



May 2013

From the Board President:

May 21, 2012

Dear Pinewoods Members, Family, and Friends,

It's warming up nicely at our beloved lake this time of year, today's high is in the 70's, warm sun, scattered clouds. The Weather Service indicates scattered showers for the next few days, but sun and temps in the 60's for the weekend. Chipmunks are out and about, birds are singing, and a few of the cottages are already opened up with Pinewoodsers enjoying the late spring.

With the heady days of summer just around the corner, your Pinewoods Board continues its work. Finances are in reasonable shape. At the end of December, our operating cash balance was \$48,850 which is \$10,600 more than last year. The improvement is largely due to significant headway made on accounts receivables. Your board thanks the Association for its role in improving cash flow. As a reminder, the firm Smith & Associates handles accounting and billing and for the most part, bills are sent by email. Members are reminded to let Robin Smith know of any billing issues, email changes, or if bills were not received. She may be contacted at robin@smithassocmi.com. We ask those paying bills to show invoice numbers on checks and that those paying more than one account write separate checks. This will help Robin post payments properly.

The Board has authorized a number of spring projects to improve and protect Pinewoods. Dining Hall staining, minor foundation work, Dormitory roof replacement, the selective removal of dangerous trees, and the Generator Project are well under way. The Special Assessment that appeared in the Spring Billing will pay for half the cost of the Generator Project as authorized by the membership at the 2012 Annual Meeting.

The Dining Hall will open for Dinner on Friday, June 21st. The Dining Hall will close after Lunch on Sunday, August 25th. Kathy Piehl has agreed once again to oversee our nourishment. Ed Babcock will return in his role as Pinewoods caretaker.

The 2013 Annual meeting will likely fall on July 27th and the Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy forms will be sent soon. All members are encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting, so plan ahead!

Warmest regards, and looking forward to seeing you all this summer.

Lauris Wade

From Kathy Piehl...

Just knowing that it's time for the spring *Pinewoods* makes me very happy. What a long winter. We had snow falling just last Saturday! I think it's behind us now! I'd just like everyone to know that I have my staff all in place and I'm looking forward to a great summer. Pinewoods is a special place to work. It seems that the people that have worked there for awhile are all getting excited for opening day. It must be something in the water! See you all soon! Love, Kathy

From Louisa Lawrence...

This year the Board requests that the Dining Hall Tips go directly to Kathy. Kathy will be giving a receipt for any and all tips given.

From the Library Committee...

Lucy Cochran, Marion Foster, Jon Elliot, Ann Loomis, Marian Wattenbarger, Beth Shultz

The Library Committee expects the Library to be operating during the 2013 season. Donations to the Memorial Fund Committee in honor of F. Lee Cochran paid for much of the work last year. Ed Babcock hopes to complete the transformation of the modest space west of the kitchen later this spring; shelves, a hand railing, and deck staining remain to do.

The Library Committee is seeking volunteers to clean the Library and its bathroom during the season as well as shelving and reshelving books. The Library will be locked at night. Please email Lucy at lucyrainbows@yahoo.com to volunteer and to make suggestions.

From Kathy Lawrence...

Preservation Partners, comprised of Roscommon County Community Foundation and Higgins Lake Foundation, will hold the 2nd Annual Wine Tasting Event at the Cottage Grove Dell on July 13th from 5 – 7 pm.

Sumptuous appetizers will be paired with 5 different wine offerings. Not a wine drinker? No problem. Water and soft drinks will also be available. Tickets are \$45 and available from Kathy Lawrence.

All proceeds will benefit Higgins Lake; half given to Higgins Lake Foundation and half to the three Higgins Lake Endowment Funds held by RCCF.

Come and enjoy the music, the wine and friends from Lakeside, Cottage Grove and Pinewoods.

From Carl Geupel...

We'd like Pinewoodsers to know that Pinewoods Cottage One is available for rent to their friends or for overflow.

A full description with photos, etc. can be viewed at: <http://www.vrbo.com/466062>
Or, anyone interested can call or email me at the co-ordinates below.

Thanks,
Carl
cmgeupel@yahoo.com
phone: 1.413.584.5413

More from Louisa Lawrence...

Our first weekend at Higgins in May was cold and snowy! The next weekend was hot (80's) and we were in the water....gotta love spring in Michigan.

Again this year, we will be having our opening weekend camp cocktail party, June 22nd. Cocktails begin at 6:00. Duncan will again be our mixologist; he's planning something special. Since everyone in camp is invited, Kathy will not serve dinner that Saturday until 7:00; she knows no one will show up at 6:30!! We have had a wonderful time with everyone the last two years, so we hope lots of you will be in camp for opening weekend. See you there!!

Even more from Louisa...



Joslyn Lawrence and Nat Almirall are now engaged and plan on a 2014 wedding!! Hugh and I are very, very happy.

The four of us had a wonderful time together in Hawaii - great weather, great sites, and great food (as always). We went to Hilo and saw Jeff and Nani Harman. Did some whale watching and lots of relaxing.

From Andy Gaus... (sent in April)

For some years now I have been waiting for something I've published to turn into an electronic book. I've just gotten news that it's finally happened. My translation of the New Testament, *The Unvarnished New Testament*, is now available on Amazon as a Kindle book. In fact, it's also available for the Barnes & Noble Nook reader.

And that's not all. My dear departed mother has an electronic book too: her children's book, *Simon*, is likewise now available for either the Kindle or the Nook, though it didn't happen soon enough for her to see it. My new email: andygaus@yahoo.com.

From Marty and Nick Dewey...

News from the Dewey cottage is that our son, Dale, was married to Nathalie Gensac. on a lovely quiet beach in Maui on 12/12/12 at twelve noon! We are looking forward to their coming to Pinewoods this summer.

From Jerry and Marilyn Kerns...

Not much news from the 'Little Smokies' of Southern Indiana.

Marilyn and I took down our 'professional' shingles, as planned, the last day of January. I had only worked 47 days in 2012, but Marilyn was still in the office 3 days a week when we were not traveling. So, 'full time unemployment' has been a more dramatic experience for her. She loves it!!! She continues to celebrate the realization that "I don't have to work tomorrow."

More time for her in her perennial gardens and clothing design studio. In retirement she was able to design and construct a 'frock' in one week. Such a project would have taken 2 months when she was still going into her office. So, she is a happy camper.

I am getting a space set up, at home, to begin oil painting. And, I have more time at the keyboard. So, life is good.

We will be in camp in mid June for cottage and Dining Hall opening.

From Mary Highberger...

With sadness I report that Sam is now in an assisted living center but very close to home. His vascular dementia necessitates more care than I can give him at home.

Jerry and Marilyn Kerns stopped by in early May to spend a night with us. It was fun having them drive up in their "new" Cadillac. They will surely tell you the story of the Cadillac gift when you see them this summer.

I also enjoyed my visit with Anne Cline in Vero Beach in March. We drove over to Disney World one day to hear her grand daughter, Charlotte, sing with her Dedham High School choir.

From Kayden Will...



I am excited to welcome baby Theodore "Tayo" Cedar Will who was born 3-13-13 (a birthday palindrome, as Bitsy pointed out). He is already sporting Blue Whale fashions and bringing lots of smiles to the Will family! We are excited to be at the lake in late July-early August.

From Karen Will...

We are looking forward to Coe's wedding on July 13 to Craig Hoeksema, whom she met playing ultimate frisbee in Prospect Park near their apartment in Brooklyn.

Coe and Craig with Ann Taylor's China painting that we gave them for a wedding present:



More from Andy Gaus...

My brother Bill would have been proud to see that two of his sons, Arthur and Edd, have

taken up his fallen periwig by becoming members of the California Bar this spring.

From Dan and Joyce Wilson...

We are about to embark on another weeklong bike/barge trip - this time to eastern Holland.

Afterwards, we will link up with our Italian "daughter", Cristina, whom we hosted for a year about 30 years ago when she was a high school senior. She will give us a tour of Paris and then accompany us to the south of France where her permanent home is.

We hope to have a few pictures when we get to Pinewoods. We are well but we're slowing down.

From Stephanie Fitzgerald and Frank Cochran...

On a recent road trip to explore the Mississippi River from Memphis to Minnesota, we stopped in Thebes, IL to visit its historic court house where the downstairs dungeon confined Dred Scott in 1856 as he awaited trial.

Frank decided to celebrate the 50th anniversary of his brief incarceration (for civil rights disobedience in Cambridge MD), by visiting the Thebes dungeon.



From Jessica Cochran...



We got chickens! They are fully grown and laying eggs. All four have names – Pepper, Brownie, Beauty, and Hawk.. The kids love them. We will build a new heated coop before next winter - we live in Alaska, after all.

From Tommy and Angela Foster...

We welcomed our new baby, our pride and joy, Catherine Joy (Cassie) on 2/27/13.



From Sara Randall Almirall Takikawa...

While 'keeping Portland weird', Jaime and I continue to share an amusing life in Oregon. As he continues as a supervisor at Whole Foods' meat and fish department, Jaime's studying to become a butcher and, fortunately for me, practicing his talents at home.

My first photography show in Portland was a grand success; I managed to sell off the majority of the work I exhibited. How fortuitous that people will buy almost anything! Seriously though, it was a grand time made better by special guest appearances of Alissa Dilworth and her husband, Miceail.

From Bitsy Fitzsimmons...

Where, oh, where? When, and where? Full time? (*Those are teasers...ask Bitsy for more.*)



Bob's sister Claudia will be moving to an Assisted Living/Memory Care facility. Her dementia is progressing more rapidly than we expected, and as her only immediate family, we need to have her near us.

Our time at Higgins will be rather erratic this summer. I'll be there as much as I can be, and Bob will be there the last week or so of July, when three of our kids and their families will be there. Henry's girls and families will keep the cottage full the first part of the summer.