

PINEWOODS

December 2016

President's Letter

It was a BANNER year for Pinewoods in many respects. Many, many Pinewoods memories were made in 2016.

The most meals served (10,639) in the memory of the Dining Hall committee were driven by many special events such as Ann Taylors birthday celebration, Michael and Katie Wade's wedding, Bob Fitzsimmon's celebration of life, many Pinewoodser's and guests. One notable memory maker was a hike around the lake by some young and energetic folks, including a 10-year-old. Those kids will never forget that walk. The rest of us are very proud.

I am happy to report that there is a newly completed mailbox structure at the entrance thanks to our B&G committee and Mr. Ed Babcock. The lumber needs to age before staining or painting.



On a personal note, Mona and I made a trip to Thailand in November. Very much a trip to remember. Saw some lovely parts of the country, both north and south. Unfortunately, the 2-week trip was extended to 3. Mona fell and broke two ribs, needed an operation to relieve a pneumothorax, was put on a no-fly list, and we flew home on Thanksgiving. The entire medical costs were very reasonable. It was an excellent hospital, and we are thankful to be home.

John DeBeer

From the Editor...

Sorry for the delay in the delivery of this winter edition of *Pinewords*. It was a very busy summer/fall for the Larkin's. We moved out of Chicago to the suburb of Glenview (what I lovingly refer to as the country since you can smell skunks DAILY). We are quite literally still unpacking boxes, so perhaps pictures will be included in the Spring *Pinewords* edition.

Due to the move, we were only able to make it up to Pinewoods for the long July 4th weekend and we are all feeling it! We are already looking forward to a proper visit next summer! Just have to get through another winter...which I hope proves to be much easier with a garage!!!

As always, thank you all who have sent in news and pics to *Pinewords*. Apologies for any omissions, misspellings or grammatical errors.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season with family and friends!

Kristen Larkin, EBT Cottage

From the Newly-Weds, Michael Wade and Katie Hughes...

We could not have asked for a more perfect place to have our wedding than Higgins Lake. Sharing this place that has been very special to Michael growing up, and to both of us throughout the past few years, with our family and friends was wonderful. The Willage was transformed into a beautiful outdoor venue thanks to the labor of love from family and friends.

On the day of the wedding we were lucky to have a beautiful day at Higgins Lake. The sun was shining with a bit of breeze, and we were able to spend the whole day outdoors. The ceremony took place at 11:30 AM and was performed by a good college friend of the bride and groom. We exchanged our own vows and at the conclusion of the ceremony, Lauris was quick to help the wedding party pile onto “Da Boat” for a quick spin out to black water to celebrate and snap a few photos.

At the reception, guests enjoyed toasts from the Best Man and Maid of Honor, wine from our honeymoon destination (Mendoza, Argentina), and Vermont beer, which was one of the Best Man's responsibilities to transport from Burlington. Dinner was enjoyed in the dining hall, which would not have been possible without extra help and support from Kathy! Sharing a toast with all of Pinewoods that evening was especially a highlight for Michael. As he shared in his toast, while Michael has moved a lot throughout his life, Pinewoods has always been a constant place to return to find home and family.

Finally the day concluded with fireworks on the dock of the Willage, a perfect way to end our special day. Below are several of our favorite photos taken by Jennifer Green Photography, a wonderful photographer based in Whitehall, MI.

Thank you to everyone in Pinewoods for sharing our wedding day with us!







From John and Liz Wade...

Needless to say, this was the major news item in the Wade family this year. I can only add that Jack and I have discovered it gets colder in Nevada than Florida, but we still love the new abode. Trevor's daughter Taylor is headed to medical school next year, but the choice is not yet in stone. Lauris's junior at the University of Colorado, Ciaren, just got tapped for Phi Beta Kappa. Grandparents are very proud.

From Joslyn Almirall...

The Lawrence cottage is pleased to announce their newest member: Lorenzo (Enzo) Randall Almirall was born to Nathaniel and Joslyn

(Lawrence) Almirall on Wednesday July 13th, 2016, in Arlington Heights, Illinois. In addition to being a fourth-generation Pinewoodser, Enzo also has roots in Cottage Grove on his father's side and Lakeside heritage from both grandmothers, making him a very tri-camp baby! We would also like to note that Kate Eubanks was the winner of the "Squares," which bet on Enzo's delivery date and time, and both Hugh and Weezy are very excited to join the ranks of Grandparentage. Extensive pictures are available on request; please see anyone from the Lawrence Cottage and have several hours to spare.





From Bitsy Fitzsimmons...

I was afraid that this past summer would be a difficult one for our family...the first one without Bob. And it was. But the amazing Pinewoods family gathered around us all and made the sting a little less painful, and the summer, in fact, turned out to be a really great one.

Our president, John DeBeer, mentioned in his remarks that memories were made by the group of 5 that hiked around the lake, and he is absolutely right! Here are a couple of pictures, taken as they started and again, 12 hours later, as they finished.



Jack Eubanks, Aislinn Wade, Felix Geupel, Georgia Geupel and Alex Eubanks

And 12 long, hot hours later, they finished.





I think it was the hottest day of the summer, and a very special thanks to Eric and Amanda Geupel for walking and/or biking with them for parts of the adventure!

Now, the fact that Jack wore his USC T-shirt is the perfect segue (cue drum roll) into the fact that USC will be playing in the Rose Bowl on January 2nd. When he was accepted at USC, I told Jack that if the Trojans ever went to the Rose Bowl while he was a student, we'd have a family adventure and all go. Nanas tend to get pretty enthusiastic about things, so "California, here we come!"



FIGHT ON!!!!

From John G. Bennett...

John and Louise Bennett are moving. As of December 15 they take up residence at Kendal at Longwood, a continuing care retirement community in southeastern Pennsylvania. Their new mailing address will be 202 Kendal Dr., Kennett Square, PA 19348. The new home phone number will be (after 12/16): (610) 388-2756. Their cell phone numbers and email addresses will not change.

From Paul Bennett...

The Bennett-Sinclair Cottage is celebrating the arrival of Oliver Seamus Pacelli on September 13th. Parents Rebecca Bunting and Craig Pacelli and big sister Sunniva Pacelli seem pretty happy about it, too.

From Charles, Carmen and Simone McIntyre...

The McIntyre's just wrapped up three months in Manizales Colombia and are embarking on four weeks of travel around Colombia while I am on break from my Masters program. The Colombian people have been some of the warmest, friendliest and helpful people we have ever met. While many people from the US have the stereotype of violent drug gangs and war regarding the culture of Colombia, we have experienced just the opposite. We haven't seen any hostilities at all and in fact, we realized we were being rude when we didn't greet people with a "Hello, Good Morning, How are you?" before asking them our question.

We've been homeschooling Simone and while it's been challenging for all of us at times, we're all now in the swing of things. Simone joined a local girls volleyball league in town and was playing with girls 4-6 years older than her. She received excellent coaching and made friends on the team. They just played a three day tournament and her team received first place.

We took two buses that took 10 hours from Manizales to Popayan, a beautiful white walled colonial town in the south of Colombia. We will spend the day exploring it's many churches and cafes before heading out tomorrow for a 5 hour bus ride to the pueblo of San Agustin, where there are many well kept pre-hispanic artifacts. After San Agustin, we will travel via plane, bus and jeep to Casanare to visit what's called the "Serengeti of South America" in the eastern part of Colombia. We'll then take two days to go to Villa de Leyva to spend Christmas and New Years, then onto Sagamoso at a lake house for my birthday. It's a half day journey by bus to Bogota, where we'll spend a couple days before flying to Curacao to snorkel and renew our Colombian visa for another 90 days.

Our blog is plantainsforbreakfast.wordpress.com for pictures and more travel adventures!

From Andy Gaus...

My musical "Don't Know Nobody That Boogies Anymore" was presented this fall in Boston. Downloads of the score and a performance video will be available soon on nobodyboogies.com,

Also, my existence is now independently verifiable, since someone--no idea who--has created a Wikipedia page about me. It says I've been active in musical theater. It also says my Greek is kind of shaky, but you knew that.

From Carl Geupel...

You probably know the the Geupels are pleased to rent the western-most cottage in Pinewoods during weeks when Schirmer descendants aren't using it. To support the Dining Hall, we require all occupants to eat there, when it's open.

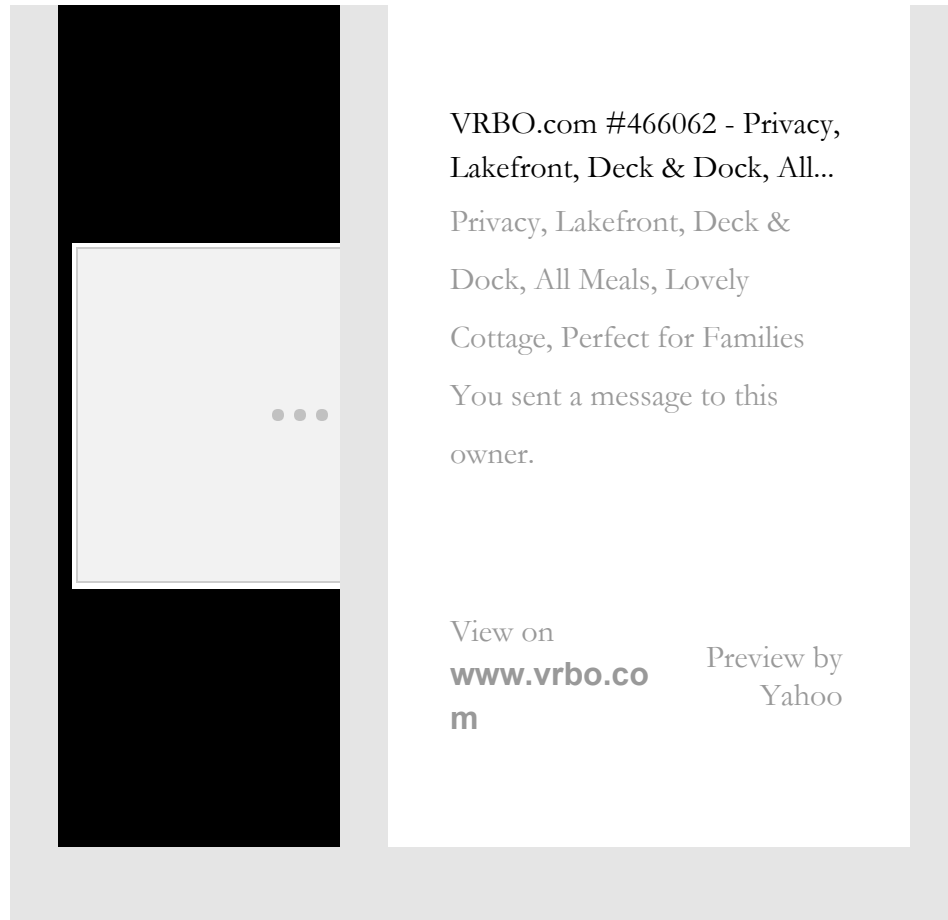
We've found many agreeable tenants by advertising on VRBO and Airbnb, but we would, of course, prefer to rent to other Campers and their families and friends. If people you know might be interested, and if you'd like them vacationing close-by, but not quite sharing your cottage; or if you are facing an overflow situation, please keep us in mind.

If you aren't familiar with the renovated cottage [4 BR's; 2.5 baths; living room with a view; and a nice yard, deck, and ping-pong table {we're hoping someone will rent who can beat Rocky.}], the easiest way to see the cottage and floor plans is to log in to VRBO.com and search for listing No. 466062.

You can try it right now; here's a link:

[VRBO.com #466062 - Privacy, Lakefront, Deck & Dock, All Meals, Lovely Cottage, Perfect for Families](#)





The VRBO listing has lots of pictures, descriptions, rates, and a calendar, showing when it's available. For out-of-season visits, when the Dining Hall is not open, the cottage has a well-equipped kitchen and a side-yard with a fire-pit and Weber grill, which we use on the deck.

If you're still curiouser, you can walk by slowly and discreetly peep in the windows [like we all do, anyway], when you're strolling up-camp. Or, best of all, we can arrange to have Jean Lawrence, who kindly serves as our greeter, show you through, as she has many Campers, whenever it's not rented [or give you the tour ourselves, if we're staying there.]

Yet another way to learn about Cottage One is to contact me, at the co-ordinates below, or my niece, Ava, at [415-533-0131](tel:415-533-0131), and propose dates or ideas or ask us any questions you may have.

In the meantime, many of you have made our guests feel welcome at the DH and on the path. We're very grateful for that kindness, and we invite suggestions, esp. about ways to encourage the nicest ones to return.

Carl Geupel or Ava Geupel

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