

Lake Louise Cottagers' Potluck and Meeting: June 23, 2018

- I. President John Marshall welcomed cottagers to the meeting with the sounds of seagulls. He stated that he is a birder and explained that Lake Louise has two types of seagulls, the herring gull and the ring-billed gull. One way to tell them apart is by the color of their legs. The herring gull has pink legs and the ring-billed gull has yellow legs.
- II. Cottagers' Minute provided by Beth Holder Swift – Horner Island Cottager
Beth shared heartfelt memories of events and special times with family and friends at Lake Louise. She stated that her father Ben had kept a journal of times at Lake Louise and that each entry began with "It's good to be back at Lake Louise."
- III. Motion made, seconded and passed to approve Minutes of the August 16, 2017 meeting.

IV. Items from the President – John Marshall

- a. Meetings and events for Summer, 2018
 - (1) Dumpsters are available – 2 locations – June 23rd to July 7th – Pioneer Trail meadow & Meadows Trail turnaround.
 - (2) Potluck & Cottagers' Council Mtg. – Saturday, June 23rd at 6:00 p.m. at the Retreat Center Dining Hall
 - (3) Lake Louise Boat Parade – Sunday, July 1st at 8:00 p.m. In front of the County Park
 - (4) Cottagers' Pizza Party – Tuesday, July 10th at 6:00 p.m. County Park Pavilion
 - (5) Town Hall Meeting – Saturday, July 21st at 10:00 a.m. at the Retreat Center Dining Hall
 - (6) Cottagers' Council Mtg. & Ice Cream Social – Wednesday, August 22nd at 7:00 p.m. at the Retreat Center Dining Hall
 - (7) LLCC & Boyne Valley Pantry Community Dinner – Saturday, August 25th at 5:30-7:00 p.m. at the Retreat Center Dining Hall (Donations appreciated)
- b. Gatherings at Tennent Chapel – Kathy Gilbert
Kathy spoke of the restructured worship services that are designed to fit the setting here at Lake Louise as well as encouraged cottager involvement and increased attendance. Themes for the gatherings during July and August are "Let it be" and "Taking it home." Described as messages that reflect the relaxed, calm and hopeful experiences at Lake Louise. Hymn sing at 10:15 a.m. followed by a 45-minute worship service at 10:30 a.m. (donut holes, too). Sign-up sheets were available in order to volunteer to be a greeter or provide flowers for each Sunday. A 2018 schedule of The Gatherings has been distributed to each cottage and include names of speakers as well as the names of lay leaders.

- c. Reminder – 4th of July fireworks – 8 a.m. to midnight on the 4th & the closest Sat. & Sun. Since the holiday falls midweek this year, the weekend of Saturday, June 30th, & Sunday, July 1st are the acceptable dates for the display of fireworks.
- d. High water management – sand & sandbags – Treasurer, Dwight Finley, reported that sand and 1,900 bags were purchased at a cost of \$2,113.96. Jim Willford stated that a permit to place the bags is required and may be obtained at the camp office or on-line.
- e. Additions to the LLCC building policy – geothermal units
Geothermal units in cottages are permitted, however, require that LLCC be notified in order to determine the source of the water and the method of drainage.
- f. Cottage sales on the lake – handout provided titled: COTTAGE TRANSITION HISTORY - documents cottage transitions from 2011 to 2018. Currently there are two cottages for sale, #68 on Morning Side and #87 on Cove Point.
- g. Tree clean-up along Stafford & Thumb Lake Road – Jim Willford reported that, starting this fall, the camp, with the assistance of the County Road Commission, will start cutting down dying trees, primarily Beech trees, along Thumb Lake and Magee Road. This is a pro-active measure in order to prevent the trees from becoming a hazard to drivers.
- h. Forestry activities – Jim Willford reported that red pine stands have been harvested west of Kinawind and across from Thumb Lake Park. Also 4 ½ acres of red pine at camp Kinawind were included in the spring red pine cut. Next year, as part of a 10-year plan, hardwoods will be harvested south of Thumb Lake Rd. across from the camp.
- i. Recognition for Service to the Community – Nomination forms were available at each table and are also available on the website. Forms are submitted to Jim Willford, Executive Director, LLCC. This award was started in 1992 and is given to persons, groups or churches in recognition of outstanding service contributed to the Lake Louise Community. A list of former recipients was read by John Marshall and is listed on a plaque on the wall of the Retreat Dining Hall. A list of recipients was also distributed at the August 16, 2017 Cottagers' Council meeting. Nominations must be received by July 15th. Recipients are given consideration by the Board in July and the award is then presented in August.
- j. Trash in (not around) dumpsters – Trash collection service does not take any trash other than items placed in the dumpsters. Prohibited dumpster items include tires, oil-based paints and stains, car and boat batteries, motor oil and gasoline, pesticides, chemicals, poisons, fertilizers, fluorescent lights, any Freon containing appliance (i.e. refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners), upholstered furniture, anything longer than six feet, roofing materials, dead animals.

V. Treasurer's Report – Dwight Finley, Treasurer – Handouts provided
The Financial Report from 2017 and from January 1st to June 19th of 2018 were

distributed. Dwight pointed out, as represented by the ending balance in 2017, that an expenditure of \$362.00 ran the organization last year. The current balance is \$24,114.00. Payments for dumpsters have not been made as yet.

VI. LLCC Executive Director's Comments – Jim Willford

- “No plug at the bottom of the lake for draining water” but Jim reported that the Commission of Building, Soil and Water representative, Russ Smith, has met with the DEQ representative, as well as Mike Sherman and himself to discuss the high water. He suggested a consultation with a wetland specialist. Russ Smith has informed Jim that no permits will be granted for the construction of seawalls.
- Jim discussed concerns for camper security due to the trespassing of individuals late at night. A gate has been placed near his house as well as on the route to the athletic fields.
- Inspection for Michigan State Licensing for campers will occur this summer. This will include inspection of the kitchen and bathrooms.
- Keys to cottages have been turned in to the camp from the family of the late Joe Skop and may be picked-up at the office. Jim reported that keys for cottages are not currently maintained in the office but cottagers are welcome to leave a key there for emergencies.
- Dry food, canned goods, and paper products may be brought to the Gathering services on Sunday mornings for donation to the Boyne Valley Food Pantry.
- Jim requested that cottagers sign-up for pulling campers around the lake on the “red shark.” Horsepower of motor needs to be at least 50. Sign-up sheet available at this meeting or call the camp office to volunteer. Campers will be wearing life jackets on the red shark and a life guard will ride along.
- Jim announced that the camp store will be open for business after the meeting and invited cottagers to shop.

VII. Cottagers Facebook Page – Lake Louise Community Sharing – Leslie Helwig, Vice-President - Leslie invited cottagers to join the Lake Louise Community Sharing Facebook page to provide information such as a kayak that may have floated away or a kayak that may have been found but also to share fun things like pictures of Lake Louis Leslie presented Lura Way with the “beaver” award for the beautiful pictures Lura has placed on the Facebook page for the enjoyment of cottagers. The stuffed beaver has been presented previously to Kirk Halstead, and Tom Gschwind as well as to Leslie.

VII. Lake Ecology – Tom Gschwind

- Tom stated that he had recently attended a Lake Association meeting and 22 area lakes were represented. Swimmers itch, purple loosestrife, zebra mussels, and milfoil are problems at other lakes.

- On June 15th the depth of the water under the bridge was 50 inches as compared to Aug. 2012 when it was dry below the bridge. Every inch equals 10 million gallons of water.
- The average weekly drop is usually 1 inch. The lake has dropped this year 2 ½ inches in 4 weeks. Tom suggests sealing up the dumpsters and filling them full of lake water to be hauled away. He also distributed a handout with 10 reasons why rising water levels are a good thing. For instance: Your boat house may now have a drive-in feature or the fire danger from camp fires is reduced because now all you have is an underwater pit.

IX. Milfoil Management – Kirk Halsted

- Kirk provided a power point presentation and stated that the milfoil is under control, adding that it has been 2 years since new patches have appeared. Kirk and Tom Gschwind will continue to survey the lake and map milfoil patches.
- Savin Lake Services will apply the first chemical application on Monday June 25th . Cottagers were reminded to refrain from swimming if Savin Services has placed a notice on their property. This is to ensure that the chemical is not disturbed and remains in place in order to be effective. The watering of plants with lake water containing chemicals is not recommended as it may damage the plantings.
- The cost to cottagers for Savin Lake Services is predicted to remain the same as last year, \$5,900.00. This includes chemicals and the required permit.
- Kirk and Tom will apply a second application if needed in August.
- Kirk warned that trees placed in the lake for fishing purposes provide a likely growing area for the milfoil.
- Kirk stated that in order to maintain control of milfoil we must remain focused and continue to take appropriate action.

X. Additional Announcements or Information

- a. You are all invited – “Bob & Sue Davis’s Anniversary Bash” – celebrating 40 years as cottagers on Lake Louise, 60 years of marriage & Sue turned 80 in May!! Join us at our Anniversary Open House on Saturday, July 7th -2:30 -5:00 p.m. – In the Retreat Center Dining Room at the camp.
- b. Jane Seaton provided information regarding the Raven Hill Discovery Center. Jane brought brochures that offered a schedule of events and she also spoke of a create a fish competition being held there. The center is located in East Jordan. info@miravenhill.org

Jim Willford asked that chairs and tables be rearranged in order for a large camper group to utilize the space the next morning. With this announcement the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Mahan, Cottagers Council Secretary