

Lake Louise Cottagers' Council Potluck and Meeting: June 21, 2014

President Kathy Gilbert greeted the nearly 90 potluck attendees at 6:00 pm and Bob Davis offered grace for the meal. The meeting was called to order following dinner.

Introductions and Roll Call of the Plats: Kathy Gilbert introduced new cottage families and Courtney Barnes, the LLCC summer staff who will assist with milfoil control. All plats were represented except Sunset View and Island Trail. Secretary Jane Hazle also reviewed the names of those who volunteered to be plat reps (serve as a link between cottagers' council and the cottages near you) June 2012 - June 2015. Please contact Jane at jdhazle@gmail.com or (616) 581-7590 if you would like to volunteer to serve as a plat rep or if you can no longer serve in this capacity.

- **Pioneer Plat**
 - Cottages 1-10: Barb Renton
 - Cottages 11-29: Nancy Adan
 - Cottages 30-48: Barb Marshall
- **Sunset View**
- **Morning Side**
 - Cottages 50-58: Ruth Jameson
 - Cottages 59-69: Kristin Flanagan
- **Delta Plat / Forest Glen**
 - Cottages 70-77A: Jane Seaton
 - Cottages 78-85:
- **Cove Point / Channel Block**
 - Cottages 86-102: Gloria Finley
- **Island Trail**
 - Cottages 103-112: John Marvin
- **Meadows**
 - Cottages 113-124: Joanne Townsend
- **Horner Island**
 - H1-H13: Beth Swift (new volunteer in 2014—thank you, Beth!)

Minutes of the August 14, 2013 meeting were approved.

Kathy Gilbert shared several items including:

1. Upcoming summer events:

Date	Event	Notes
June 28 – July 12	Community Clean-Up: no building materials or hazardous materials	2 dumpsters will remain near the intersection of Pioneer Trail and Pearson Lane until full (do not load above top of dumpster).
Saturday, July 5	8 PM Boat Parade	Join an evening cruise on the lake with fellow boaters of all stripes as we celebrate the “stars and stripes”!
Friday, July 11	6 PM Pizza Party at the Public Beach: cancelled by	Don't cook dinner—join your fellow cottager pizza lovers of all ages for

	early afternoon if rain is expected. Bring your own beverage and seating.	some fun at the beach. Donations are encouraged to offset food costs Menu: pizza, raw veggies, cookies
Saturday, July 19	9 AM Town Hall Meeting	Hear Dave Gladstone's "State of the Lake" presentation.
Saturday, August 2	12 noon Lake Louise Golf Scramble See insert at back of directory for more info.	Bring your guests and golfing friends to tee 'em up! Join golfers for fun, fellowship, and dinner at Black Bear at 6 PM.
Sunday, August 3	3 PM Sailing regatta	Gather by the public beach and sail away. No rain or gale winds allowed!
Wednesday, August 13	7 PM Cottagers' Council meeting	Ice Cream Social + program to be determined

2. The Hiking Booklet Project: If you know of a hike somewhere in the vicinity of Lake Louise, email Jane Hazle with location and directions. jd hazle@gmail.com
3. Contact information for receiving Dave Gladstone's Finding the Quiet Center: dgladstone@lakelouisecommunity.org
4. You are invited to attend the Kinawind Open House on Saturday July 5 beginning at 12pm and lasting throughout the afternoon.
5. Cottagers who did not pick up their cottage's LLCC 2014 directory at the potluck may do so at the Camp Office. Those who would like additional copies of the directory may obtain one for \$5 by contacting Cheryl in the Camp office. Corrections to the directory should be emailed to Cheryl at lakelouise@lakelouisecommunity.org
6. Kathy encouraged us to abide by the Cottager Courtesies. A copy of the courtesies is in the back of each cottage directory. Let's post these in our cottages as a reminder to ourselves and to those who visit our cottages over the summer.

Treasurer's Report, Forestry Report, and Fishing Report presented by John Marshall:

1. John distributed copies of the Lake Louise Cottagers' Council Financial Report, 2011-June, 2014. John pointed out that expenses have increased each year, largely due to our battle against milfoil. John projects expenses to total nearly \$9,300, a 39% increase in spending from 2013 to 2014, again, largely due to milfoil costs.
2. John distributed a handout showing LLCC's 21014-15 Forest Management Plan, and then defined the Timber Stand Improvement approach to forest management, the techniques employed and outcomes expected by using the TSI approach, and the locations around the lake which will be impacted by TSI during 2014 and 2015. He also reported that invasive species are not currently a major issue for the LLCC trees.
3. John also gave the fishing report: The DNR regularly plants splake in Lake Louise, but last fall also planted 45,000 rainbow trout and several hundred brown trout. The trout report drew applause from the cottagers!

Environment Report and Milfoil Update presented by Tom Gschwind and Kirk Halsted:

- ✓ Tom gave an update on the water—high and low water temperatures, water clarity (19’, 21”, and 23” respectively so far this year), water levels (20” higher than 2013).
- ✓ Tom and Kirk commended the cottager volunteers for their time and hard work on addressing the milfoil situation in 2013 and encouraged continued involvement this year. Specific areas which need cottager support include:
 - Assisting with mat building and mat installation. Watch for emails from Cottagers’ Council for dates and times.
 - Doing research on milfoil control, including the viability and safety of using herbicides, and reporting those findings back to Kirk and Tom. Suggested avenues of research include the DNR, the Tip of the Mitt, the DEQ, and scientific research projects by the University of Michigan, Grand Valley, and Michigan State.
 - Fundraising and financial contributions designated for milfoil research and control.
 - Removing milfoil from the water and disposing of it away from the water wherever you find it and educating those who visit or rent your cottage on the dangers of milfoil.
 - Lightly filling orange sand bags, collecting empty personal size water bottles with caps and delivering both items to cottage 38 (Tom’s cottage).
- ✓ Tom and Kirk presented an update on the current milfoil situation and plans for 2014 milfoil control:
 - The current milfoil situation is serious and getting worse:
 - Milfoil is gaining ground in spite of our efforts: a huge patch lies directly in the boat launch path, a large patch still troubles the narrow portion of the lake where the smaller bay enters the larger bay, and new patches are sprouting up.
 - Places where mats were placed to cover the milfoil seem to be effective in killing milfoil, however, the uncovered “edges” of milfoil have spread.
 - Milfoil chokes out other plant life and is detrimental to fish sustainability.
 - Our costs for trying to manage milfoil will only increase steeply in the years to come.
 - Plans for 2014 milfoil control:
 - The Cottagers’ Council and the Camp are sharing the cost of employing Courtney Barnes to work part-time specifically on milfoil control.
 - Kirk and Tom are spearheading getting as many mats laid down as possible, as soon as possible. Watch for Cottager Council emails for dates, times, and ways to help with this effort. The goal is for 100% coverage of the worst areas.

- Planting weevils into the lake as natural deterrents to milfoil growth. We have been doing this on a regular basis since 2007 and it has helped to keep milfoil from aggressively spreading.
- Using the suctioning equipment as much as possible. Kirk and Tom encountered unexpected difficulties in operating the suctioning equipment, but are continuing to find ways to overcome the setbacks related to using this equipment.
- Researching the viability and safety of selectively using herbicides to control areas where mats are not an option, such as around the two beaver dams and around fallen trees.
- Inviting cottagers to take even more interest in helping to solve the milfoil problem by sharing ideas, research findings, and possible creative solutions. Kirk and Tom believe we will benefit significantly from pooling our ideas and resources together to attack the milfoil problem. If someone would like to take on the job of creating our own wiki or other sharing portal, that would be great!

The Lake Louise Archives presented by Ruth Jameson:

- ✓ Ruth brought several memorabilia items for cottagers to enjoy, discussed plans to continue to build our community archives, and invited cottagers to bring archival items to Ruth via chapel services, delivering them to her cottage, or leaving them for Ruth at the Camp Office.

Kathy Gilbert concluded the meeting at 8:45pm with a call for Announcements, Good and Welfare, and Miscellaneous items

Respectfully submitted on June 24, 2014,
Jane Hazle
Cottagers' Council August 2012-15 secretary

President Kathy Gilbert greeted the nearly 80 cottagers at 9:00 am. Using James 1:19 as their foundation, Martha and Ray Burgess offered thoughtful reflections on the importance of listening closely to others.

Introductions and Roll Call of the Plats:

- Kathy Gilbert introduced Sarah Hescheles, the new Program Development Specialist. Sarah was warmly greeted by those in attendance.
- All plats were represented except Sunset View and Island Trail.

Today's agenda and the minutes of the July 20, 2013 meeting were approved.

Kathy Gilbert shared several items including:

- The Hiking Booklet Project: If you know of a hike somewhere in the vicinity of Lake Louise, email Jane Hazle with location and directions. jdhazle@gmail.com
- Contact information for receiving Dave Gladstone's Finding the Quiet Center: dgladstone@lakelouisecommunity.org
- Cottagers who did not pick up their cottage's LLCC 2014 directory at the potluck may do so at the Camp Office. Those who would like additional copies of the directory may obtain one for \$5 by contacting Cheryl in the Camp office. Corrections to the directory should be emailed to Cheryl at lakelouise@lakelouisecommunity.org
- Kathy shared the upcoming events for this summer:
 - Saturday, August 2: Lake Louise golf scramble at noon and dinner at 6pm. Join us for dinner even if you don't plan to golf. Contact LLCC or Karl Janka (549-2591) for more information or to sign up for golf and/or dinner.
 - Sunday, August 3: Sailing Regatta! Meet at the public beach at 3pm, weather permitting.
 - Wednesday, August 13: Cottagers' Council Meeting and ice cream social at 7pm in the Retreat Center.
- Secretary, Jane Hazle, reported that the pizza party at the public beach on July 11 was a fun evening shared by 60-70 cottagers and friends. Donations (\$301) and expenses (\$308) broke just about even. Thanks to those who helped coordinate, set up, and clean up.
- Kathy shared the tentative meeting dates for 2015:
 - Saturday, June 20, 2015: Potluck and Cottagers' Council Meeting
 - Saturday, July 18, 2015: Town Hall Meeting
 - Wednesday, August 12, 2015: Cottagers' Council Meeting

Treasurer's Report presented by Kathy Gilbert for John Marshall:

- Kathy distributed copies of the Lake Louise Cottagers' Council Financial Report, 2011-July, 2014. Kathy explained that expenses have increased each year, largely due to our battle against milfoil. John Marshall projects 2014 expenses to total nearly \$9,900, a 48% increase in spending from 2013 to 2014, again, largely due to milfoil costs. From 2007 through July of 2014, milfoil management has totaled \$45,589. The increased expenses due to milfoil management are shared by cottagers, the camp, a donation of \$1000 from

the Baptist camp, and private donations. Kathy proposes and cottagers will vote at the August 13 meeting on increasing cottager dues for 2015 from \$50 to \$100. Kathy stressed that the increase is necessary in order to have funds available in the spring of 2015 to get an early start on milfoil management. Kathy also reminded cottagers that dues have been raised and then lowered in the past, as determined by expenses that occur for a specific length of time.

Environment Report and Milfoil Update presented by Tom Gschwind and Kirk Halsted:

- Kathy commended Kirk Halsted and Tom Gschwind on their tireless dedication to our fight against milfoil. These men, and others who were also asked to stand and be recognized, have gone above and beyond, spending days every week throughout the spring, summer and fall working on the milfoil problem.
- Tom gave an update on the water—high and low water temperatures, water clarity (19’, 21”, 23”, and 19” respectively so far this year), water levels (20” higher than 2013). Water temperatures have ranged 69 – 72 degrees.
- Tom and Kirk commended the cottager volunteers for their time and hard work on addressing the milfoil situation so far this summer and encouraged continued involvement.
- Tom and Kirk presented an update on the current milfoil situation and plans for milfoil control this year and beyond:
 - The Cottagers’ Council and the Camp are sharing the cost of employing Courtney Barnes to work part-time this summer specifically on milfoil control.
 - Kirk and Tom have coordinated the placement of 97 mats with several more to place as time allows. The goal is for 100% coverage of the worst areas. Kirk and Tom are innovators! They shared several ways they have been able to improve mat construction and placement since placing the first mats in 2012.
 - 5,000 weevils were planted into the lake as natural deterrents to milfoil growth, particularly in those places where mat placement is not possible. We have been doing this on a regular basis since 2007 and it has helped to keep milfoil from aggressively spreading.
 - Kirk has done further research on the viability and safety of selectively using herbicides to control areas where mats are not an option, such as around the two beaver dams and around fallen trees.
 - Kevin Kronk of Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council shared his thoughts on the use of herbicides for milfoil control in Lake Louise in a letter to Kirk Halsted:
 - *“Considering your prolonged and dedicated efforts to controlling EWM and marginal results/returns, I do not oppose herbicide application, but simply urge you to consider the possible negatives, avoid the problematic herbicides, do your research, work with professionals that do applications regularly and have a good reputation/track record, and use an integrated approach. The integrated approach is a combination of control options – in your case, perhaps continuing to use weevils in one area, mats in another, and herbicides in other areas.”*

- Kirk and Tom reminded the cottagers of the dangers of milfoil: left unchecked it will kill off the fish population, choke out other vegetation, negatively affect the oxygenation of the lake, and make our shorelines un-swimmable.
- Kirk and Tom laid out our three options:
 - Do nothing and allow the shallow portions of the lake to be completely overrun by milfoil which will require frequent “mowing” to keep the milfoil down.
 - Subject the entire lake to a chemical application which is very costly and brings with it environmental concerns.
 - Supplement our current efforts with:
 - more manpower next spring
 - more funding to allow for further expenses, some of which may not yet be identified
 - possible, localized applications of herbicide on hard to reach places like the beaver dams and fallen trees.
- Finally, Kirk and Tom invited cottagers to take even more interest in helping to solve the milfoil problem by sharing ideas, research findings, and possible creative solutions. Kirk and Tom believe we will benefit significantly from pooling our ideas and resources together to attack the milfoil problem. Specific areas which need cottager support include:
 - Assisting with mat building and mat installation.
 - Kirk has traveled to WI for the last available supply of the red mat material. Plans are underway to construct 30 more of the 11 x 11' mats on July 26 at 9am at Sojourner. Contact Tom Gschwind at tnorthome@buckeye-access.com if you can help lay these mats once they are built.
 - Doing research on milfoil control, including the viability and safety of using herbicides, and reporting those findings back to Kirk kirk.halsted@gmail.com and Tom. Suggested avenues of research include the DNR, the Tip of the Mitt, the DEQ, and scientific research projects by the University of Michigan, Grand Valley, and Michigan State.
 - Fundraising and financial contributions designated for milfoil research and control.
 - Removing milfoil from the water and disposing of it away from the water wherever you find it and educating those who visit or rent your cottage on the dangers of milfoil.
 - Lightly filling orange sand bags, collecting empty personal size water bottles with caps and delivering both items to cottage 38 (Tom’s cottage).

State of the Lake presented by David Gladstone, LLCC Executive Director:

- David Gladstone linked the 2014 state of the lake to his past two descriptions, calling it, “fun (2012), cooperative (2013), and now confident!” The confidence comes from several areas:
 - 2013-2014 saw the reworking of our agreement with Camp Kinawind which resulted in a new 30-year agreement with clearly defined stipulations about where buildings can be constructed and how the land can be used.

- With the help of Run River Consulting, a 5-year plan has been developed designed to grow our camps, retreats, and other uses of LLCC. This plan also sets us on a course in which operations are fully funded by yearly income.
- The LLCC continues to maintain and gain quality, enthusiastic staff members.
- Our staff continues to market LLCC camps and retreats as “assets” to the camping programs of the Detroit and West Michigan conferences.
- More new cabins continue to be built at the camp. The Vogel and the Carr cabins, dedicated this year, add to the number of new cabins, which in turn, enhances the appeal of Lake Louise as a camping and retreat destination. Contact David Gladstone for more information about donating toward the construction of new cabins.
- Finally, David asked cottagers to take stock of their individual leases and make sure there is someone named on the lease in the event of the lease holder’s death. He also advised cottagers to move toward the updated 2009 lease which will set in place another 50 year cycle on the lease.

Lake Louise renewal of chapel benevolence and archives presented by Ruth Jameson:

- Ruth recommended that cottagers vote in favor of giving ten percent of our undesignated 2015 offerings to Manna, our regional food bank, at the August Cottagers’ Council meeting.
- Ruth continues to work on the archives for Lake Louise. Please look around your cottages or homes to find pictures, letters, post cards, or even write remembrances from earlier years at Lake Louise. Items can be scanned and given back to you if you would like to keep the originals. Please help us keep the history of Lake Louise from becoming lost forever.

Announcements, Good and Welfare, Miscellaneous:

- David Gladstone invited cottagers to the August 29 Fish Fry in support of the Boyne Valley Food Pantry and Lake Louise Camp Scholarships held in the Retreat Center from 4:30 – 7pm. Generous donations appreciated!
- Millie Janka invited cottagers to come to the August 7, 9am, “work bee” at the Memorial Gardens. She also encouraged cottagers to stroll the gardens and enjoy their beauty. Sunday after chapel is a perfect times! Please stop by the Camp Office if you would like to visit the Memorial Gardens at other times

Kathy Gilbert concluded the meeting at 10:30am.

Respectfully submitted on July 24, 2014,
 Jane Hazle
 Cottagers’ Council August 2012-15 secretary

Lake Louise Cottagers' Council Meeting: August 13, 2014

President Kathy Gilbert called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Chappy Marvin provided inspiration at the beginning of today's meeting by asking, "What makes a community?" and then sharing snippets of Lake Louise history and lore, reminding us of the enduring vision of Lake Louise, and encouraging us to pass on the story of Lake Louise to future generations.

Roll Call of the Plats: No Island Trail. All other plats were represented.

Minutes of the June 21, 2014 meeting were approved.

John Marshall shared the Treasurer's Report.

- ✓ Expenses since the July 2014 meeting included Milfoil supplies and weevil purchase.
- ✓ Balance as of August 13, 2014 = \$2617.13

Kathy Gilbert presented the 2015 proposed calendar:

Date	Event	Notes
Saturday, June 20	6 PM Cottager Potluck 7 PM Cottagers' Council meeting	Our program will again address Lake Louise environmental issues.
Friday, July 3 Note change to the day <i>before</i> the 4th	8 PM Boat Parade	Join an evening cruise on the lake with fellow boaters of all stripes as we celebrate the "stars and stripes"!
Friday, July 10	6 PM Pizza Party at the Public Beach.	Don't cook dinner—join your fellow cottager pizza lovers of all ages for some fun at the beach.
Saturday, July 18	9 AM Town Hall Meeting	Hear Dave Gladstone's "State of the Lake" presentation.
Saturday, August 1	12 noon Lake Louise Golf Scramble	Bring your guests and golfing friends to tee 'em up! Join golfers for fun, fellowship, and dinner at Black Bear at 6 PM.
Wednesday, August 12	7 PM Cottagers' Council meeting	Program to be determined

Milfoil Update presented by Kirk Halsted and Tom Gschwind:

- ✓ Tom gave an update on the water—high and low water temperatures, water clarity, water levels. Water level is 14" higher than 2013 and even higher than the previous 1967 record.
- ✓ Tom and Kirk commended the cottager volunteers for their time and hard work on addressing the milfoil situation
- ✓ Kirk and Tom presented an update on 2014 milfoil activities:

- Nearly 170 mats of varying sizes have been placed over existing milfoil patches and there is material for making an additional 50 mats in 2015
- Plans are underway to remove all mats September 16-28. Many volunteers are needed: (1) kayakers to pick up stray floating milfoil strands (2) power boat to shuttle sand bags from the float boat to the littler island (frog island) and (3) people working in shifts on the float boat to remove mats and untie sand bags. They will be working in morning and afternoon shifts during those days.
 - If you can help at any time in one or more of these areas, please contact Kirk (kirk.halsted@gmail.com) and Tom (tnorthome@buckeye-access.com) to let them know your availability.
- Much work has been done to research the efficacy of using limited chemical treatments to combat milfoil. Use of limited chemical treatments has been approved by the Board of Trustees and implementation is targeted for Spring 2015. We are in the process of receiving bids and completing the permit process with the DEQ/DNR.

Dues Increase presented by Kathy Gilbert:

- ✓ In light of the escalating costs related to milfoil control, President Kathy Gilbert discussed increasing yearly cottager dues to \$100. Bill Mate made the motion for the increase and cottagers voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Renewal of Chapel Benevolence presented by Ruth Jameson:

- ✓ Cottagers unanimously approved supporting the local Manna Food Project in 2015 by donating 10% of undesignated giving to Manna. A food collection box is available each Sunday at chapel. Donations may also be dropped off at the Camp Office.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Touring Carr Cabin and Ice Cream Social:

- ✓ Cottagers toured the new Carr Cabin, the latest new structure in LLCC's ongoing plan to replace old cabins with new units containing bunk rooms, bathrooms, and communal areas.
- ✓ Kathy Gilbert reported that 60 cottagers attended the dinner at Black Bear following the golf scramble on August 3.
- ✓ The evening concluded with ice cream sundaes in the Retreat Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Hazle

Cottagers' Council August 2012-15 secretary