

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

Lake Louise Town Hall Meeting Minutes July 21, 2018

John Marshall, Cottagers' Council President, opened the meeting with the call of seagulls. He explained that there are three types of gulls on Lake Louise. The Caspian Tern is a slim, slick bird with a black brow. The Herring gull is a large, bulky bird with pink legs, and the ring-billed gull has yellow legs and a black ring around its' beak. *The Cottager's Minute* was shared by Adam Wright. Adam explained that his wife, Jennifer, has always wanted a cottage on Lake Louise and that her family resided on or near the lake as early as 1868. The Wright family's first night in their cottage, purchased in 2016, was the evening of the boat parade. Especially enjoyable to their children ages 8, 6, and 4 at the time.

I. Roll Call of the Plats

Sunset View was the only plat not represented.

II. Approval of Agenda No additions

III. Approval of the Minutes of the July 15, 2017 Town Hall Meeting

Minutes approved without changes.

❖ *Announcement that today is Kay Melvin's 86th birthday. All present sang Happy Birthday.*

IV. "State of the Lake" – Jim Willford, Executive Director, LLCC

Jim began his power point presentation by displaying colorful pictures of Lake Louise as well as a picture of the snow on April 14th. Also a color picture of his beautiful granddaughter, Mattie, was included.

Power Point information:

- Jim explained that Our Impact is built on our Vision, Mission Statement, and Core Values.
- The number of Retreat Center guests for 2016 was 1227 and for 2017 was 1143. The Summer Camp Participants for 2016=424, for 2017=428, and for 2018=465. The Summer Family Camp Participants for 2016=83, for 2017=94, and for 2018=93.
- Camp Youth Outcomes Battery
Measured Camp Connectedness, creating a feeling of welcome and support at camp, 87.50% of all campers felt that their camp connectedness increased.
Measured Spiritual Well-Being, having a purpose and meaning in life, 59.72% of all campers felt their spiritual well-being increased. (directly from the campers at our Christian camp).
- Lake Louise campership 2017 campaign raised \$27,692.50 to sponsor campers, the Lake Louise campership 2018 campaign has raised \$30,745.28. One hundred thirty eight Partner Churches in a Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Indiana also assist families to send their children to Lake Louise Summer Camp.

- Total money raised for the Tennant Chapel Renovations to date: \$16,865.00 has provided a new roof, lighting, and foundation improvements. Money has been donated for carpet to be installed August 2nd and 3rd.
Changes to the speakers at the Gathering services are Rev. Amy Mayo-Moyle will speak on Aug. 12th and Rev. Jeremy Peters will speak on Aug. 5th
- Dedication of the newly completed Health Center was last Sunday and Jim offered to provide tours to cottagers.
- Redman Village is in the process of renovation with two cabins completed to house summer camp staff. Renovations include: new septic hook-ups, new electrical service, new metal roofs, replace damaged logs, install kitchenette, install bathroom, new drywall, electric baseboard heat, new furniture and appliances. Two more cabins await renovation.
- Geocaching has been added to summer activities. Six handheld GPS units have been donated. Geocaching provides opportunities for hiking, use of a GPS unit, mapping skills, problem solving, as well as fosters a love of nature in God's creation. Camp activities also include kayaking, swimming, riding the "red shark", Frisbee, tree climbing, & Frisbee golf.
- The new Nature Center is open for viewing. The center contains artifacts, as well as a natural history of the area. Jim invited cottagers to stop by the office for a visit to the Nature Center.
- Volunteer work groups:
Alden Community UMC Work Team – 2600 hours
Holland UMC Work Team – 4000 hours (they come twice a year)
Mason First UMC Work Team – 1600 hours
As we are, high school camp – 190 hours
Boyne Country Service Project: First United Methodist Church, Saline, 12 participants – Traverse Bay UMC, Traverse City, 8 participants – Pendleton Center UMC, North Tonawanda, NY, 34 participants –total hours 7380. The Boyne Country Service project works in area homes, area churches and has assisted in refurbishing floors at the UMC in Boyne Falls.
Memorial Garden Worker Bees are paid with a cookie and their contributions are priceless.
Individual volunteers include: milfoil power rangers, camp store sales team, summer camp counselors and deans, Red shark wranglers, office work force, chapel preachers, liturgists, accompanists, musicians, greeters & chauffeur
- *Christmas in July* LLCC Giving Tree on Amazon items may be purchased and sent to the camp. Requested items include: air conditioners for cabins, portable microscopes for lake studies, educational compass set, portable generators, office & kitchen supplies. Four air conditioners have already been donated.
- Forest Stewardship Plan: Red pine has been harvested on six acres at Camp Kinawind. Pine bark beetles are a threat as the red pine age and deteriorate. One hundred fifty five acres of natural hardwoods will be harvested next with the involvement of a forestry expert. This will provide for the stronger trees to thrive. A power point picture displayed the 2018 areas to be harvested.

- Forest Invasive Tartarian Honeysuckle pictures were displayed on the power point. This invasive chokes out seedlings of desirable trees. This is a fast growing invasive as the seeds are spread by birds eating the berries. Cottagers were asked to assist in removing any bushes that are discovered.
- Jim provided information about an amber flashing light to repel geese. It is a commercial grade device that he recommends. One light covers a 75 foot diameter, it flashes at night and is solar powered. The cost is \$375.00 and can be purchased on at Lakeandpond.com (Savin Lake services outlet) or Awaywithgeese.com
- Boyne Valley Pantry and Lake Louise Campership Campaign will join together to provide a Community Dinner on August 25th from 5:30-7:00pm. "sit down with a stranger leave with a friend"
- Tax bills were available for pick-up at this meeting. The LLCC Land Tax is due in the Lake Louise Office by August 24th and Property Tax is due to Hudson Township by Sept.14th. A self-addressed postcard to Hudson township may be sent to receive a receipt of payment. Jim advised cottagers to make sure that their check clears Hudson township as he will not be notified until next March of delinquent taxes.
- Follow Lake Louise on facebook Lake Louise Christian Community, Camp & Retreat Center also on Lake Louise Community Sharing. Instagram and twitter @lakelouisemi
- Jim requested that cottagers provide email addresses in order for him to send out information. He can be reached at 231-549-2728 or email at jwillford@lakelouisecommunity.org

V. Items from the President – *John Marshall*

A. Cottagers' Pizza Party report

More than 75 people attended the pizza party this year and donations more than paid for expenses. John thanked the persons that assisted in organizing the party as well as Jim Willford for bringing supplies from the camp.

B. Remaining Cottager events for this summer

- **Cottagers' Council Meeting & Ice Cream Social – Wednesday, August 22nd, 7:00 p.m. in the Retreat Center Dining Room**
- **LLCC & Boyne Valley Pantry Community Dinner – Saturday, August 25th, 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Retreat Center Dining Room**

C. Address, Phone or Email updates

Sign-up sheet on each table in order to provide changes in phone numbers or email addresses. Also information regarding the cancellation of land lines.

D. Chapel Benevolence Contribution

Currently 10% of undesignated offerings from the Chapel services is being donated to Manna project. This project provides 1500 backpacks of food to schoolchildren and food to 3,000 families in Charlevoix, Emmet and Antrim counties. At the August 22nd Cottagers' Council meeting a vote will be taken to continue to contribute to Manna. Suggestions for other worthy causes may be submitted.

E. Recognition for Service to the LLCC Community Award

This award was started in 1992 and is given in recognition of outstanding service to the Lake Louise community. Individuals, groups or organizations are eligible for this award. Nominations may be submitted to Jim Willford at the camp office prior to Saturday, July 28th.

F. What does & does not go in the Dumpsters

Handout provided at this meeting reminding cottagers of guidelines for the disposal of household waste. Nothing is to be left outside of the dumpsters. The current waste hauler, American Waste, has reported that his truck was damaged due to trash not being properly placed in the dumpster. Construction material that is not to be placed in the dumpsters was extending outside of the dumpster and damaged the waste hauler's equipment. We may lose waste disposal service if this continues.

G. High Speed Internet- *Al Adan*

The more people that sign-up with <https://www.jointruestream.com> the more likely cottages around Lake Louise will be to acquire high speed internet service. There is no obligation in signing up, it only provides the company with an estimate of what the interest would be for their service.

This is a modern high speed internet service through Great Lakes Energy.

VI. Treasurer's Report –*Dwight Finley*

Handout provided for the 2018 Lake Louise Cottagers' Council Financial Report. Dwight stated that extra expense this year has been for the sand bags. He also spoke of Savin Lake Services set-up cost, application permit, and treatment performed at cost due to the owner's connections with Lake Louise and friendship with Kirk Halsted.

VII. Lake Ecology – *Tom Gschwind*

Handout provided with lake level history. Tom reported that in mid-July the lake was 18 inches higher than 4 years ago. He also spoke of reduction in clarity due to algae bloom. He stated that the algae is due to higher temperatures and the high lake levels. The high water is causing contact with shore vegetation and bringing soil and sediment into the water. Tom suggests that the algae be netted or raked from the lakefront properties. David Stong was asked about purple loosestrife and he stated that there is a reduction in plants found from 300 to 30. However, it is a rapidly spreading invasive and without vigilance will quickly reseed. David is planning to continue to remove purple loosestrife this year but then a replacement volunteer(s) will be needed.

VIII. Milfoil Report – *Kirk Halsted*

Kirk reports that the same amount of area was treated for milfoil this year as last. The milfoil control efforts are progressing well at this time. He also spoke of the algae bloom and cautioned cottagers about the use of phosphorus fertilizers. DEO states that the algae in Lake Louise is non-toxic, however, have sent pictures of the algae out to be identified.

IX. Election of Cottagers' Council Officers – 2018 – 2021 term – *Kathy Gilbert*

Nominated for office of the Cottagers' Council:

Leslie Helwig – President

Kim Fettig – Vice President

Dwight Finley – Treasurer

Barb Renton – Secretary

A vote was taken and all nominees were elected. Leslie was handed the big gavel by John Marshall and Leslie then spoke of her process of thinking through the commitment before accepting.

Leslie asked for any additional announcements and when there were none she banged the gavel and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Mahan, Cottagers Council Secretary

Lake Louise Cottagers' Council
Meeting Minutes
August 22, 2018

The meeting was opened with Leslie Helwig thanking John Marshall for his service to the Cottagers' Council as president the last three years and presenting him (not present) with a CD, "The Cry of the Loan".

The Cottagers' Minute – Millie Janka, "Memories"

Memories of Lake Louise including her introduction to raising Monarch butterflies.

1. Welcome & Introduction of Officers

2. Approval of Agenda

Approved with additions and corrections

Welcome committee

Date corrections- Boat Parade June 30, 2019, LLCC Wed, Aug, 21, 2019

3. Approval of Minutes of the June 23, 2018 Meetings

Motion to approve Minutes from June 23, 2018 Cottagers Council Meeting made, seconded and unanimously approved.

4. Items from the President – Leslie Helwig

A. Cottagers' Events – this year and next

- Saturday, August 25th, 2018. 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.: LLCC Boyne Valley Pantry Community Dinner, Retreat Center Dining Room
- Saturday, June 22, 2019, 6:00 – Potluck Dinner and LLCC meeting
- Sunday, June 30, 2019, 8:00: Boat Parade
- Tuesday, July 9, 2019, 6:00: Pizza Party, Thumb Lake Park
- Saturday, July 20, 2019, 10:00: Town Hall meeting, Location TBD
- Wednesday, Aug., 21, 2019, LLCC meeting and Ice Cream Social

B. Address, Phone or Email Updates need to be called or sent to the office.

C. Acceptable Dumpster Items

Only household garbage, fattened cans, plastic bottles and broken down cardboard are allowed in the dumpsters. Everything except household garbage can be recycled in Vanderbilt, Boyne City or Petoskey.

Consider donating prohibited or unwanted items– still usable- to Challenge Mountain in Boyne City.

REMEMBER! All trash must be placed INSIDE the dumpster!

D. Updated Information about Invasive Plants

- Honey Suckle Bush – place in black plastic bag and take to office.
- Remove Purple Loosestrife, place in black plastic bag and place in dumpster. If you are unable to remove the plants contact Barb Renton.
- If you remove vinca or any other invasive ground covers do not dispose of them in the woods. They remove areas where wildlife will feed and/or nest.

E. Green Reflective Address Signs

- Legally must have one on your property in Charlevoix County.
- These assist emergency vehicles find you if necessary.
- Place where snow plows won't hit them.
- Available at the Charlevoix County Office and Boyne City Hardware.

5. Treasurer's Report

Dwight Finley – current balance: \$14,763.54.

6. High Speed Internet - Al Adan

TrueStream Internet may solve our slow internet frustrations!

Possible availability next year from Great Lakes Energy.

Contact www.jointruestream.com for information. Please fill out form provided.

This does not obligate you to join but gives them an idea of how many are interested. If enough are interested we may get it sooner than later! Seasonal packages are available along with free installation and modem.

7. Chapel Benevolence Contribution – Ruth Jameson

Ruth talked about two programs. Manna, which has been providing food to 37 different local agencies since 1987 and Boyne Valley Food Pantry, located in Boyne Falls.

Half the contributions from the LLCC & Boyne Valley Pantry Community Dinner, 10 % of the Sunday offerings during the summer plus the contributions of food collected during our Sunday service and dropped off at the camp office go to BYFP. Food contributions have dropped off by about half this year compared to last year. Hopefully we will all remember to take part in this very needed service.

8. Lake Ecology – Tom Gschwind

Tom provided information on the water level comparisons from past years.

He offered that the Milfoil mats are for sale to anyone interested along with many carabiners that are available.

9. Announcements and Miscellaneous

At the last LLCC Board of Trustees meeting they presented Myke Sherman, Camp Operations Director, with a sign to be hung at the entrance of the recently built campus village, now referred to “Sherman Way”. Myke has been responsible for the creation, building, and supervision of many of the improvements to the camp since 2007.

Myke has been an important person to the Lake Louise community for many years. Helping, advising, and just being a good friend to many cottagers over the years.

Welcome Committee. Leslie has no agenda for this but is hoping for some volunteers to take this on. After asking for volunteers the following people spoke up – Karen Burgess Hamm, Ruth Jameson, Kim Fettig, Sue Korte, Sandy Smith, Nancy Graham, and Anne Pankratz.

Jane Seaton provided information about a free program, Smithsonian Water/Ways at Raven Hill Discovery Center, Aug 11 – Sept 23.

Jim Willford introduced two new cottage owners who purchased the Petree cabin. They are Jon and Tamara (Tammy) Teppo and their 3 children, Ben, Sam and Kate. They will be spending their summers here at the lake.

Chet Mahan cautioned us about large floating logs in the lake that may not be visible to boaters.

Helen Beers is making hats for sale and contributing ½ of the sale price to the camp scholarship fund.

Bob Cox talked about a way he has been successful repelling geese. He uses a green laser pointer or an astronomy pointer that he shines on geese in the early evening.....they leave. They are available on Amazon for about \$25.00

Motion made to adjourn for ice cream. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Renton, Cottagers' Council Secretary