



December 2015

President's Letter

A few of us know Pinewoods in the winter and can conjure up images of the lake a white canvas stretching beyond the island or of snow draped firs and roofs edged with unsheathed icicle daggers. Some may recall cross-country skiing on our trails behind the cottages, of seeing the hieroglyphs of porcupines printed in snow by the Cottage Grove dump, of warming damp socks and mittens on the fireplace screen while a fire roars behind them. Some of us, though, may curse memories of searing cold, cottages like refrigerators, the path feet-deep in snow.

Kathy Piehl planned a special Christmas-in-August dinner for us last summer, but a few Pinewoodsers have actually experienced the yearend holidays at Pinewoods. The Millennium celebrations of 2000 were full of cheer for some Schultzes, Hansens, Schirmers. Otto Geupel, born in Grayling in deep winter, was given an informal baptism with frigid Higgins water by his Dad. At Thanksgiving, Harman and Judith Foster hung a wreath on their front door and decorated a spruce outside their cottage with red ribbons. How many Lawrences, Wades, Finks, and Robinsons also have December memories of Pinewoods?

But for most of us, Pinewoods signifies summer. Snug in our fall-winter-spring abodes away from Roscommon County, we are grateful that Ed Babcock has taken in the docks so they will not be crushed by ice, that he has arranged to have the roads grated, that though we do not use the drives into our cottages in winter, they are nonetheless plowed so that a fire truck might enter. We read on Weather Underground that light snow, coming in from Minnesota, is predicted for the coming week, with surely more on its way, and we are glad to be elsewhere with plenty of coats and sweaters, a furnace which does not clang and clatter and whistle, or, if lucky enough, palmy, balmy days. Snug wherever we are in the world, we let ourselves recline in summer memories, however: that lake beautiful

like no other, those pines tall like no others, that company good like no other.

We might even reflect upon the story of the emerging relationship among that lake, those trees, and that good company during our summers. We might take note that surveying for our camp was done in deep snow in 1919, that our Association was formed during the next winter, and that, thus, in 2020—five years down the road—the Pinewoods Camp Association will celebrate 100 years of our summers (and a few winters) together. The Pinewoods Board for 2015-16—Beth Schultz (Pres.), John DeBeer (Treas.), Curt DeVoe (Sec’y)—is eager for any and all input into the Centennial Celebration Committee, which is in the process of being formed. Let us keep Pinewoods in our hearts and minds, even during those seasons when a Pinewoods summer seems like deep memory or dream, and thus PLEASE DO share your thoughts and feelings with the Board as it begins to plan our Centennial Celebration.

PLEASE DO contact Beth (eschultz@ku.edu; 785-842-1305) with (1) the names of potential members for the Committee and/or (2) ideas for the Centennial events. DO enjoy the holidays. Keep the communal and creative spirit of Pinewoods with you in all seasons and in all places. Keep the peace of Pinewoods in your hearts wherever you are and throughout the years.

Thinking of you and thanking you and looking ahead to many more Pinewoods summers,

Beth

From the Editor...

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



Wishing you all a very happy, healthy holiday season with your loved ones.

Kristen Larkin, EBT Cottage

Loss and Memories

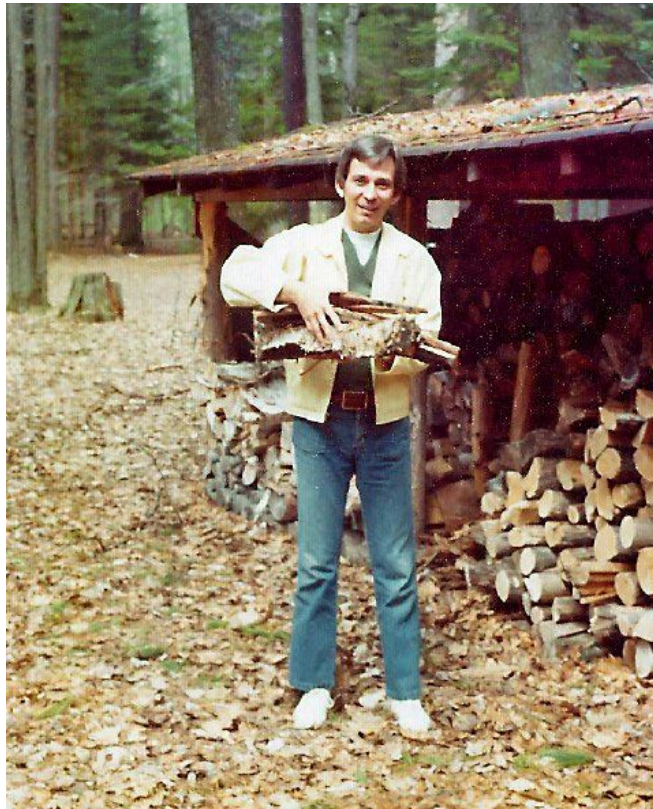
From Bitzy Fitzsimmons...

I have always been excited to write to Pinewords about whatever adventure we had been enjoying since the last meal was served at the Dining Hall. I even looked forward to you all saying, "Really? You're

renovating ANOTHER house and you are moving AGAIN?" Or, "That sounds like a cool trip - I'd love hear all about it, but do I have to see ALL the pictures?"

But it is hard this year. Bob died peacefully and gracefully on September 28th after a valiant one year effort to beat lung cancer. We were fortunate to share forty years together, and although he didn't get to Higgins every one of those 40 summers, he made sure that I did. He really took me at my word when I told him very early on, "You marry me, you marry my lake." And he grew to love it. But even more, he loved that I love it so much.

Here he is on our honeymoon in May of 1975..... doing the required chore - carrying in wood.



And here he is a few years ago..... enjoying a more relaxing pastime.



We don't have all the details in place yet, but we plan to celebrate Bob's life on his birthday, August 9th, and we invite everyone to join us. And, I promise, there will be no minnows.

From Ben Cochran...

This October I finally tied the knot with my longtime girlfriend Adeline. Here's the blurb from our announcement:

Adeline Rose Nino and Benjamin Davis Cochran are pleased to announce their marriage.

A private ceremony was held on October 15, 2015 at the Virginia Hotel in Cape May, NJ.

In lieu of gifts, the couple requests that donations be made to the following organizations.

The Human Needs Food Pantry

<http://www.humanneedsfoodpantry.org/>

Toni's Kitchen

St Luke's Episcopal Church

<http://tk.slechurch.org/>

MESH, Inc. (Montclair Emergency Services for the Homeless)

<http://www.meshmontclair.org/>

The Higgins Lake Foundation

<http://higginslake-foundation.org/>



From Ann Sloan...

The most exciting news from the Sloan side of the Cochran clan actually dates from August and September when Ian and Joy were part of the delivery team sailing a trimaran from Panama back to France after a season of racing in both the western Atlantic and Pacific. The boat, Lending Club 2, is 105 feet long and 70+ feet wide, with a mast of about 140 feet. It had been smashing world records in both oceans. With their friend Jan as captain, the six-person crew made the delivery in about 13 days. Maybe we'll get to see some pictures next summer at Pinewoods.

Anne's fall featured way too many doctors' appointments and culminates with a new hip on December 29. Ian and Joy will be here for that big event, as well as celebrations of the holidays with various other Cochrans, including, I hope, the Alaska contingent.

From Stephanie Fitzgerald and Frank Cochran...

Dear Pinewoods Friends,

Overall, it's been a good fall for us. The highlight was an Oct. visit to Anchorage to visit Jessica, Nathan, Lily and Jackson who are all thriving. It was a delight to witness! Our sad news is that our dog, Rudy died rather suddenly at home right before we left for Alaska. Frank and I keep very busy volunteering with our local park, watershed, and in Frank's case, stint as an amateur librarian. Lucy continues as the professional librarian in the family at our local branch library. Her "Stay and Play" sessions for young children and their caregivers are always full!

We are looking forward to joining Tom and Rachel at Green Lake in NJ for Thanksgiving. Anne will be there, too. It's the first time in many, many years that the three Cochran siblings have been together for the holiday. We will be joined by the newlyweds, Ben and Adeline!



From Carl Geupel...

We are making the Geupel-Schrimer cottage at the west end of Camp [which we are now calling Cottage One] available for rental most weeks from May through September. Naturally, we prefer to rent to Pinewoods members and friends, especially during Dining Hall season.

A full description of the cottage and some photos, for those of you who may not have been inside since the renovation, is on VRBO [Vacation Rentals By Owner], visible at www.VRBO.com/466062:

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



[VRBO.com #466062 - Privacy, Lakefront, Deck & Dock, All...](#)

Privacy, Lakefront, Deck &
Dock, All Meals, Lovely
Cottage, Perfect for Families
You sent a message to this
owner.

[View on
www.vrbo.com](#)

Preview by
Yahoo

If you need extra space for over-flowing family or guests, please contact Ava or Carl Geupel at [415-533-0131](tel:415-533-0131) or [413.584.5413](tel:413.584.5413), respectively; at cottages@geupel.org; or through VRBO.

Our wishes for a great off-season to all.

From Blair Cochran...

Greetings from Cameroon, where Chris and I are settling in at the American School of Douala. We had a week off from school in October, so we got out of the city and found a stand-in lake for Higgins -- this is a crater lake at the top of Mount Manengouba, in the western part of the country. The mountain sits between two regions, one Anglophone and one Francophone, so we heard "Bonjour, les blancs" on the way up and "White man! Good

evening!" on the way down. There are actually two lakes, but the "male" lake is sacred, so we swam in the "female" one. It felt super good after 4 hours up the mountain and another hour down into the crater...of course, we were passed intermittently by guys in flip-flops, herding their cows, but never mind. I felt very tough, at least once we got back down the other side!





From Jane Ferguson...

Robin Link and Ravi Fernando were married on August 15, 2015 in St. Petersburg, Florida at St. Paul's Church with the reception at The Mahaffey Theater. After honeymooning in Eastern Europe, they started their life together in Charlotte, North Carolina. They are looking forward to celebrating the 4th of July, 2016 in Pinewoods.

Katie Link is living in DC and works for the Washington Speakers Bureau, traveling with some extremely interesting people. Ask her about her adventures next summer at the lake!



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