAMPER NUMBERS:

Summer 2008 campers numbered 674, an increase of 6.5% over 2007, for an increase two years in a row. Equally important, 149 camp deans, counselors, and program assistants spent 24/7 for a week with elementary, middle school, or senior high campers. Our ministry works because these 149 people and many others demonstrate their faith concretely by giving their time and extending their care.



Lake Louise and Camp Kinawind are cooperating on bus transportation for our camps in the month of July. We are looking for someone who has a CDL – Commercial Driver's License – to drive Kinawind's bus along the I-75 corridor to drop campers off on Saturday, stay overnight

downstate on Saturday night, and pick campers up on Sunday on the way back up. If you know someone who has a CDL and would be willing to help us with this initiative, give Vaughn a call at the LLCC office; 231-549-2728

Louise's Book Swap

A leave a book/take a book lending library in the Retreat Center. We are interested in receiving classics, bestsellers, mystery novels, biographies, *current* non-fiction and nature books of all kinds that help one while away an afternoon in a deck chair or an evening on the front porch. The idea is to bring a book

you have read and think others might enjoy and leave it on Louise's shelf in exchange for taking one you would like to read. The library would be open to cottagers, campers and retreaters. Help us launch this initiative for our community and ministry by donating a *few* books that meet the above descrip-

tions. Just drop them off at the office and we will add them to Louise's collection. (Please, if you have been looking to unload that box of dusty books that have been under your stairs for years, talk to your local library or recycling center.)

Email Change

As was announced in the summer, the office discontinued use of the bignetnorth.net email address the end of September. With Lake Louise's new website (<http://www.lakelouisecommunity.org>) Lake Louise has a new email address: lakelouise@lakelouisecommunity.org Want to email Vaughn Maatman, our Executive Director directly? vmaatman@lakelouisecommunity.org

Mahan & Laird Wedding

Chet Mahan and Marcia (Laird) Mahan were wed at Strong Chapel on August 30th. Members of both families participated in the service, and Chet's son, Ken, a UMC pastor in Indiana (and LLCC cottager) officiated. All gathered at Marcia's cottage for a reception and then dining in Gaylord. Chet and Marcia honeymooned in Leelanau and Old Mission peninsulas and Sleeping Bear Dunes. This was a no gifts wedding, though should anyone wish to help young people attend camp, gifts should be directed to Lake Louise for camperships.

What can you do for Lake Louise?

Be a camp or retreat advocate! Try one of these ideas.

- *Send your kids or grandkids to camp, or come with them to our Teddy Bear or Black Bear camps the end of July.
- *Give a week of camp, or part of a week, as a gift. (Lake Louise gives a \$50 rebate on the registration of cottagers' kids or grandkids.)
- *Make Lake Louise camp information and registration forms available in your church (we can provide them), and encourage your church to sponsor campers, or have a group in your church provide scholarship funds for kids in your church.
- *Receive and distribute information for inclusion in your church newsletter or bulletins.
- *Organize a fall, winter or spring retreat for your church, or women's group, or Prayer of Bible Study Group.
- *Invite Vaughn Maatman, LLCC's Executive Director to speak to a group at your church.
- *Encourage Lake Louise alums to come back to Lake Louise for our "75th Anniversary: Our Heritage, History and Hope" July 10-12.

The best PR for our camps and retreats are people who come to Lake Louise and have a positive experience. Help us spread the word by helping us expand the opportunities to be at Lake Louise.

Chili Cook-off

There were five entrants in the Chili Cook-off during the Art at the Lake Festival; Hal Seaton, Barb and Don Renton, Kevin Janka, Bob Korte, and the winners were...drum roll please...Bill Mate and Brent Pattison with their **B & B Purdy Goode Chilly** (Recipe below serves 8-10).

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| 2 | Tablespoons vegetable or corn oil | |
| 2 | Medium onions, chopped fine | |
| 1 | Medium red bell pepper, cored, seeded, cut into ½ inch cubes | |
| 6 | Medium garlic cloves, minced or pressed | |
| ¼ | Cup chili powder | |
| 1 | Teaspoon each: | ground cumin |
| | | ground coriander |
| | | red pepper flakes |
| | | dried oregano |
| | | cayenne pepper |
| 2 | Pounds 85% lean ground beef | |
| 2 | Cans (15 ounce) dark red kidney beans, drained and rinsed | |
| 1 | Can (28 ounce) diced tomatoes | |
| 1 | Can (28 ounce) tomato puree | |
| | Salt | |

Lime wedges for squeezing lime juice into your **B & B Purdy Goode Chilly**.

Bill and Brent acknowledge that they were "influenced by Christopher Kimball, editor of Cook's Illustrated, Hal Seaton, and our Moms." They included the following "hints for your tasting pleasure:"

1. A sip of milk to cleanse your palate
2. Pinch a bit of lime juice into your chili (The judges liked this distinctive touch.)
3. Enjoy **B & B Purdy Goode Chilly!**

TIMBER:

The timber marking is underway for this year's logging operation. The red pine stands to the east and the southwest of the lake will be thinned and in the northwest portion of the property unhealthy trees will be removed and hardwoods will be harvested selectively. We have contracted with FRS – Forest Resources Services – to help us manage our timber tracts for the health of our forest stands over the long haul.

BOAT LAUNCH:

Well, the timing was lousy, but the results are good. The DNR boat launch improvements are complete. We did ask them to revise their schedule, but it was not possible given the press of other projects. Though the contractor's schedule created some inconvenience with getting boats out of the lake at the end of the season, we now have a paved launch with eight striped parking slots, more room to maneuver, safer access to Thumb Lake Road, improved bathrooms, landscaping, and erosion control. Launching, retrieving and hauling boats should be an easier, safer experience.

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PREFERRED CONTRACTORS:

We are in the process of getting permission to post the names and phone numbers of the "Preferred List of Contractors" on the LLCC website. In the meantime, we have a great recommendation for you. Boyne Country Heating and Cooling is a family owned business operated by Carla and Johnny Alexander, neighbors on Magee Road. Carla has a background in business administration and Johnny has been in the HVAC field for nine years, and services all of the systems at the camp. BCHC is a Luxaire dealer, services all brands, offers 24-hour emergency service, and also install Comfort-Aire Geothermal Systems. Because they are so close to LLCC, they are able to offer the following specials:

\$50 service call (includes 1st hour of labor)

\$65 Furnace Check & Clean

**10% off parts and labor
(including A/C and furnace
installation)**

Cottager Volunteers

Our summer ministry depends on cottager volunteers - staffing the camp store, staining the retreat center, doing odd jobs around the camp, assisting with worship, clearing trails, assisting with camps, filling our wood shed with firewood, fighting Eurasian Milfoil or Purple Loosestrife, exhibiting at Art at the Lake, maintaining the Memorial Garden, providing baked goods, and being the core of Louise's Conservation Corps. Our cottager volunteers are Kay and Inez Melvin, Bob May, Ruth and Ed Jameson, Meredith and Pauline Rupe, Chappy and Carol Marvin, Lori Crowe, Tom Crowe, Hal and Jane Seaton, Doug and Cheryl Vogel, Millie Janka, Jeanne Sherman, Karen Simons, Sandy Smith, Paul Pankratz, Don Persons, Marv and Sharon Vosburg, Austin and Carol Breining, Royal and Connie Synwolt, Tom Ward, Shirley Benson, Jeff & Kayo Sharp, Marianna Baldwin, Jon Clapp, David Strong, Kevin Janka, Lynn and Kay DeMoss, Terry and David Gladstone, Dwight Finley, Tom Gschwind, Jim and Meredith Herrington, Frank Joranko, Marcia Mahan, Helen Moerland, Don and Barb Renton, George Magsig, Helen Beers, Elizabeth Sabin, Jim Mayo, David Baker, Lee Vahl, Lura Way, and Kirk Halsted.

We don't want to miss anyone! If we inadvertently missed a name that should be included, call us at 231-549-2728. Recognizing our volunteers is important.

Milfoil

About our efforts to control Eurasian Milfoil in the lake, Don Renton reports that, "The efforts to date based on the survey completed last fall indicate a rapid and serious depletion of the Eurasian milfoil population. This is primarily the result of our early and aggressive action. Guess we could call it the Lake Louise surge response to the biological vicissitudes." Given the successful efforts, we will not plant additional beetles at this time, but depend on the natural life cycle and spring hatch to return beetles to the lake. We will continue to survey, monitor and report on the milfoil population status.

Don has passed the responsibilities for the surveys and follow-up to Tom Gschwind. Thank you, Don, for your dedicated service to this project and monitoring our lake's water quality.