

2018 Sat Fri
2-7

June 1-10th Written by Liz
Paul and Sandy Open Cottage, Large limb clean up
from Pine tree - taken to edge by beach. Yard
mowed and weed wacker left here for cottage. ☺
Heating elements in hot water tank out on
arrival - Replaced by Paul for hot water.

Sandy went into labor 5 1/2 weeks early
and was 3cm dilated - Tues - 6-5-2018
Sandy @ Munson NICU in Traverse City.

Contractions stopped with meds. She
was released on ^{7th} Friday @ 9:PM and Paul
and Sandy Drove Straight to Home. @ 4 AM
Gwendolyn Rose Davis was born @ Akron
City Hosp. on Sunday 6-12-2018 12:23 PM
4 lbs - 10 oz - 18.31" long.

Welcome Gwen! You almost had the nickname
Michigan!

June 19-30 Liz & New Dog Zeena
June 24-30 Ryan & Julia Stone
Tasks accomplished; Docks up, boats scrubbed

248) Fire wood purchased - 80\$, Pine tree trimmed
659) \$350.00, Furniture, beds, baseboards vacuumed
238) for spiders - Swept a lot

← Kim and Bret nextdoor Round house -
were having trees trimmed and the crew
trimmed our tree while on premises.
Two large branches over the cottage were
pulled by a rope when cut down to get
it away from cottage. The two guys
were standing by the paper birch at the beach
pulling the rope. The limb hit the ground
with a large - Thump!! Removal of the entire
tree would be 2-2.5 K - Hopefully trimming off

The bottom branches will keep the cottage
Safe.

Rock hunted-off Rt 31 in Grand Traverses
Nature Preserve. The best secret beach to hunt &
Charlevoix - only found a few small petroskeys
but saw a spectacular sunset!

Enjoyed the Bellaire Farmers Market
on FRIDAYS - 8-12 at Veterans Memorial park
great Strawberries, smoked white fish & Salmon
paste, Homemade dog treats from disabled
boys, Homemade bug spray & stick,
Awesome radishes and Kohlrabi, and a new
lamp shade for the lamp by recliner, old shade
was apart from wire holding it to lamp.
Put old shade over hats in twin room - It
should be taken to dump unless someone wants
to fix the old antique paper shade ??? NOT
Central Lake has a dollar General just
past the BP Station, prices are lower there.
The weather was great with temps in
the 70, 80, 90's and 40, 50, 60's at night
one day was dark & drizzly.
45th parallel and a full moon
was Michigan magic.

2018

June 30th - Weds July 11th 2018 - Jess, Jenna, Marissa, Will, Julie
Roo & Kono (Keith came up on Tues 7/3 - Tues 7/10) Had a
quick & uneventful trip up - missed most traffic by leaving at
6am & were here around 1:30pm (had one quick stop in Dundee).
Arrived to our beautiful cottage & swam right away. It was
HOT, HOT, HOT our first night even with the ³extra fans we
brought & each of us using an icepack. It was miserable - 95°+
Sunday was hellish ^(ha! literally) as well but it cooled down to the mid-80's
on ^{Sunday night} Monday & then was much better the rest of the week. We
had a nasty scary storm blow in to change the weather - it
blew the canoe right off its storage supports & broke one of
the rowboat's ropes ^(the rope itself, not the knots) (luckily the other held). I saw later that
the winds were 52 mph w/ gusts of 60 mph. Yikes! There
were about 7 million sticks & branches blown down in the
yard so we picked all of those up & then Will mowed. He
got the mower started on the 2nd pull, so I'm thinking
it must just be moody or need some TLC/maintenance. He
also got up on the roofs w/ Keith's supervision & swept all
the pine needles off. Marissa took everything out of the boat
garage & swept it out thoroughly. We have something of an
ant problem - don't like using traps w/ dogs & kids up here,
so we found a spray recipe on pinterest & it worked really well.
It's equal parts Dawn dishsoap, mouthwash & hydrogen peroxide.
We just sprayed them when they appeared & it made them
very unhappy. Mostly they were confined to the kitchen counters
& the small bedroom - just the tiny ones, not the carpenter
variety.

We had a few adventures - went to Traverse City on Monday
not realizing that it was the Cherry Fest. It was very hot
& crowded but the kids did a couple rides & we shopped a
little & had ice cream. Later in the week (Sat I believe) we
went to Charlevoix. Had AMAZING BBQ @ "Pigs Eatin' Ribs."
I've made fun of that name for years but oh my goodness

it was delicious food. We also stopped at Dockside & found our board on the boardwalk. ♡ They had replaced a bunch but ours & Mom & Dad's were still there. That made me smile.

Other than that we stayed close to home. Lots of swimming, Big Mabling, fishing, reading, walking around searching for wifi (haha), playing with the dogs in the water, etc etc. Everyone had a very relaxing & happy time. We did take the boat down to Central Lake for a PATHETIC fireworks display. I think there was one guy working the display & he was on crutches? HA HA Seriously, 10-15 minute pauses... a fire started... we were halfway down the lake on the way home when we realized the finale had started. But it was worth a good laugh & some fireworks are better than no fireworks, right? ☺ We also went to the Beach at Torch Lake City & swam - water there was GLORIOUS & warm, just like our lake. Found a bunch of petoskys there & also at our beach. And of course made a visit to Bachman's to stock up on candy cigarettes.

All in all another wonderful, relaxing time - Keith & Jenna & Will headed home Tues afternoon & Marissa, Julie, the dogs, & I will follow early tomorrow. Grateful for another year of Michigan Magic. ♡

2018

July 14th - 21st Bryan, Rose, Bea, Bryce, Sunny & Dozer
Arrived early Saturday to a spotless cottage and perfect weather. Spent the afternoon relaxing on the beach after our long night ride up. Woke up Sunday and headed to Boyne City where we rented a wave runner on Lake Charlevoix. Had a blast exploring a new town and Lake. Ha and to think we thought Charlevoix was a pricey town... Boyne City is EXPENSIVE!!! Forgot our sunscreen that day, ended up paying \$17 for some ☹️ We swam at a public beach and the water was ideal. Monday we picked cherries at Kings and played at Friskes, which is always a favorite stop. Enjoyed our beach and swam most the day Tuesday here, had dinner at Shorts that night. Bea conquered the floating dock and wouldn't get enough of cannon balling in!!! After 30+ years of coming here, I finally got to spend a day on Torch Lake ☺️ We rented a pontoon boat for 8 hours from Torch Lake Marine/Rentals. What a blast!! Had lunch at Dockside and played at the Sandbar all while soaking in the gorgeous blue water ☺️ Couldn't have had a better Wednesday honestly!! Thursday we spent all day here enjoying every aspect of our slice of heaven ☺️ Bryan and I worked on/off all day weeding and manicuring the beach. Our biggest accomplishment was unburying all the rocks that border the beach and making a clean edge. 80% of the rocks now exposed were buried, including the 3 step stones down to the beach. There was at least 2 inches of solid ground over the stones that I knew still existed from when I was a kid. It's the little things in life that make my heart so full... like hopping on

The 3 stones leading to our beach ♥♥♥ Had a beach fire going all day and into the night, another awesome day!! Finished the evening at the wood park in Bellaire that we love so much!! The week seemed to not fly by until our last couple days so we squeezed as much into Friday as we could. Headed to Charlevoix, Grand Traverse Bay and Shooks before ending our week back at the cottage with a bonfire and hobo pies ♥ Waves at Charlevoix were HUGE and too dangerous for the kids to even swim^{ing} Bryan enjoyed it thoroughly though!! We had a fun filled week with new and old adventures ♥ Smoked more meat than we can count... Seriously, we brought our electric smoker with us & replaced the toilet seat after 5 days of opening it like a clam with both hands... YUCK!! Got new hood white one from Bauchmann, kept old wood one in utility closet. Also added new door mat on front stoop to help with sand being wiped off feet. Bea got to experience candy cigarettes for the first time, brought back memories of my childhood ♥ Bryce about to be 2 next week has kept us on our toes this week. Beyond blessed to be a part of this beautiful place, even more blessed that my kids get to enjoy it as much as I do ♥
Until next year...

The Scotts

2018

July 21st - 28th Todd & Karla,
Leela (4), Theo (2), our Goddaughter Destiny^{Horton} (11)
What a wonderful week! We arrived
Saturday afternoon and immediately
hit the beach! We hung out at the
cottage Sunday and Monday but were
barely inside! We enjoyed swimming,
building sand castles, nature walks through
the woods, bike rides, picnic lunches,
boat rides (w/ our electric trolling motor),
picking wildflowers and playing on the
HUGE raft! We had beautiful weather
besides a few showers mostly at night.
Tuesday we ventured out to Charlevoix
and the kids loved the boats, the
drawbridge and shopping! We drove past
the mushroom houses and hit the beach!
The kids and Todd swam in Lake MI
while I enjoyed looking for rocks! We
also visited Friskies and Baehemans.
The girls and I went to the laundymat
on Friday morning and stopped by to
see Aunt Carolyn and John! (& Lilly! 🍷)
I brought a raspberry sappling from
home and planted it out front by the
bushes. I put a circle of rocks around
it to mark that it's not a weed. We
only had 2 fires this week both
times when the kids were in bed! lol
The kids kept us on our toes but
were overall great this week! It is
so special to me to share all of my
childhood favorites and "Michigan Memories"

with the kids! It is so neat to be the 'Mom' now after all the years of being 'the kids'! This week has been an amazing week full of Michigan Magic!!! We are blessed to have this family cottage and we can't wait for next year!

-♥- The
Halls

-PS- I made new hummingbird food on Friday! ♥ ♥ ♥

- July 28th the last day we saw 1 Swan we went outside and 9 more came. It was so amazing to see 10 Swans. ~~and~~ so we went in got bread and fed them. we took a vid and after about 20 min 4 ducks came and 2 Swans left. we had an amazing time all week. I hope everyone that reads this had an amazing week too.

♥→
Destiny

2018

Harvey III & Rique Friends! Beau Strawn
Cory Carr & Sara Fredette
July 28 - August 11 -- Dan, Emily & the twins Ollie and Joey (3) Jason & Tori Traut

Two full weeks here packed with family, friends, and lots of good times. I think we set a record for our side of the family in total people stuffed into the cottage - 10 (w/ 11 total people here at various stages)... we had a few people out in the yard in a tent to fit everyone comfortably. Fortunately we had pleasant weather with warm days, cool nights, and very little rain.

These two weeks went by pretty quickly, but the days were just packed. Lots of the usual swimming and use of "Float City" alongside the swimming dock. We noticed that there's a weird, sludge-like algae or goop floating pretty prominently in the lake. It seems to be affecting water clarity in the lake as visibility is quite low. I had some trouble snorkeling at the drop-off in search of crayfish and mudpuppy puppies as a result. Also, we had an incident with a full mini-key of Bell's Oberon tipping off Float City down into the murky depths. Despite my and my friend Jason's efforts, we could not recover it. For any brave souls, the key fell to the left of the swimming dock right around the drop-off point. A beer surprise awaits if you can snorkel down and find it.

Otherwise, days were spent boosting the local economy with many visits to Short's, the new Bee Well meat storefront in Bellaire (they had a small taproom in Bellaire already on Derenzy, but they're now "official" with the downtown location), and the Mammoth distillery in Central Lake. Several visits to T.C. for fun and airport pickup/dropoff missions and a nice day trip to Charlevoix for swimming - with an extra few miles to eat at McComack's Deli near Petoskey. Keeping up with the twins is a challenge, but our commune-like population all did our best to help Danny & Emily.

We noticed some drain backups and a sudden, alarming leak in the back of the toilet. After consulting a plumber, the problem was simply a VERY full septic tank. The leak in the toilet seems to have been related to the septic fullness, but keep an eye on the floor behind →

(aka please!)

- Mongoose
- 2 swans
- 3 loons
- 1 baby loon
- seagulls
- squirrels
- hummingbirds
- tiny gnats - one billion
- great blue heron
- giant crawdaddy
- 2 fox (supposedly)
- deer
- bluejays
- ducks /
babies
- cicada (in the cabin)

2018

ANIMAL

SIGHTINGS!

Ethan, Steph and Nora 8/11-8/21

Steph drove separately and had to leave on 8/15 because of work. Bummer. Nora and I carried on as best we could without her. Had trips to Charlevoix and Alden. I got muffins at the Muffin Tin in Alden, something I've been wanting to do for like five years, so that's cool. Weather wonderful. This year at Dunlookin was pretty low key for us. I like that.

Did not have septic issues, probably because there were only three of us. ☺

The nonfunctioning window in the living room is cracked open somehow. I don't know how it opened, and I couldn't close them all the way.

Card for Family Fare was missing when we got there.

9/2/18 - 9/5/18

Dan, Harvey II (copy), Mary, Oli, Josie Greer (5 Greers!)

This ended up being a very short trip 9/2 - 9/5/18. Harvey III (Double copy) ended up picking the last 2 weeks of the season for our family, and forgot that the last week of the season has to close (as we came up with in the new generation take over). Emily was unable to make the trip as she had to work on 9/3/18, and we had left on 9/2/18. The twins had a Blast, because of the water ya see. They both had nice underwear sunburns/tans. That's where they're tan everywhere, but when you pull their underwear down, it's white as snow. Well let's talk about the trip up north. We left Erie on Sunday 9/2/18 @ around 9AM and made it here around 6-6:30PM. The kids went right in the water and my parents and I made a plan to pick up some beer.

The next morning we went right back out to the water after breakfast, and started the take down. After locating the steel rod to take out the dock polls

we got to work. I got all the dock parts out and stacked up next to the path. All the polls and connection polls are stored inbetween the dock parts. Then went out and took the float in. Had some trouble rolling it over the beach (with a 76 year old man at my side), but we got it over and up on the wood. Both of the boats are on top of the float and tied down.

We Finished on Wednesday morning 9/5/18 Harvey II and Mary Greer's 37th Wedding Anniversary (Wow!) We drained all the water out of the hot water tank the night before, then finished with using the large T-shaped key to drain the rest from the well. Cleaned up, closed all windows and blinds, pulled in the stuff from the porch, and poured Antifreeze in all the drains, toilet and shower. We were able to shut the roll window in the living room that Ethan had issue with.

That's All and Thanks, Love

Dan, Harvey II, Mary, Oli, and Jose Greer

2019

Ethan, Stephanie + Marnie (Nora) Greer - June 15-21

We're eternally grateful that Bruce and Rickie came up for the weekend to help us open for the first time. We got three sections of the dock out. The section lying on top in the yard is too damaged to use anymore. Bruce got the mower started, but it died partway through the job. Not sure if it can be repaired. We paid the neighbor across the street, Chris, to mow with his tractor, but there are some places where he wasn't able to maneuver. The fridge door was propped open with a chair when we got here, which was a really good idea. The freezer was moldy though, so would suggest propping that open when closing as well. Opening the valve to the hot water heater caused the bolt to turn as well and the pipe to leak, but it was easy enough to hold the bolt closed with a wrench while opening the valve. We replaced eight burnt out light bulbs with LEDs.

Had great weather, especially for June, and many bird sightings: hummingbirds, flickers, and baby ducks, geese, swans, and loons! Also swarms of mayflies at sunset. Biked part of the Little Traverse Wheelway, a paved trail that runs from Charlevoix to Petoskey to Harbor Springs. Very cool to have the lake on one side as you go along.

Magical as always. ♡

DID NOT GET TO THE HEDGE - IT IS WHAT IT IS.

2019

June 22 - July 2 Liz, MaryAnn 6/22-27
Traveled up with Best friend and my Zeena Dog
MaryAnn left on Thursday for work reasons. ✓
We enjoyed the cottage and beautiful
condition of everything. We went to
Guntzvillers, Nature Preserve, Charlevoix
and Brownwood. I talked to the grandson
of the owner and she has dementia and
the place is being revived by her heirs.
They have done a lot of improvements
and everything was busy when we went
on Sunday. Flea Market day

Bellaire Farmer Market is Fridays 9-12

Weather was good 70's-80's Day 50's-60's Night
Zeena learned to swim real good
this year and had fun playing with
heela & Theo on our 3 day overlap with
Karla & Todd. Leela & I got bitten by
chiggers (we think) and after research
discovered they hatch larvae in tall
grass by lakes and they do the biting.
Great vacation overall, I love it here.

June 28th - July 6th

Karla, Todd, Leela (5), Theo (3)
Drove up early Friday morning
to overlap time with Mom. We
enjoyed beautiful weather all week
and spent most of our time
here at the cottage. The kids
loved playing in the sand, on
the rafts and swimming. On
Sunday we went to Brownwood
for the flea market, doughnuts and
rock hunted along Torch Lake.

Leela was swimming like a fish this
year and Theo jumped fearlessly
every chance he got. On the fourth
of July we went to the Lions
Club pancake breakfast, Central
Lake Parade and watched
fireworks from the john boat
with our electric trolling motor.

It was awesome but the waves
from all the other boats made
it a crazy voyage! There was
a tree down by the woods on the
left that Todd cut up as much as
he could with an electric chainsaw
he got from a yard sale down the
road. We trimmed the front bushes to
make exiting the property much
safer. Todd bought a new primer
ball to replace a cracked one ~~and~~ on
the weed wacker and it ran great but
the tall grass jammed it. He attached
string and cleared the entire

property. We got a new spark plug for the mower but it still would not run continuously. Todd also fixed the mailbox by building a square base to go over the split post. On Saturday we were excited to welcome Rose, our friend Melissa and the 4 kids to spend the day with. It was a blast swimming and playing with all six kids and brought back memories of when I was young. This place is truly magical and one of my favorite places in the world. I am so appreciative to have this special place to bring my kids to. Until next time...

* July 6th - 13th *

Rose, Bea, Bryce with friends Melissa, Madison and Mason Mounts :)

We had perfect weather, naughty kids and plenty of Michigan magic. Drank more wine than we can count lol. Visited Friskies, Charlevoix, Alden and Grand Traverse Bay. Always the best of times in such a magical place that holds such a special place in my heart. Love it here! Until next year...

#sitting on the dock
of the bay!!!

* Rose

2019

July 19-28 HARVEY III, RECAUE, EMILY, DANNY, OLIE + JOEY (4), friend BEAU STRAUB

GREAT WEEK, AS ALWAYS. EVEN WHEN YOU INTENTIONALLY TRY AND BE IN THE MOMENT, THE DAYS HERE ALWAYS GO TOO QUICKLY.

CASE IN POINT - I'M WRITING THIS ON OUR WAY OUT THE DOOR!

NOTHING OF SUBSTANCE TO REPORT HERE, BUT THAT'S A GOOD THING AS IT MEANS EVERYTHING WENT SWIMMINGLY (PUN CERTAINLY INTENDED). ☺

LOTS OF SWIMMING, GREAT WEATHER, GAMES, FOOD, AND FAMILY TIME. A FEW POINTS OF NOTE:

- > NEW KAYAKS! DANNY & EMILY KINDLY DONATED. PADDLES ARE IN THE BOAT HOUSE.
- > THERE'S A PUMP FOR FLOATIES AND ^{CITY} ~~FLAT~~ ^{WAX} (ELECTRIC) ALSO IN THE BOAT HOUSE, ON THE SHELF WITH THE TACKLE BOX. THAT MAKES PUMPING THINGS SO MUCH EASIER.

Love to All, and see ya' next year. ☺

- HARVEY

Aug 3rd - Aug 13th: Jess, Keith, Jenna, Marissa, Will, Julie⁽¹⁸⁾⁽¹⁵⁾⁽¹³⁾⁽¹²⁾
Kono & Roo (the dogs)

Had a wonderful, relaxing, spirit-recharging 10 days! We drove up separately b/c Keith & Julie had to leave on Sunday. First order of business was finding a way to have enough dock to actually use our boat - Keith & Marissa & Will spent the better part of a day doing a repair job by shortening 2 of the broken sections & repairing them. Not an easy task w/out any power tools (except a drill) but they managed. This is a very temporary fix but it did the job

for our stay. After that we got to start relaxing. ☺
Made excursions to Charlevoix, a beach on Grand
Traverse Bay, Traverse City, Alden, Brownwood, &
of course Bachman's. Did all the usual things: petoskey
hunting, fishing, Big Mable-ing, daily trips to the grocery
store, swimming. Mostly it was just wonderful to
actually have some time away from reality, & together.
That is worth its weight in gold & not as easy to come
by as I would like. (Beautiful, perfect weather was also a plus!)

I made an executive decision (ha!) and trashed the
box fans. One of them was tripping the breaker, & the motor of the
other kept slowing down randomly. I'd rather be safe than
sorry when it comes to burning the cottage down. However
I didn't get around to buying replacements, so I'll
tackle that this winter - I wanted to get some input
from everybody about it.

Now we're back to reality - school starts soon (sob sob).
We deflated the party float & washed all the rugs (bedding)
blankets at the laundromat. Had a great ribeye at Toonies
for dinner tonight, & now time to enjoy our last sunset
of the trip. Grateful for this place, & to all of us for
working so hard together to make it work. We are
awesome! ☺

Love to all & see you in October! ♥

JESS

P.S. Whoever put the
wooden planks in the
shower - great idea!!
we all loved it!

2019

September 2nd - 7th Dan, Oli, and Josie Greer, friends Cory Carr + Sara Frederic

Like the Last Close last year, this was a short trip. Emily once again didn't make this trip, but this year she had a big Starbucks corporate retreat in Chicago (John Legend played a private concert!) My buddy Cory donated a set of cornhole boards and bags (this was his 4th or 5th time here, so he felt like donating his boards that he doesn't use much anymore) Emily and I have also donated our kayaks, it's not a big deal, we don't use them in Erie, and Emily won them donating blood.

We cleaned out the fridge, chipped the ice in the freezer, cleaned the bathroom, drained the hot water tank, opened the valves under the slab up, opened the well head and used the big "T" shaped tool to back drain, pour the anti-freeze in all the drains and toilet and back of toilet. I think that is all.

Another good close

Love, Dan and the other people