

Late May 2014

President's Letter

I hope this letter finds you looking forward to some summer time at the lake. Enticing pictures are already appearing on the web, so we know the lake is still beautiful and ready to give a good welcoming. Perhaps the loveliest picture which appeared on Facebook is Joslyn Lawrence and her parents at her wedding on the 25th. I'm sure it was a treat for all those who were able to be there.

By this time, you should have received notice of the Dining Hall opening and closing dates (Dinner, Friday, June 20th and Lunch, Sunday, August 24th) and board rates for the season. The annual meeting will be Saturday, July 26th. You should also have received the spring billing. It seems that some bills did not get out due to an email issue, so we have asked the accountants to resend them to those who have not yet paid. *

The Billing includes membership in the Higgins Lake Property Owners Association which has long been dedicated to representation of riparians around the lake and to the protection, preservation and enhancement of the quality of Higgins Lake and its surrounding watershed. In the past year or two, other new organizations have arisen competing for donations. At this point, I have a concern that some of these have a narrow focus on maintaining a high water level at the risk of erosion, water quality and other environmental issues. I would suggest that we be wary.

One of the joys of Pinewoods is hooking up with others off season. Karen and I didn't match Bitsy, Frank, and Stephanie's trip to Peru, but we did have a couple of good theater excursions. We're looking forward to the Loomis-Wilson celebration of their cottage's 100th birthday, doing puzzles, paddle tennis, sharing favorite quotes, ping pong, and other good things we'll find in Pinewoods soon. And don't forget Blue Whale Sailing in July – little skill required.

Hope to see you there!

Phil (Phip) Will

* If you did not receive an invoice, please contact our accountant, Robin Smith, by email at robin@smithassocmi.com or by phone at 989.348.2811. You can also talk to Taylor Smith if Robin is not available.

From Kathy Piehl...

I'd like to say "Happy Spring" to all but I had a snow covered porch on the 15th of May! Not sure when it (Spring) plans on arriving but it could hurry up! I'm busy planning menus and hiring staff. I have some sad news. Dan will not be back this summer. He has joined the Air Force. He plans on going into broadcasting. I am very happy for him but not so for me. The good news is that his mom Josie is going to be the breakfast and lunch cook. I'm happy for that. Does that make me "Sappy"? (Sad + Happy?) Don't answer that!

I'm really looking forward to seeing you all again. It's been a long winter! If you have any needs or desires please, let me know. See you soon! Love to all, Kathy

PS: We are planning a Luau for Aug. 8th. Prize for best costume, games, fun and good food! So be creative and prepare for a fun night. Aloha!

From Carl Geupel...

Pinewoods Cottage One [the Geupel cottage] has two weeks available to rent in each of June, July and August. We prefer renting to Pinewoodsers or friends of Pinewoodsers. For more details, photos, exact dates, etc., you can browse: <http://www.vrbo.com/466062> or call Ava Geupel at 415-533-0131.

From Stephanie FitzGerald...

Thank you all who have sent in news and pics to *Pinewords* and to this edition's proof readers, Jessica Cochran and Lucy Cochran. In this age of email the editor's job is much easier than it was before, but still, now, after some years, I would like to pass on the opportunity to someone else. Please let me know if you are interested.

sfitzgerald1@comcast.net

Loss and Memories

Two life-long Pinewoodsers died recently, ***Marcia Calvin*** and ***Judy Bishop***. We remember them with love and fondness:

From Lucy Skeldon for the Calvin/Loomis/Skeldon Family...

As you know, our mother/sister/grandmother/aunt, Marcia Loomis Calvin, passed away on February 21st. She had traveled and lived in many parts of the world, but Pinewoods was her True Home, and, as many do, she asked that her ashes be scattered there.

We plan to hold an informal memorial gathering for Marcia at Pinewoods this summer, on or about the 22nd of July. If you are in camp then, please join us, and bring any stories or memories of Mom you would like to share!

Link to Marcia's obituary:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/hartfordcourant/obituary.aspx?n=marcia-l-calvin&pid=169886288>



Four cousins – Esther Murer, Marcia Calvin, Danny Wilson, Linda Loomis

Excerpts from some childhood memories of Marcia Loomis Calvin by Esther Greenleaf Murer...

Although Marcia was two years older than I, and three grades ahead; here are some things I remember about Mar from Pinewoods in the days we were cronies:

Clubs. Mar was always starting them. Not so she could boss the rest of us, though she was the eldest; no, her motives were chiefly literary: she wanted to be the secretary and write the minutes. There were the Brownies (1942), a short-lived service organization. The After-Swim Club (Mar, Lin, Sarah and I) - met on the woodshed roof after coming in from swimming. I don't remember that we did anything, but Mar kept faithful minutes of all our non-activity. We had a club password, emblem, and song, written by Mar. The Pullman Corner Board met in the alcove off the Big Cottage living room. Charter members: Marcia and Bob Sinclair. The Board's crowning achievement was the composition of Act I, which new members (me) were expected to memorize, "If anyone is excessively or unnecessarily rude, naughty, noisy, boisterous, petulant, cynical, tyrannical.... [etc., etc.]... such a person or persons will be publicly or privately reprimanded, censured, rebuked, hounded, [etc.].... "

For the complete, unexpurgated version of *Childhood Memories*, email Esther emurer@att.net

From Paul Bishop...

Judy Schirmer Bishop had been coming to Higgins Lake and to her grandfather M. Seth Babcock's cottage since her infancy in the 1930's. Her parents eventually bought the "Little Cottage" next to Draper's at the end of camp. Most of her young summers were spent at

Higgins in that cottage. Her "gang" largely consisted of ... Michael Taggart. Her older sisters Sue and Molly Judd Draper had a larger, Cottage Grove-based gang that was exclusive of younger siblings.

Judy passed on her love of Pinewoods and the Lake on to her sons Bruce, Paul and John (Burry) Bishop. The cottage energy level always "peaked" upon Judy's arrival and the silence upon her parting was deafening.

She was truly in her element at the end of a long summer day, floating and treading water off-shore in deep "green" water – for hours, either talking with a swimming companion, or by herself. Those of us on shore would occasionally glance out to make sure "the head" was still visible. And now, it no longer will be.

Arrivals and partings at Higgins always include a lot of hugs. Judy brought "Hug Higg" into the family lexicon. That term shall remain in use by the family, in reference to such a dear place and in memory of Judy. Our family partings also include a strange gyration, or kind of "tribal dance" known by us as "the Judy Wiggle," Something to behold, when done en masse.

Departing from Higgins Lake is always hard, perhaps a gentle reminder that all of us must prepare for the "crossing of the Bar."

Farewell Mom, Aunt Judy, Gramma JuJu. Godspeed.

From Jane Hoey...

As you know I moved to San Diego in December. Have settled in nicely. Anne has been wonderful to make me feel welcome, and John and Lisa and the twins have come down to check everything out! What fun to be closer to all on the west coast.

I have been packing for my 3 ½ month Michigan stay, mostly at the cottage. I have already sent two boxes to Ed to put in the cottage. The twins will be celebrating their first birthday at the dining hall. And before Higgins I have a trip to Barcelona with a Grosse Pointe friend starting June 6... So, busy times ahead.

From John Ruhl, Jr...

We aren't Pinewoods members per se ... But let it be known that the W.L. Taggarts are getting a new, race sunfish and look forward to the Blue Whale regattas!

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From Lauris Wade...

Our kids! Ciaren graduated from high school and will attend the Honors College at the University of Colorado. Killian just completed his junior year at the University of Colorado. Michael works in Chicago and was recently promoted to Animal Care Specialist at the Rainforest Cafe. He is also working as a research librarian with the Pritzker Military Museum in Chicago.

And a cool photo:



From Rebecca Aaland for the Mike Taggart Sr./Forest Lodge family...

Large changes are afoot for Mike Taggart's granddaughters Miranda and Ana next year, daughters of Rebecca Taggart and Mikkel Aaland. Miranda is graduating from Urban High School here in San Francisco on June 14, and will start at St. Olaf College in Minnesota in the fall. She is thrilled to have received an art scholarship, and plans on exploring geology, biology, and many other subjects in addition to visual arts.

Ana is finishing 8th grade on May 30, and has decided to attend Ojai Valley School as a boarder. Her parents are still in shock that she will also be leaving home, but Ana is excited for the beautiful campus, the horseback riding, and the chance to be close to Grandpa. Mom and Dad figure there will be a lot of road trips to southern California over the next four years. Ana is carrying on a family tradition, as both her grandpa and grandma taught at the school, and both her mom and uncle, Mike Taggart Jr., attended.

From Andy Gaus...

1) In response to scant demand, I have made my collected poems available on Amazon as a paperback and Kindle book called "Translations and Poems," containing translations of masterworks by Rilke, Verlaine, Baudelaire, and Aeschylus, plus some poems I wrote myself. It's 110 pages long and contains 16 grams of literary beauty per page.

2) My mother was a wonderful writing teacher, and I'm deeply satisfied to report that my niece Annie is continuing that tradition. She just finished a semester teaching writing at San Francisco State University.

From Esther Murer...

Erik and I celebrated our golden wedding anniversary on May 16. George and family couldn't make it until the next day, so we celebrated the 200th anniversary of Norwegian independence instead.

From Geoff Geupel...

Every May (two 2 years now) I make an annual pilgrimage to Pinewoods to 'open' the Cottage 'One' (rumored to be the place I was conceived). By 'open' I mean sweep steps, meet the cable guy, change batteries in the smoke alarms, wander amongst Kirtland Warblers, and move around heavy outdoor wooden chairs. On May 20 this spring as I rearranged chairs around the fire ring I was overwhelmed by a very large flock of warblers. I immediately placed myself in one of the above-mentioned chairs for two hours and watched the endless parade go by. I am not sure if it was a vortex of warblers and feathered friends circling the cottage or a seemingly endless flow of migrants heading north. It was a novel and a magical two hours of the most laid back and satisfying birding I have ever experienced.

The lack of foliage on the hardwoods (two weeks late I am told) brought stellar views of the warblers (Bay-Breasted, Cape May, Blackpoll, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided, Yellow, Wilsons, American Redstarts) most singing and in full spring plumage view, accompanied by flycatchers, tanagers, grosbeaks etc. I am now encouraged that we have not lost the phenomenon of songbird migration in the great North Woods.

I am left with 2 questions:

1) Why now and why so many? Could it be climate change? I hypothesize that a prolonged cold spring and the 'lake effect' (the lake produces

an abundance of insects even in cool weather) created the perfect storm. Or perhaps Pinewoods has always been a magnet for birds (and birders).

2) There is no reasonable explanation as to why a male *Magnolia Warbler* (below) should adorn such an outrageous plumage. I call it the 'Panda theory'. The only reason to look like they do is to entertain others.



Happy Birding!!

Checklist (from my chair on May 20 from 1300-1500): Ring-billed Gull-1, Red-bellied Woodpecker-2, Pileated Woodpecker-1, Eastern Wood-Pewee-4, Empidonax (sp.?), Red-eyed Vireo-4, Blue Jay-6, American Crow-2, Black-capped Chickadee-7, Tufted Titmouse-4, White-breasted Nuthatch-6, Brown Creeper-2, Nashville Warbler-2, American Redstart-18, Cape May Warbler-1, Magnolia Warbler-4, Bay-breasted Warbler-1, Blackburnian Warbler-2, Yellow Warbler-1, Chestnut-sided Warbler-3, Blackpoll Warbler-2, Yellow-rumped Warbler-300, Wilson's Warbler-2, warbler (sp.)-200, Dark-eyed Junco-2, Scarlet Tanager-2, Rose-breasted Grosbeak-1.

View this checklist online at

<http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S18484168>

From Liz Wade...

Jack and I will be attending Jack's 60th high school reunion in early June. Can you imagine? Then while the Wills are at Pinewoods, we will be going to Kenya and Tanzania for two weeks of animal watching.

Check out Lauris's report on his family.

Trevor's kids are doing well. Taylor's first year at the University of Pittsburgh has been reported as super successful – and enjoyable. And the twins are getting ready for high school!

In the small world department – Jack and I have a delightful, younger couple as neighbors. During the summer they live only a couple of blocks away from Trevor and Jacquie up north. I'm waiting for the two women to meet, as they are both walkers.

From JB Baumgartel for the EBT Cottage...

Jeremiah (my son), Sara, and Clara are continuing to build their lives in Albuquerque. Sara is in a small, innovative gyn medical practice about ten minutes from their house. Jeremiah continues to grow and make wine at the Ponderosa Winery. Clara - at two years and five months - continues to be epicenter of the family in NM.

Elaine has been promoted to news director at the NPR station at University of New Mexico.

Niko was recently in Nigeria where he drums with world renowned drummers and is selling the various items he picked while there.

Shaylor (Madeline and Walker) will soon wed Kate Sands (Skye and Sydney). They live in the suburbs of the Twin Cities.

Croft and Stephanie (Caven, Caiden, and Tate) are moving from Cub to Boy Scouts. Stephanie has recently undergone back surgery. I think that this may be a result of her dance career.

Right now, I think that everyone will make it to the cottage in one of our two time allotments.

I do not really know how Carol does what she does. She is the NM statewide coordinator for

Defenders of Wildlife which entails many calls, trips, and mini conferences. She seems to really love this job. She is also my health advocate. My stage 4 melanoma is under vigorous attack from two modern immunotherapy drugs. The side effects are quite powerful and cause me great difficulty but she is there all the time.

From John (Sim) Lyons...

News worth repeating with the Lyons clan: Malinda (Finnell) is working diligently in her final 97 days of her Master's program (Oriental Medicine, emphasis on Acupuncture and Herbal meds). We're all waiting with great anticipation for the big day.

My grandsons Ben and Sage and I are coming to Pinewoods for a visit after 4 years of absence. Should arrive in time for lunch on Saturday, June 28th (following a redeye from Portland). Sage is eager to explore his growing interest in photography with his new Canon DSLR. Grandpa is mighty jealous! And Ben's looking forward to relaxation, play, water time and unwinding from a busy schedule with school, soccer and other intensive activities.

We had a wonderful visit with Jerome and Marilyn this spring. They managed to squeeze in visits with several friends in Oregon while having delightful weather most days. It was wonderful to reconnect and we're looking for more time together in June.

During the year (2013) we experienced the passing of sister Nancy and many more friends both from Pinewoods and the rest of the world. We all send our hopes and wishes and prayers for JB and his family.



Junior Grandson, Tanner

From Bitsy Fitzsimmons...

2014 is turning out to be a pretty fabulous year, in spite of the fact that it marks a rather major birthday for me. Let's start with the good stuff -

1. We are finally pretty well settled into our house on the river in Stuart, FL. (99 N Sewall's Point Road, Stuart, FL 34996)
2. The latest hurricane forecast calls for fewer than normal this year.
3. We sold the house in Aiken AND the condo here in Stuart.
4. Bob's sister, Claudia, has adjusted well to her move from Terre Haute, IN to an Assisted Living facility within walking distance of our house. Her short term memory is almost completely gone, but she is happy.....and happy to be near us.
5. Bob and all of our kids and their families will be at Higgins to help me celebrate that big birthday.....get the minnow traps ready!
6. Kate is in Pinewoods as I write this, celebrating Joselyn Lawrence's wedding to Nat Almirall. Where else can you paddle to the island and back

before breakfast and go to a wedding and a Pig Roast all on the same day??!!!!

7. The 1989 movie, "Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure" has been completely outdone by "Frank, Stephanie and Bitsy's Excellent Peruvian Adventure". And you can bet we'll have a slide show.....trimmed down to a reasonable length.



Frank, Bitsy and Stephanie after a long, hard climb at Macchu Pichu

From Marty Dewey...

Nick and I are the proud grandparents of two graduates this year. Our son, Dale's daughter, Segelene graduated cum laude from Tulane University and our daughter, Carolyn's daughter Megan is graduating from Naperville High School and will be attending Indiana University in the fall. That's it from the Deweys.

From Tom Cochran...

Rachel and I have completed our move to our new (octagonal!) home on Green Pond, a beautiful spring-fed little lake in northwestern Morris County - reputedly the cleanest, clearest lake in New Jersey. The brookies and rainbows visible from their deck and dock are great attractions for the eagles, mink and otters on the hunt. To get closer to the wildlife (and get lots of Higgins-style recreation of course), we are

entering the market for a good, low nautical mileage Sunfish and new kayaks. We are very gradually living out of fewer and fewer boxes every week, getting used to electric stove cooking, and shopping for a Generac dealer (as nothing - including the plumbing - works without electrons out there off the gas grid.)



We invite visitors to 124 Lake End Road, Newfoundland, NJ 07435 but ask that you phone ahead using their new home number +1- 973-545-2108.

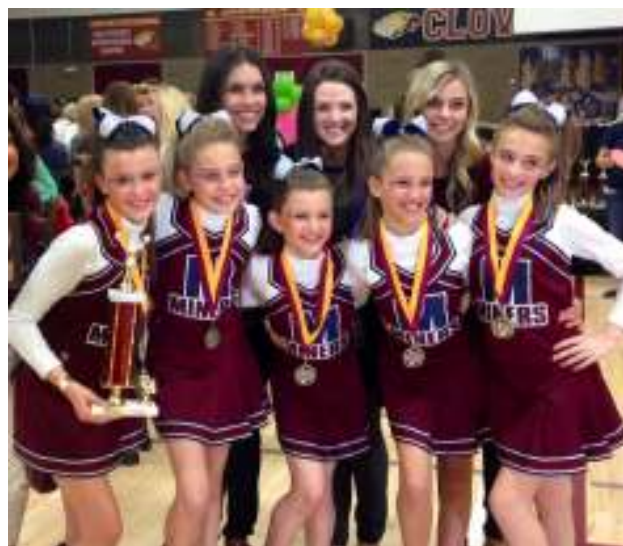
From Bonnie Paloutzian...

The latest news from the Paloutzian family (Henry Taggart), Fresno, California.

Haley will graduate from high school at the end of May. She is certain the ocean is calling her name, so after being accepted to several UC schools, she decided on Santa Barbara. She and her boyfriend, Nick, plan on a long distance relationship during college. He will attend Fresno State University to study business.

Hannah has been busy finishing up sixth grade where she will graduate with honors.

Heather has been working hard keeping up with her sisters. She will receive the highest academic award for fifth grade. Heather is in the same dance classes as Hannah and will continue during the summer.



Pep Team champs - Hannah far left, holding the trophy, and Heather, fourth from left.

Dirk and I took a fabulous trip to New York City in March! We stayed at the Waldorf Astoria, and took in as much of NYC as possible!

We will miss being at Higgins Lake this summer. Instead, we will head to the Big Island of Hawaii to celebrate Dirk's parents' 50th wedding anniversary.

Aloha! Best wishes and love to our Pinewoods extended family.

For Bonnie' complete report, email her paloutz@comcast.net

From David Robinson...

The Robinson Cottage is for rent any time after July 10. For details, call Wendy Robinson (250-545-2696) or Dave (403-205-4007).

From Rocky Flinterman...

Well, wasn't that a lovely winter? Finally got to Higgins around the middle of May, only to find that my house, garage and boathouse had played host to a lot of chipmunks during the cold months. Lots of clean up. That weekend I also attended a meeting at Gerrish Township regarding swimmer's itch. They were selling eagle decoys and eagle kites to scare the mergansers away from nesting anywhere nearby. I'm such a sucker, so I bought one and it is flying on my beach right now.

See ya at the hall.



From Karen Will...

Phil and I, with my sister Marcia, spent a week with Bryn, Dima and Bepa in Montenegro. For a little geographical help, it's just south of Croatia, where we also spent some time, and north of Albania on the Dalmatian coast. We rented a house on one of the many fjord-like bays in that spectacular mountainous country, with time for

touring in the mornings and naps in the afternoons, a very sane vacation schedule. The whole family will be together for a week or so in July, very exciting!



Phil, Tayo and Kayden in her apartment in New Hampshire. He turned one on March 13.



Bepa and her dad, Dima, on their balcony in Moscow. She turned 2 on May 21.

From Louisa Lawrence...

The winter was long and cold, but now Higgins Lake is looking beautiful. We want to remind everyone who will be at Pinewoods for the opening of the dining hall to join us for cocktails at 6:00 on Saturday, the 21st of June. Kathy Piehl will not be serving dinner until 7:00 or later that evening, so be warned! 3-1/2 weeks until camp opens, cannot happen too soon.

The Wedding...

From Louisa:

What a wonderful weekend we had with many of our Pinewoods friends. Perfect weather, and a happy bride. And we introduced the Pig Roast to some new people, great fun.

From Jane Link Ferguson...

Beautiful Wedding weekend!!

Dave and I were fortunate to join the Lawrence family to celebrate Joslyn's happy day! Weather was perfect, sunny and not a cloud in the sky!

Joslyn looked stunning, beautiful lace dress with handmade (by Louisa of course!) long veil, lovely ceremony and much joy was shared by all 200+ attendees.

From Rocky...

This past weekend I came back for THE WEDDING. It was just great. Absolutely perfect weather, too. My sister, Mary, was my date and we had a great time. And the pig roast was really well attended, too. Really, really fun!



Proud parents Hugh and Louisa walk with bride-to-be, Jocelyn



And the happy and proud wedded couple, Jocelyn and Nat Almirall.