

1995

Thanks to John & Sara for Michigan county atlas!

May 9th - 16th Rt propane Tank in use Meter 765/6

Len, Carolyn & Lucy arrived at 2 PM. Cottage opened up without a hitch. We set up new utility cart for TV, it looks good in living room. It was chilly & rainy 1st 2 days but on ~~Thurs~~ ^{Fri} it was a beautiful warm day. John & Sara came on ~~Wed~~ ^{Thurs}. so on ~~Thurs~~ ^{Friday} the lawn was mowed, fertilized & dock set up, went for a row boat ride, went for a walk in the woods & picked out a few wild flowers from a stock of millions. I brought up some "forget-me-nots" & planted them in kitchen window garden. Please don't clean the ashes from the fire place, it makes the fire last longer & the logs burn slower. We will clean them out at the end of the season.

Thur Mon.
May 11 → May 15 Thurs → Mon. John & SARA

A very overcast day all the way up here from Ohio. It was clear and sunny when we arrived at the cottage, Mom & Dad outside getting their first glimpse of sun. Friday was a perfect outdoor day for getting things set up. Sun & Sand minus the bugs. Sara & Mom went on several wildflower digs while I scouted for morel mushrooms. I couldn't find any, but my friend Ritchie Wilkes from C.I. had just gotten home with 10 lbs of them when we went for a visit for some pointers. He gave us some fresh picked ones for our Mother's Day dinner.

Dad & I put fertilizer on the lawn and bought some grass seed (Dura Turf - see 2-3 years ago in log book) for the bare spots. Had some trouble with the lawnmower despite new spark plug & carb. adjust. (Blade sharpened). It still might flood out when first starting - Good Luck - Anyway, the row boat still floats. Had a great weekend & looking forward to summer days.

Monday May 15th was a beautiful day John, Sara & I went for another long walk in the park (woods) John & Sara left at 11³⁰ A. It was lonely for Len & I after that. The cottage still has a charm & I'm so glad it is all of ours.

Home Tue. May 16th with for forecast of rain & high of 50°

95

Tues. 6/20-95 thru Fri. 6/30-95 Copy, Mary, Kelly Harvey, Danny Greetings! We left on Monday afternoon, but had some car trouble between Twinsburg and Hudson. Bill Davis came to the rescue with a new fuel pump which we installed on the road (literally). We were graced with the warm hospitality, and food and love of family, sleeping in Anne and Joe's beautiful home. We departed at 9:30 Tuesday morning.

It was hot on the trip up, between 90° and 100° all the way up here, and also here. The hotness was the only topic of conversation with vendors all the way up. We arrived at 7:30 in the evening in sunlight which lasted until after 10:00! The temperature was 102° in the cottage, 98° outside. We decided not to have a fire.

6/29/95 Here is what we did; Harvey, Danny and I put in the swimming float, pulling it out with the small boat. Harvey made the attachment underneath. Danny found the mooring chain. It continued to be hot and dry until 6/25 when it finally started raining. 75° seemed COOL! This is the first summer in years we didn't need to use the heater at night to keep it above 60° inside.

I found the new "Step's" bicycle - (3 speed coaster brake) and spent hours of leisure restoring it to perfection.

The grass was tall and green despite the drought of the past month, but the lawnmower ran fine although it was a little balky when first started. The carburetor was ^{set} too lean, but even so, I got 3/4 done before I had to address it. The grass browned out after mowing, but is recovering now.

I cleaned and repainted the shower floor with paint left over from 6 years ago when I did it. It's held up good.

July 1
June 30 - July 13th John + Sara

We arrived up here after driving through much Holiday Saturday traffic downstate that added $1\frac{1}{2}$ hrs to our trip. It was ~~was~~ a windy overcast day in the 50's and stayed cool at night for several nights. We spent the 4th of July in Central Lake at the parade + cookout listening to TERRIBLE Country Western Karaoke. Saw the fireworks at night from a pontoon boat. Launched the str. boat after routine service on engine + started right up and running tip top. Sara began a several day project of de-weeding the beach where we finally made it to the end, and used driftwood from the woods for a border.

Thur. ^{Thur} July 6th to ^{Thur} July 13th Len + Carolyn ^{+ July} It was a lovely day when

we arrived, John + Sara ^{were} working on beach making it look like a real beach. Friday + Sat. rainy + cool 50° but it cleared up + reached 90° by the time it was time to go home. The shower looks great, I scrubbed + waxed bath room. John + I repaired the swimming dock ladder + tangle clamps + put Rainbow windsack on pole, it really looks dazzling. We had a contentious fight with earwigs (bugs) they are everywhere, we didn't use any chemicals just smashed + stomped on them. Len was under the weather with gastro-intestinal flu, temp 103° then he got an ear infection so it was no vacation for him. He went to M.D. in Central Lake for his ear, + got Rx for antibiotics. Left at 7 AM on Thur 13th

Other Notes:

- We took the cast iron fireplace grate that was for sale (garage sale 1994) in the garage.
- Bought an anchor + 60 ft. line for the Rowboat (to replace the one I ~~to~~ lost in the lake a few years ago)
- Repaired ladder on swimming dock. It was developing a severe swing.
- ★ - Cast Iron Hibachi grill has disappeared. We just used it last May. Hope that it can be found or replaced.
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ tanks of Boat gas Ready + mixed in the Garage
- When on the beach, bend over + pull a weed. Thanks. John + Sara

July 14 (Friday) to July 19 (Wed) - Joe + Anne
 We got here about 10 pm - Friday evening -
 Joe had never been here and I haven't been
 here for 18 yrs. When we came down the road
 I missed the cottage because I was looking
 for what I remembered - a clear view from
 the road. I didn't count on the trees growing up.
 But when we got inside nothing has changed.
 I was suprised about how much I remembered.
 A small sea of constancy in a world of flux.

Sat. morn I fell in the boat. Didn't realize
 I'd hurt myself. At 10 pm Sat nite couldn't
 stand the pain in my shoulder. Drove to the
 closest hospital in Halkaska. They x-rayed
 me, examined it + gave me pain pills +
 anti-inflammatories. Also immobilized my
 arm. Getting better gradually but no use of
 my right arm.

Joe fixed the outlet in the bathroom. He
 said that it was lucky it didn't start a
 fire. Then Joe + I fixed supper Sat night -
 as we sat in the cabin eating, Joe said,
 "Why don't we eat outside?" I said "I can't
 balance my food." Joe asked "Why isn't there
 a picnic table?" I said "Because there
 has never been one, and things don't change
 here." Sunday Joe built a picnic
 table. Joe makes things happen.

7/14 TO 7/19/95

JOE

Well, Anne and I had a great time even considering Anne's accident, we got to go fishing 3 times we caught a variety of fish perch, rock bass, sunfish, suckers, pike, they quit got to us after 3 days, we realized that you can't live on love alone, ~~the~~ when Marjorie and Liz and Maryanne and the kids arrived ^{7-13/95} things got lively, the kids got out of the park, it was like a hurricane bicycles, life jackets, fishing poles, row boat canoe, swim suits, it looked like a summer camp for kids, if only I were young again, what a trip!!

After the kids got tired out, we had a wonderful dinner, then built a fire and had marshmallows and sat around the fire till midnight, when we got up in the morning (about 6:30) the lake was like glass (calm) the fog was so thick you could just barely see the end of the dock (it was beautiful) we got some fantastic photographs (we hope) ~~what~~ Marjorie and Liz got up and we had a wonderful morning talking and drinking coffee, what an enjoyable end to a short but wonderful vacation.

July 18 to July 26, 1995
Tues. to Tues.

Marjorie, Lizzie, Karla, Rosemary
Mary Ann Lellan and sons Allen and Brian
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I'm writing this ahead of time because I never seem to get much down once we get to clean-up time. It was great overlapping with Anne and Joe and hearing their experiences. They fed us well and left lots of food behind. He built us the picnic table and as we used it every day, I wondered how we got along without it so long. I couldn't believe how good the beach looks. Diligent Sara and John! How wonderful. I see that Carolyn's forget-me-nots went to flower heaven and apparently couldn't beget any babies in the sand. Eegads. SEX in the log book. But, back to the flowers, I believe I see daisy plants surviving... and there are black-eyed Susans. I removed dead wood from privet bushes and cut some dead pine branches. A few.

~~Now~~ it's time

measly week,
worse, one ~~empty~~
To make a log
to find more su
detail here. I
up here - and
bulletin board.

Now - the story
cold water. All
I got here and
Whoever is her
right then. I
Delroy is #65
last 4 days
or pay the fee.
an unnecessary a
refill" option
them Monday
Summer ^{THEY SAID} people
activities. 6

Well... I'll let you read me at my mouth-frothing
worst... I'm not sure whether the gas co. delivered or we
just misread the tank.... but suffice it to say - the
lady at the office didn't seem to think we had
been serviced. I am confused. ^{Now have} I ordered the replacement
for the empty R tank. It should be in place before
Bruce gets here.

Today the family went to Sleeping Bear Dunes
and I stayed to enjoy solitude and gin and
tonics. I did the floors and listened to the Allman
Brothers and Janis Joplin CD's on this great little
Casio Bruce got.

Wood Infr. is on bulletin board.

Note: if you want to help the flowers bloom longer,
"dead head" them.... 😊

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July 18 to
Tues. +

I'm writing
down once
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and left lot
as we used
it so long.

Sara and Tom
went to flow
in the sand.

I believe I saw
Susans. I saw
dead pine branch

~~Now~~ it's time to bitch, so here goes. When I come up here for my
measly week, must I expect to find virtually no wood... and
worse, one empty propane tank and No 2 in its latter stages??
To make a long story short, I have spent considerable time trying
to find more suitable wood. It's more complicated than I care to
detail here. I will tell Bruce on the telephone before he comes
up here - and I will leave names and availabilities on the
bulletin board.

Now - the story of the gas. We were greeted Saturday morning with
cold water. All right in yes. I should have checked it the minute
I got here and ordered immediately. But I have a better idea.
Whoever is here when Tank No 2 is turned on should order
right then. I called the gas co. from Greene's. Emergency
Deliver is \$65.00 on weekends!! I had my options - Go the
last 4 days of our vacation with no stove or hot water -
or pay the fee. Frankly, it was an easy choice, but ~~that~~ it is
an unnecessary waste of money. The gas co. has an "automatic
refill" option in which they keep you supplied. I'll call
them Monday and find out about it. ~~if it's feasible for~~
~~THEY SAID - NOT GOOD FOR US -- WE DON'T GET IT FILLED OFTEN ENOUGH.~~
summer people. I'll let the other girls fill you in on our
activities. We've had a good time... doing it all.

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We missed Brownwood. It is closed... but they have one in Eastport 1995 Cont.

7-18 to 7-26

Note: whose pet mullein weed is growing in the flower garden. At first I tried to pull it out, but then I grew attached to it.

Please don't let me think some neat-nik threw away Twin Taboos, Jessica's and my favorite book. It was in pieces in a plastic bag.

We have had a very busy week, the four kids swam and used the rowboat & canoe everyday. MaryAnn & I skied, Allen^{Brian} mastered the kneeboard (cool if you start fast like skiing) the younger ones tubed and we renamed it the dunking doughnut. If anyone ever sees a nylon cover for tubes for a good price, get it. They allow the tube to skim the water with speed rather than submerge. We went to Charlevoix on Sat. (The Venetian Festival was going) there were 1000's of people in town and free tours of a wooden Schooner & the Arcadia Coast guard Cutter, very neat. Vollyball tournament at the beach entertained us, we found lbs. of petoskies & swam. National Mt. bike race at Schuss Mt. this weekend, every other car had bikes attached and plates from as far as California & Colorado. The race had 1500 participants & 1000's of spectators. Bellair a national Hot Spot!!! The kids played with the Holda/Grane girls a lot. Eight children total in a constant whirlwind of activity. Mom made up a scavenger hunt for them and gave them each a prize, that was cool. Lots of ducks & Swans, a hummingbird comes to the daisies for an early morning feeding and wild turkeys are along the roadside. Weather was great 80's & sunny most of our stay. We had a very loud thunderstorm one night and the roof did NOT leak at marked spot. I took the sailboat out 3 times, mom & I checked out the big house across the lake & enjoyed a relaxing sail. Thanks so much to Harvey & Mother for this wonderful land & cottage, we are very lucky. I'm recharged for a heavy class load at KSD.

→ Allen, Brian and I had a very wonderful time here. The cottage is a sweet homey atmosphere with all

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the charm you could imagine. The boys had a blast going out on the boat and using the knee board. They tried their hand at fishing but were discouraged after not catching anything the first few minutes! Lots of swimming kept all the kids busy. I really liked Sleeping Bear Dunes and the view of Lake Michigan at the drop off. "Spectacular". It amazes me how clear and blue the water is. Lake Erie in Ohio seems pretty poor in comparison. We all thank you for the opportunity of visiting this wonderful "get-away" from reality!

Allen, Brian, & MaryAnn 1995

JULY 28 — AUG 5 - BRUCE & RICKIE - PAT & JUDI BARRETT — ARRIVED TO A BEAUTIFUL COTTAGE... THANK YOU! VERY HOT - 90'S FOR FIRST FEW DAYS, THEN A BIG RAIN STORM COOLED THINGS OFF. BOY, THE PLACE IS LOOKING REAL GOOD. THE BEACH IS REALLY SHAPING UP NICELY. I WAS ABLE TO REPLENISH THE WOOD SUPPLY... I GOT A FACE CORD FROM RALPH HINES FOR 40⁰⁰ DELIVERED... I'VE BEEN BUYING FROM HIM FOR THE LAST SEVERAL TIMES. I'VE ALSO DEALT WITH RANDY SMITH, BUT HE KIND OF FUNNY TO DEAL WITH... A "SORTA"

BUSINESS MAN. I'M SORRY ABOUT "TWIN TABOOS"; IT LOOKED LIKE TRASH TO ME. I'M REAL SORRY THAT I LOST ONE OF YOUR "TREASURES". JUST A NOTE TO EVERYONE... IF YOU HAVE SOME "TREASURES" THAT LOOK LIKE TRASH, PLEASE PUT A NOTE ON THEM...! I THOUGHT THAT I TOLD EVERYBODY OF MY INTENTIONS TO HAVE THE GARAGE SALE TO CLEAN OUT THE ACCUMULATION. THE PICNIC TABLE IS GREAT. THE FLOWERS ARE A PLEASURE. I HAVEN'T SEEN ANY SIGN OF THE SEAGULLS... TOO BAD! I FINALLY GOT "UP" ON THE SKI BOARD... BUT I MUCH PREFER SKIS. I BROUGHT UP MOTHER'S CLOCK FOR THE COTTAGE. I HOPE ITS OK IN THE KITCHEN. I GOT A CHARCOAL STARTER WHICH WORKS WELL. HAD A HEAVY RAIN ON THUR NIGHT

This week has been a treat for birds! The Hummingbird was around several times. We also had a pair of Bluebirds - gorgeous! - a goldfinch, a pair of hairy woodpeckers, and Thursday we saw the loons down by the islands!

The beach is really great! Thank you John + Sara! Bay is the like warm. Even the storms haven't cooled it off much. We really had a serious thunderstorm last night - lightening struck very close a couple of times.

Watch for earwigs everywhere, including unlikely places like in the coffee pot, under the toilet rim, up in the faucets... yum!

Also, it looks like the sparkling wind sock was just the ticket to keep the Captain away. We haven't had to clean sea gull droppings off even once!

Don't bother with Brownwood in Eastport unless you're looking for sweatshirts, moccasins, or cherry jam. There's not much else there. I guess the woman who owned the original Brownwood retired & her son preferred the new location since that's where the jam & stuff is made. The old Brownwood looks like it is still stocked & everything, so maybe someone else will do something with it.

95 August 13-16 Lizzie & Ray Carney

We did a lot for staying such a short time. Ray mowed the grass, the mower ran good if the air cleaner was off. We sailed on a very windy day, it was great. Very nice weather for our stay. We both waterskied using the mirror and close watching. We went to Charlevoix and swam, the lake was warmer than usual. We went and got the John Shepard tour then later that day saw him & his "friend" bike riding. We asked them in for a beer, they said NO. Later that night John came down alone on his moped with a bag full of books to show us. He was in the time life series, "alien encounters." He had a couple of red beers and ate with us. He's a nice sincere guy, but a little on the far side! We had fun and will

always remember it. The cottage looks great everything seems to be in good shape. As we were getting in the van to leave we saw 19 wild turkeys in Smith's lot next door. We feed them bread and took a bunch of pictures. They were all sizes it was the weirdest thing I've ever seen. I came back in to write this down.

August 18th - 26th Jess & Keith

Well, it seems like we just got here & it's already time to turn around & go home! We have had a very nice stay up here this year... the weather has really run the gamut, from 90°_{day}/70°_{nights} to 70°_{day}/50°_{nights}. We've spent most of our time just kicking back & relaxing - fishing, swimming, reading, eating, etc. I read the log book about 3 times this year - I've really enjoyed looking back through it. There are a lot of memories! It also makes me feel a little closer to some people I don't get to see very often... Keith also enjoys hearing all the stories. We've spent a lot of time laughing!

We went into Traverse City to do some shopping - we took our mountain bikes & rode up & down the sidewalks. (Our spending was curbed somewhat by the knowledge that we had to carry whatever we bought on our bicycles!) We ~~rode~~ rode the bikes into Central Lake a couple of times... the second time back we got caught in a rainstorm & made it back in record time. We also drove to Charlevoix & Petoskey & found a real nice place to look for petoskey stones on the way. They were everywhere! Keith likes to drive a different way (if possible) everytime he goes

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someplace, & we find a lot of neat little places that I've never seen in all my years of coming here! On 72 we found a little trail to Lake Skegemog - it says a mile but I think they lied!! We rode our bikes through it & I crashed into the swamp... not a pretty sight. 😊 Still, it was worth it - the lake is very different from any other around here. Shallow, warm, & serene - slowly being overtaken by bog. It's quite a sight.

The cottage was in great shape when we got here except for about a gazillion spiderwebs! I didn't mind so much when I discovered that spiders love earwigs! I left all the webs under the cupboards by the baseboards & every morning there was a fresh pile of earwig carcasses.

Needless to say earwigs were not a big problem!

Keith went fishing every morning & brought back many a "lunker" for pictures. I didn't fish in the mornings - preferring to sleep - and didn't have much luck when I went in the afternoons. If nothing else, I had fun trying! Keith's new boat (different from last year's) is FAST - too bad Dad wasn't here to go skiing! The neighbors remembered him^{from} last year, probably because we're the only ones crazy enough to bring another boat. It's going to be so hard to go back to reality!! We are so lucky to have this beautiful place to share.

P.S. We listened to the Eagles over & over... I think "Take it Easy" is a perfect song for up here! Cleaned medicine cabinet, mopped floors; & bought matching set of measuring cups!

1995

SEPT 1 - 5 LABOR DAY WEEKEND - BRUCE & RICKIE ARRIVED ON FRIDAY AT 4:00 - TOOK CARE OF CHORES 1ST THING SAT... TOOK IN BOAT AND DOCK, AND SWIMMING DOCK. AND CLEANED & POLISHED BOAT. I REPLACED THE FUEL OIL DRUM WITH MINIMAL PROBLEMS. I PUT THE OLD DRUM BY GARAGE FOR DISPOSAL NEXT YEAR (ALONG WITH PURPLE BIKE). I PAINTED THE BOTTOM OF THE NEW OIL DRUM.... I COULDN'T FIND THE PAINT, SO I USED ONE OF THE REJECT COLORS "ESPLANADE". ITS LIGHTER IN COLOR BUT NOT SO NOTICABLE. WHAT HAPPENED TO THE LEFTOVER PAINT... THERE WAS A GALLON, I THINK?

Oct 5th Thur to Tue Oct 10th Len & Carolyn to close cottage Arrived at 2³⁰ to sunny 70° weather. Len mowed grass, Cottage beautiful & clean. Hank & Genie arrived at 5³⁰ p. It started raining after dark & continued until Sunday, the saving grace was the 60° temp. This was the official Fall Leave prime weekend Lots & lots of people, there wasn't an empty motel room in Travis City, lots of rain too. We also went to Petoskey & Mackinac Island on Sunday. It wasn't raining but it was colder. The Fort is really nicely restored, its a great day trip. The leaves were beautiful we got to see them on Sun. Mon when the sun came out.

No difficulty closing the cottage. I placed closing & opening instructions in the front of this book.

We all left early Tue AM

1996

May 9th → 14th Len, John + Carolyn

Elect meter reading 0828. Rt propane tank in use (its full)

left propane tank ordered (they will deliver next week.)

The cottage wintered well. The hard cold winter had wind damaged the ~~shrubbery~~ ^{shrubs}. Hopefully they will all come back to

life this spring. The holly bush by the propane tanks looked terrible so I cut it to the ground to give it a chance to

start over. Len changed oil + spark plug + sharpened blade

of lawn mower, ended up with mowing the lawn. The weather

during our stay was iffy, hard rain, cloudy skies, sun but the one constant ~~it~~ was cold, on Mon AM it was 30°, highs in low

50s. Saturday was yard work day. John did alot of raking +

moved old mag. row boat to a hidden area. The metal rake broke

so we replaced it c.c. leaf rake \$6.97 + a metal rake \$7.97. (K Mart special)

The boat registration is on bulletin board, thanks to Bruce.

Thanks to Marjorie's purchases: 2 sets of double bed sheets, 7 throw
rugs, one (step out of shower) rug, 4 bed pillows, one beautiful double bed
quilt, 5 sets - kitchen towels + dish cloths. The things I couldn't fit
in car were: one double bed pad, Mother's dk blue lap throw + lt purple
+ white bed spread + 2 quilt patterned throw pillows.

I got measurements for garage windows (for curtain replacement)
also put a panel curtain in bed room window, also curtain in
pump room. The electric blankets are clean.

We took out some of the fireplace ashes but you really need
some ash in the fire place to have a good long burning fire.
We also put the swimming raft on the beach.

There were bugs in the flour, its gone.

There is 10 gal. of fuel oil in tank + 10 gal. in garage (price \$11.25)

(wind chill
20°)

1996

May 9th → 14th LenElect meter reading 0
left propane tank.The cottage wintered
damaged the ~~spruce~~ shrubslife this spring. T.
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start over. Len ch

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The boat registration is on bulletin board, thanks to Bruce

Thanks to Margorie's purchases: 2 sets of double bed sheets, 7 throw rugs, one (step out of shower) rug, 4 bed pillows, one beautiful double bed quilt, 5 sets - kitchen towels + dish cloths. The things I couldn't fit in car were: one double bed pad, Mother's dk blue lap throw + lt purple + white bed spread + 2 quilt patterned throw pillows.

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1996

Our weather

May 5, 1996

Spring continues to lag well behind normal for this time of year, with not a single of the last seven days reaching the average mid-60 high. To add insult to injury, 2.5 inches of snow fell May 1, bringing YTD totals to 245 inches. Temperatures gradually rose from the low 40s to the mid-50s by week's end, with Saturday sunshine lifting winter weary spirits, until Sunday clouds returned. A reprieve is promised, with mid-60s predicted by mid-week. **LAST YEAR** - Highs in the upper 60s brought out marsh marigold, violets and trillium, with peak bloom just around the corner.



(wind chill
20°)

1996

1996

May 9 → 14th / John

- Due to weather conditions, I did not put out the dock. The ice meltout on the lake was on April 27 this year and the water temp. was in the low 40's.
- I placed grass seed on the bare spots in the lawn. I also fertilized and reseeded the patch on the front lawn where the swim raft sat over the winter.
- I had no luck in search of morel mushrooms. We were up here a week or two too early.
- Did some more trimming on the Weeping Willow Tree.
- This was a visit with seeing sand, surf, and snow.

JUNE 23-29 ETHAN GREER + STEPHANIE SESIC

FIRST TIME HERE SINCE (I THINK) 1991; SURE WAS GLAD TO SEE THE CABIN HASN'T CHANGED AS MUCH AS EVERYTHING ELSE AROUND HERE HAS!

DECIDED TO TRY MY HAND AT PUTTING UP THE DOCK. IT SEEMED TO BE OKAY BUT STARTED ACTING UP (SLIPPING HERE AND THERE) ON THE NIGHT BEFORE WE LEFT. SORRY I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO FIX IT. ALSO SORRY FOR LAWN, BUT COULD NOT GET MOWER STARTED - WOULDN'T EVEN TURN OVER.

OTHER THAN THAT, IT HAS BEEN A GOOD WEEK. THIS WAS STEPH'S FIRST TIME UP AND SHE LOVED IT. WEATHER WAS PRETTY GOOD AND WE GOT A CHANCE TO GO OUT SHOPPING AND SIGHT-SEEING QUITE A BIT.

Hello! This week has been fairly fantastic, and I've been thrilled and amazed by

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everything from running down Sleeping Bear Pave to witnessing the occasional miraculous times when the refrigerator light turned on. But I think one of my best memories will be a little black dog called Joe. He can be found at the Book Nook in Central Lake; he's a sort of Scotch-type dog, about a year old now, who was born without eyes. Or without eyeballs, at least. He belongs to the owner and is exceedingly friendly. Even Etham, the notorious dog-hater, kind of liked him.

I'm glad I got to know the place, and I apologize profusely for any long dark hairs found in strange places. I have very thick hair so I shed, and the hair then hides itself only to be discovered months later. My own mother just hates it.

At any rate, I hope everyone has a great time just as we did!

June 30 → July 7 John + Sara
 July 1 → July 7 Janice, Cliff, Sammy, Danny
 July 4 → July 7 Johnny + Harry

We arrived up here on Sunday afternoon to beautiful weather. The cottage was left in very tidy condition. The grass on the lawn was long & couldn't get the mower going. I took it into C.L. for repairs and borrowed a mower to make pathways. It was fixed and runs good and cut the remainder of the lawn & help from Cliff.

It Rained on Tuesday for most of the day and was a good day to run around & see places. Weather was beautiful the rest of the week. Did boating after a smooth launch. The sail boat got a lot of use. The kids spent a lot of time on the beach & even helped clear the weeds off. I re-adjusted the dock from the sags & drops (Ethan, you put it up 95% correct) and did several repairs to the first section.

We attended a wedding on 7/4 afternoon for friends that got married on a Pontoon Boat in the middle of Intermediate Lake followed by a wild Reception around the lake. The Central Lake 4th celebration was delayed till Saturday 7/6 for the benefit of the local work force. We had a fantastic time up here with everyone in the beautiful weather and doing as we pleased.

★★ Noteworthy Comments:

- The Record File box has returned & is under the food shelves on the floor behind the curtain.

→ continued

1996

Lost or Missing: Our two metal patio tables on Front porch are nowhere to be found. They were here in May 96. Also the folding Reclining chairs (aluminum & green white) can't be found.

LP Gas: The Right tank is currently in use. The Left tank feels empty to me when filling it, but the indicators ~~says~~ between the tanks says elsewhere. I checked Amerigas & they said they delivered a tank 5/23/96, but may have replaced the (R) tank instead of (L).

Ski Boat: I purchase new plugs for motor. I also changed the Lower Unit Gear oil which had a considerable amount of water mixed in (Something to keep a close eye on to avoid a future headache). The boat is running in top shape again this year so far.

★ Fresh tank of mixed gas in garage.

(Motor Info in file box under 55 Chrysler motor)

Lawnmower: Replaced points & mower was tuned up when taken in Central Lake to be repair. Runs good now and should give us more years of service.

Dock: I did some minor repairs on 1st section that is showing real signs of wear & tear & wood rot. Open to any ideas on repairs and replacement pieces.

Everyone have a fun & great summer up here and hope to see you some time down the line

John
& Sara

Mon 7-9-96 thru Sat. 7-20-1996 'Copy' Mary Kelly Harvey Darry.
 We arrived about 9 PM. The first thing that struck me was how
 lush the vegetation is - especially the grass and trees (what else
 is there?) The beach also showed the effect of a lot of work.
 Thanks, Sosa. I was ready to surrender it to the prairie
 last year.

The weather has been cool, but not unpleasant in the least.
 At 6:00 am it is about 60°, climbing to between 75 and 80°
 during the day.

I was to work on the window crank in the kitchen, the
 boat trailer and the table top. Other problems came up, and
 I had to stop leaking in the washer, and repaint the oil
 drum, which was peeling in sheets. I had to work very hard
 trying to bring up the surface of this old linoleum (Armstrong
 1938) Gentle cleansers did not clean it, but not-so-gentle Tilex®
 did. Then came shellac, and urethane spray varnish. Ordinary
 linoleum paste holds it in place over the original surface.

7-17-96 The kerosene-fuel oil drum shed its paint in sheets
 and rusted. I scraped it to bare metal, sanded it, and applied
 a coat of red oxide Rustoleum, a coat of aluminum Rustoleum
 and a coat or 2 of house paint. Please note that the old
 drum is galvanized, while this one isn't. I suggest holding
 on to the old tank until we see if this new is going to
 work out. (NOTE - THE NEW DRUM IS EPOXY LINED, SO INSIDE SHOULD BE OK)

7-17-96 From Harvey III - Me, my brother, and my sister
 have been having a great time! In the last week I have
 caught about 250 crayfish. I let them go at the
 end of the day, though, so I might be catching the
 same ones 20 times. My top this year is 76 in one
 day. Starting on the 14th up to today, Me and my
 brother have caught 6 different turtles! Usually
 I never see turtles EVER, but I guess this year is
 different. We also saw an otter at the Hilda
 girl's farm.

7.20.96 Katie, David, Gray, Steven,
Cinda, Terry, Meredith, Liz

We arrived on Sat. afternoon about 6ish.
Couldn't believe how great everything
looked. Also couldn't believe the
house next door. We did meet the
neighbors son Jerry and his ~~xxxx~~
future bride Lisa, both very
nice and helpful & cute little
~~western~~ westie dog named Beamer.

Rt. gas tank ran out of ~~fuel~~
propane on Monday so we switched
tanks and contacted Amerigas
for refill. This was to be done
on Wed. or Thurs. Hope
this was the right thing to
do.

David took boat to get more
gas on ~~Tues~~ and ran out half
way there (thank goodness I
wasn't with them). He and Terry
paddled part of the way then some
kind person towed them in. By
the way, rope on anchor dry rotted.

We made it to Macinac Island,
Charlevoix and Petoskey. The weather
was decent until late afternoon
Macinac when the rain came in.

All the ~~rest~~ rest of time weather
has been great. Cool (60's) morning
and evening and 70's - 80's during

day. Lake usually like glass.

Cherries are in season (till Aug 10)
and we have eaten our share.

Swans have enjoyed us being
around. They've gotten plenty
to eat. Also tried for my toes.

We have had a great week
and want to thank you all for
letting us come up. It has
been great getting away from the
heat and humidity and just
relaxing. Thank you so much!

By the way didn't realize
Carolina and Duke were so popular
around here.

TV came in handy. We all
watched the Olympics nightly. GO USA!

Didn't know how to use oven
(did use stove) so frying pan came in
handy for biscuits and baking.
Microwave also very helpful.

Amerigas delivered right tank on Thurs.
Replaced broken slot in dock.

Great VACATION!!!

Lt. propane tank in use

RT Tank replaced + is full ready to go.

Full tank of gas in boat.

^{Sat}
July 26 1996 Carolyn, Len + Lucy arrived at noon, had a lovely trip here.

Sunny blue skies, high in 70's. John arrived on Sun at 1 PM
We picked cherries on Mon. afternoon (it was raining in AM) the next
2 1/2 days I processed (after pitting each + everyone) 76 lbs. All week it was
rainy, overcast + didn't go over 65°. John left Friday AM, it turned
into a beautiful day into the 70's. I went through sheets + blankets +
pillows. I left 3 ~~sets~~ ^{sets} of double bed sheets, 7 sets of twin bed sets.
The rest are in garage in basket (mostly thin torn white sheets)
these will be discarded in the fall, so if someone wants them take
them. I put up, make shift curtains in garage because what was
there were in ~~shreds~~ ^{shreds}, looked like hell.

We pulled everything out + sweep on Friday 1/2. Len scrubbed
+ wiped kitchen floor, also bathroom + utility room. We worked
hard but feel great that it is all clean!

The propane tank that was delivered on Thur. July 25 was
hissing + leaking so we went + told them + they were out in a
flash + replaced it.

In the storage box in double bed room are 2 quilts, bed pad +
mouse damaged blanket. I will take these home over the winter +
wash them + return them. (I didn't have room in car this
trip, it is full of cherries) If someone falls in love with an item take it, please.

In garage are 2 lg trash bags, one filled with pillows +
the other utility room discards, the dump wasn't open, so if anyone
goes please take them. Its \$2.00 / bag so the cottage will pay for it,
Just tell us.

I found a replacement lamp shade for floor lamp. It throws
a little more light out into the rooms.

The heating oil is shut off at The Tank.

The lawn mower runs great, it should last another couple years
now since John got it fixed.

Sept. Sat. AM Aug. 3rd

P.S. we picked 97 lbs of cherries
(@ 30¢ + 1 lb.)

1996 - AUGUST 3 TO 10 - BRUCE & RICKIE, PAT & JUDI
BARRETT - ARRIVED MID AFTERNOON AFTER
PLEASANT TRIP. WEATHER HAS BEEN
BEAUTIFUL - MID 80'S. WE DIDN'T DO MUCH
SIGHTSEEING THIS YEAR. JUST KEPT AROUND
THE COTTAGE READING, PLAYING BRIDGE,
EATING, ETC. NICE JOB ON FIXING THE
SMOKEY JOE! I HAD A LOAD OF GRAVEL
DELIVERED BY BUFFMAN & SONS^(#1452) TO COVER
UP THE TREE ROOTS. PAT & I HAD FUN
SPREADING IT. WE FIXED THE BATHROOM
LIGHT SWITCH BY CHANGING IT (SWITCHED TO
THE ONE IN THE UTILITY ROOM) ALSO PICKED
UP A VEGGIES GRILL "WOK" WHICH WORKS REAL
SLICK. DID SOME TRIMMING ON TREES
TO OPEN UP THE VIEW OF LAKE, SWIMMING
DOCK, ETC. THE UTILITY ROOM & BATHROOM LOOK
SO NICE WITH CLEAN FLOORS - THANKS LEN & CAROLYN.
I TRIED TO BUY SOME FIREWOOD FROM
RALPH HINES IN S. L. BUT NOBODY WAS
AROUND, SO I LEFT A NOTE. I'LL ASK JESSE
& KEITH TO CHECK ON IT. WE LOVE THE PICNIC
TABLE!

August 9-17 Jess, Keith, & Teak (the dog)

Have had a very nice stay - weather was beautiful except for one cold, rainy, grey day. We got here Fri evening & got to visit w/ mom & dad & Pat & Judi a little bit. Saturday morning we woke up to ~~several~~ several inches of water all over the cabin... BEWARE of the possessed toilet! The flap in the tank gets stuck ^{open} & so the pump keeps pumpin'. It looks like the chain was getting stuck between the flap & the styrofoam inside the tank, so Keith cut away the styrofoam in that area. Hopefully that will do the trick.* (Altogether we only had two floods. So that was nice.) ☺

*I would definitely keep an eye on it - and flush it gently so the flap doesn't slam around as much - that also seems to help.

Other adventures: apparently a racoon smelled the duck bread on the porch because we awoke in the morning to crumbs everywhere & a gigantic hole in the screen. The little sucker must have had the strength of Hercules! We didn't have time to fix it - sorry.

We had a cord of wood delivered - \$45 for seasoned, mixed hardwood. The guy's name is Jamie Shaeffer & the phone # is 533-6712. He was very nice - his wife splits the wood. (!) Check out the nifty firewood holder Keith made for the garage - all the wood stacks very neatly. It holds a little more than a cord but obviously will hold less just as well.

P.S. The quilt is beautiful!!

We didn't leave the cabin much this year - our biggest jaunts were to Alden & Clam River. We got to see a sunset over Torch (beautiful) & also bought a board for the boardwalk. We won't get to see it before we leave but if you get a chance, check it out - it shouldn't be hard to spot! Til next year!

August 17-24th 96

Liz, Ray, Karla, Rosemary & Ethan

We have had a wonderful week, we have done so much, it's been a whirlwind of activity.

We went to the Dunes & Charlevoix. The Dunes we hit on a drizzly day, the sand was cool and easy to climb. Charlevoix was cool as usual, the lake was calm so you could see all the big rocks. We swam, had a picnic and hunted mega petoskeys. We did a lot of boating, I brought two tubes with bottoms, the kids had a blast this year. Ray & I skied and kneeboarded.

The temp has been 70°-80°s during the day and 50°s night. Everything with the cottage went smooth, no floods with the toilet. The wood at the baseboards is still damp in bathroom but seems to be drying slowly.

Jess & Keith left everything on for us, we never had to change tanks w/ pet gas. The blue bike has a flat rear tire, someone must have had a major blow out. When we noticed it we didn't have enough time to fix it.

I rode the purple bike, it's not that bad. The new table top in the kitchen looks great, thanks for covering my burn hole from years back. Now, I can take my tail out from between my legs when I sit there. We burned the pile of brush and had two great bon fires. We made sandcandles sample on mantle. I had to call K.S.U. on Aug 20th to schedule my fall classes from Belair. I got three classes I wanted, that was a major relief.

I started a Photo Album, (in back bedroom) of Michigan pictures. Bring your best pictures and add them. Wood rack in garage is very nice. We needed a hatchet or ax to split logs since wood was not fully seasoned. Do we have one? Untill next year, Thanks again Harvey & Mother

I hope you had fun watching us this week. I miss Mother

September 7 → 12 1996 John & Sara

We came up mainly for season close-up. We drove through Rain & stormy weather until West Branch where it began to clear up to some beautiful weather at the cottage. Went on long boat ride before Rainy weather returned the next day.

We ~~pulled in~~ ^{pulled in} the swim Raft and used a milk jug for a chain marker. I guess the foam donut drifted off or sunk. The dock was put up on a place on the beach where it will be convenient for set-up and not on the yard. The speed boat was pulled and cleaned up from a season of CRUD. I winterized the motor and drained / Refilled the ^{lower} gear unit. The boathouse was cleaned & swept. Thanks to whoever changed the life jacket hangers to plastic!!

We also went Salmon Fishing on Lake Michigan on Sunday afternoon/evening/night with our friends ~~Bob~~ Rich & Denise (The couple that got married on the pontoon boat this summer). We spent 5 hours in their boat outside of Charlevoix cruising around for fish. Finally caught a 26" 6lb. Lake Trout and had it for dinner the next night. It was quite the experience to go through Charlevoix boat side.

— Liz, your picture album is very entertaining. We'll add some of our moments by next year.

Goodbye to a great season up here.

John
Sara