

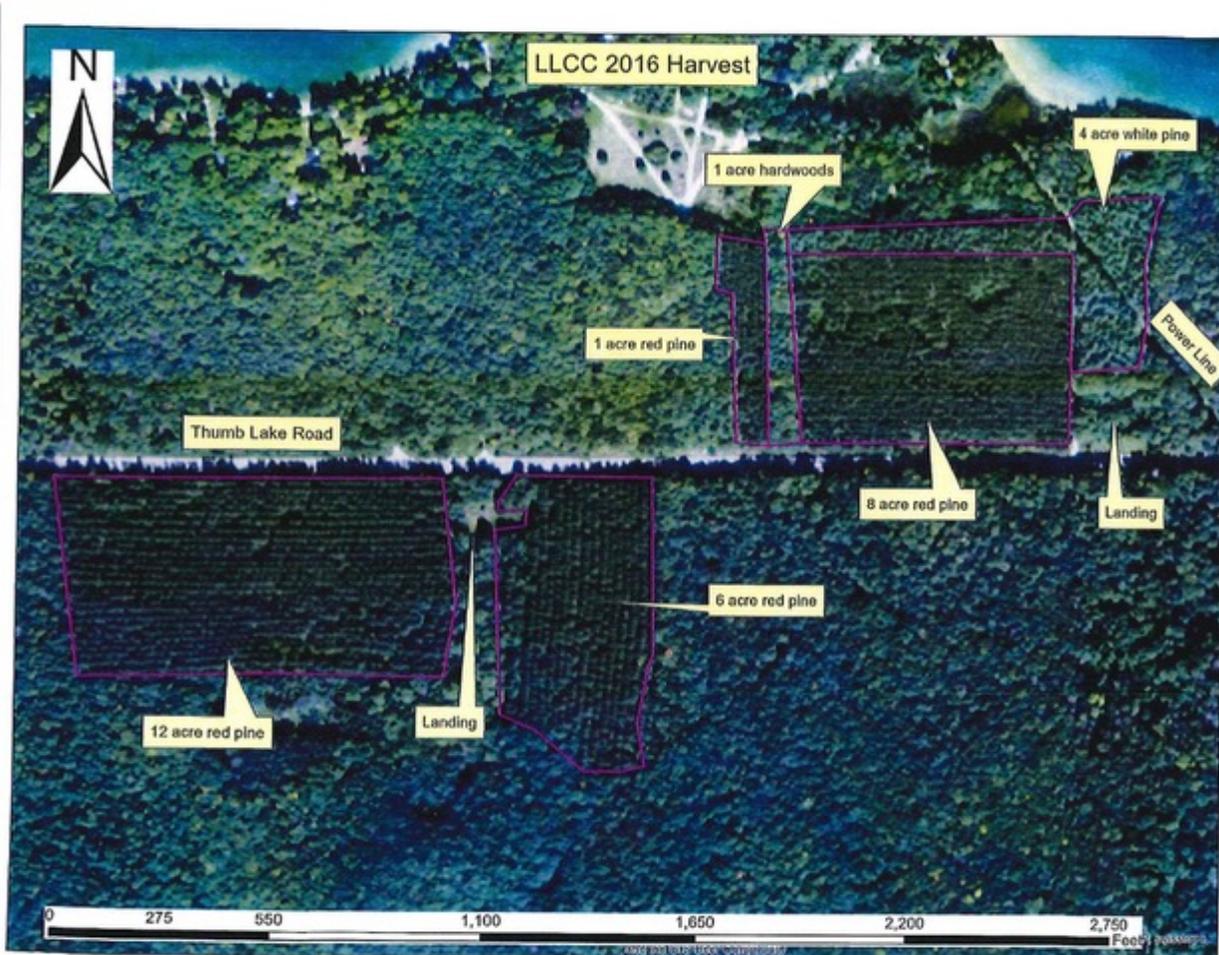
Board of Trustees Report – February & April 2017

John Marshall, President, Cottagers' Council

The Lake Louise Christian Community (LLCC) Board of Trustees met on February 11th in Novi, MI and on April 21st at the Retreat Center at Lake Louise for its two winter board meetings. Here are the items that were discussed that may be of interest to Lake Louise cottagers.

- 1) ***New Board of Trustees members*** – Over the past year, the Board has welcomed three new trustees, all of whom have direct connections with Lake Louise.
 - a. **Ron Buck** is the husband of Robin Buck, the granddaughter of Rev. Alfred T. Halsted, who was the land agent at the lake from 1935 until his passing in 1968. He and her uncles, Dick and Ted, built a cabin (lot #81) on the north side of the lake in the Forest Glen plat in 1940. Robin's uncle, Rev. Ted Halsted, owned the cabin until 2012 at which time Robin and Ron purchased it, continuing the family tradition. Ron graduated from the Pulp and Paper Chemistry and Engineering Program at Western Michigan University in 1978 and started working as a design engineer for Albany International, a major supplier of paper machine clothing. His work has taken him around the world, and he retired in 2016 after 38 years with A.I. They currently live in Appleton, Wisconsin where he enjoys refereeing high school soccer and volunteering at the History Museum. He serves on the Board of Trustees at the First United Methodist Church in Appleton. His family, including his daughter Kara and son-in-law Kevin, have established a love for the cabin, the lake and its community and look forward to spending many future summers at Lake Louise.
 - b. **Doug Clark** is the husband of Cathy Brubaker, the daughter of Rev. Ellen and Robert Brubaker, (lot #36 on Pioneer Trail). Doug was raised in Traverse City and graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in business. He is currently an elementary school teacher in Muskegon, MI. He has three children, a daughter, Jessica, who graduated from Albion College and works in Ann Arbor, and two sons, one of whom also graduated from Albion College and his youngest son who is currently a student at Michigan State University. Doug is an avid fisherman and sailor and sails the Laser sailboat that you may see leaving from the Brubaker dock on Pioneer Trail. He also enjoys restoring vintage Ford Mustangs in his spare time.
 - c. **Gordon Graham** is the husband of Nancy (Ainsworth) Graham, and they make their cottage (lot #22 on Pioneer Trail), built by Nancy's parents, Don and Betty Ainsworth, their summer home. Gordon and Nancy currently live in Crystal Lake, Illinois, where Gordon recently retired as the McHenry County Circuit Judge. They are enjoying their retirement by spending more time at Lake Louise and on Gordon's sailboat on Lake Michigan, and by doing more traveling, with trips south in the winter and to visit their daughter, Elizabeth, who has recently moved to Houston to continue her career as an attorney.
- 2) ***Steps to Reduce Cottagers' Tax Burden*** – The Board unanimously voted to proceed with steps to move five parcels of LLCC land (a total of 125 acres), not associated with any cottagers' leased land, into the Commercial Forest Act program, thus reducing the average tax rate on that land from \$267 per acre to \$1.25 per acre. This land is currently being forested and this should have no effect on cottagers' properties. It will result in a total annual land tax savings to cottagers of approximately \$18,831 or an annual land tax reduction of approximately \$149 per cottage. This reduction will occur at some time following the land transfer and this will be discussed in more detail at the Cottagers' Council Meeting in June.
- 3) ***Increase in the LLCC Buy-in Fee for Cottage Purchases*** – Per LLCC policy, a Community Buy-In Fee is paid by a buyer, who is not a member of the Lake Louise community, whenever a cottage is sold and a lease interest is transferred on land that is owned by the LLCC. A recent review of land tax increases since the last adjustment to the Buy-In Fee in 2011, showed that land taxes will have increased approximately 11.7% by the end of 2017. A similar percent increase in the LLCC land value would result in a Buy-In Fee based on \$1,900 per lake front footage. Therefore, the Board voted unanimously to increase the lake front footage basis for its Buy-In Fee from \$1,700 to \$1,900 for cottages sold after January 1, 2018.

- 4) ***“The Gathering at the Tennant”*** - A Worship Committee, which is composed of both Board members and cottagers, is beginning to explore ways in which the cottager and camper community can come together on Sunday mornings at the Tennant Chapel to worship in a more meaningful way, to celebrate our lake, to appreciate the nature around us and to honor the camping ministry. The Committee will be exploring different ways to conduct the Sunday service by mixing traditional and contemporary formats and music, by addressing different life issues through meaningful messages by both clergy and lay people and by creating an environment that is inclusive of cottagers and camp personnel in lay leader roles. The “Gathering at the Tennant” will begin on June 25th and end on September 3rd, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. You will hear more about this as the summer begins, and we hope we will see you there.
- 5) ***Tennant Chapel Renovations*** – Ruth Ann Tennant Zeigler and Caroljean Tennant have been actively seeking donations to make the needed renovations to the chapel, including a new metal roof, improved lighting, new flooring and an accessible bathroom facility near the chapel. Last year, they raised enough funds to install the new metal roof, and they have just reached another milestone – the funds necessary to move forward with installation of the new lighting. Construction of a bathroom facility is currently on hold until the installation of a new septic system associated with the future renovation of five cabins at the west end of the camp is completed.
- 6) ***Forest Harvest 2016*** – The scheduled logging activities for the 2016 contract have been completed. All of the cutting this winter took place either on the south side of Thumb Lake Road across from Pearson and Harrison Lanes or in the red pines and hardwoods located east of the cottages on Pioneer Trail (see accompanying photo) The logs are currently stacked in two contracted holding areas, one area that is on the east side of the driveway into the Executive Director’s home and the other is on the south side of Thumb Lake Road across from the Pearson Lane entrance into Pioneer Trail (marked as “Landing”). These log piles will be removed as soon as the logging mills have the space to accommodate the logs.



- 7) **Camp Cabin Construction** – Construction of the **Hammond, Manning and Brubaker/Weems** cabins is nearing completion and these cabins will be ready for camper occupancy this summer. In addition, the materials for the construction of the new Health Center are at hand and its construction will begin this fall.
- 8) **Development of the New Staff Village** – The Board unanimously approved a plan for the construction of a Staff Village, to be located at the west end of the Lake Louise camp. The development of this Village would involve the reconditioning and upgrading of five older cabins, four of which would be utilized for staff housing and the fifth would serve as a staff lounge and recreation facility. This will greatly enhance the living conditions for the camp staff, will make the camp much more desirable as a retreat venue and will provide opportunities for guest and visitor housing. LLCC has monies specifically designated in its endowment fund to begin this project and it has begun to identify donors who would like to be a part of this new project.
- 9) **Cottages for Sale on the Lake** – There are currently two cottages for sale on the Lake. The **Petree** cottage at 11378 Morningside Drive (5th cottage in on Morningside Drive) and the **Breining** cottage at 308 Delta Lane (1st cottage west of the Baptist camp). If you know anyone who might be interested in a cottage on the lake, have them contact the Camp Office and they can connect them with the appropriate realtor.
- 10) **The Next Meeting of the Board of Trustees** – Friday, June 23rd at the LLCC Retreat Center

Additional News from the Lake

Cottager Council Summer Activities – The following is a list of the cottager activities planned for this coming summer.

1	June 24 th -> July 9 th	Dumpsters will be available in the Pioneer Trail meadow for cottage disposables (No paint products or construction materials)
2	Saturday, June 24 th	Cottagers potluck dinner & meeting at the Retreat Center
3	Sunday, July 2 nd	Lake Louise Boat Parade – starting at the County Park
4	Thursday, July 6 th	Lake Louise Cottagers Pizza Party at the County Park Public Beach Shelter
5	Saturday, July 15 th	Cottagers Annual Town Hall Meeting at the Horner Center
6	Date to be announced	Community Forest Day – Information from our forester
7	Wednesday, August 15 th	Cottagers Council Meeting and Ice Cream Social at the Retreat Center

Lake Louise Water Quality – Comparison to Other Area Lakes - Don't be surprised when you arrive at your cottage this summer. The lake is up again this year. It measures two inches higher, this April, than it did at the same time last year and there is quite a bit less beach this year. However, the quality of water in the lake is excellent. We participate in the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council's Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program and **Tom Gschwind and friends** monitor the lake's water throughout the summer. The Spring 2017 Tip of the Mitt report shows that Lake Louise is superior in many categories in comparison to other lakes in the area. Several parameters by which the lakes are measured are described below:

- a. **Secchi Disk** – This is a weighted black & white disk used to measure water clarity by lowering it into the water and recording the depth at which you no longer can see the disk. Water clarity is principally determined by the concentration of algae and sediment in the water. The greater the Secchi Disk depth, measured in feet, the clearer the water.
- b. **Chlorophyll-a** – Collected water samples are analyzed for chlorophyll-a to determine the amount of phytoplankton (minute free-floating algae) in the water. The lower the Chlorophyll-a score, the better the lake.

- c. **Trophic Status Index (TSI)** – This index ranks the biological activity of the lake. A score of 0-38 indicates a lake that is producing low levels of algae and sediment, which lead to degradation of the water quality and to fish and invertebrate mortality. A score of 39-49 indicates a moderately productive lake and scores of 50+ indicate a highly productive lake system. The lower the score, the healthier the lake.
- d. **Total Nitrogen** – Nitrogen in the water stimulates nuisance aquatic plant & algae growth. Its greatest source is fertilizers used on lakefront lawns. The lower the score, the healthier the lake.
- e. **Chloride** – Chloride is a lake pollutant associated with human activities, including road salting and wastewater from water softeners. The lower the score, the healthier the lake.

Comparison of Lake Louise to Other Area Lakes

Lake	Trophic Status			Total Nitrogen	Chloride
	Secchi Depth	Chlorophyll-a	Index		
Lake Louise	25	3.25	31	60	6.4
Burt Lake	17	3.53	36	343	10.52
Lake Charlevoix, South Arm	16	4.19	37	735	8.86
Skegemog Lake	13.5	4.77	40	690	10.11
Walloon Lake, Foot & West	12	3.17	43	240	16.15
Pickeral Lake	10	4.55	45	246	6.73
Crooked Lane	9.5	5.22	45	363	9.31
Huffman Lake	6	6.00	49	227	4.6
Preferred Number	High	Low	Low	Low	Low