

2005

Electric Meter 1487

Sen. Carolyn

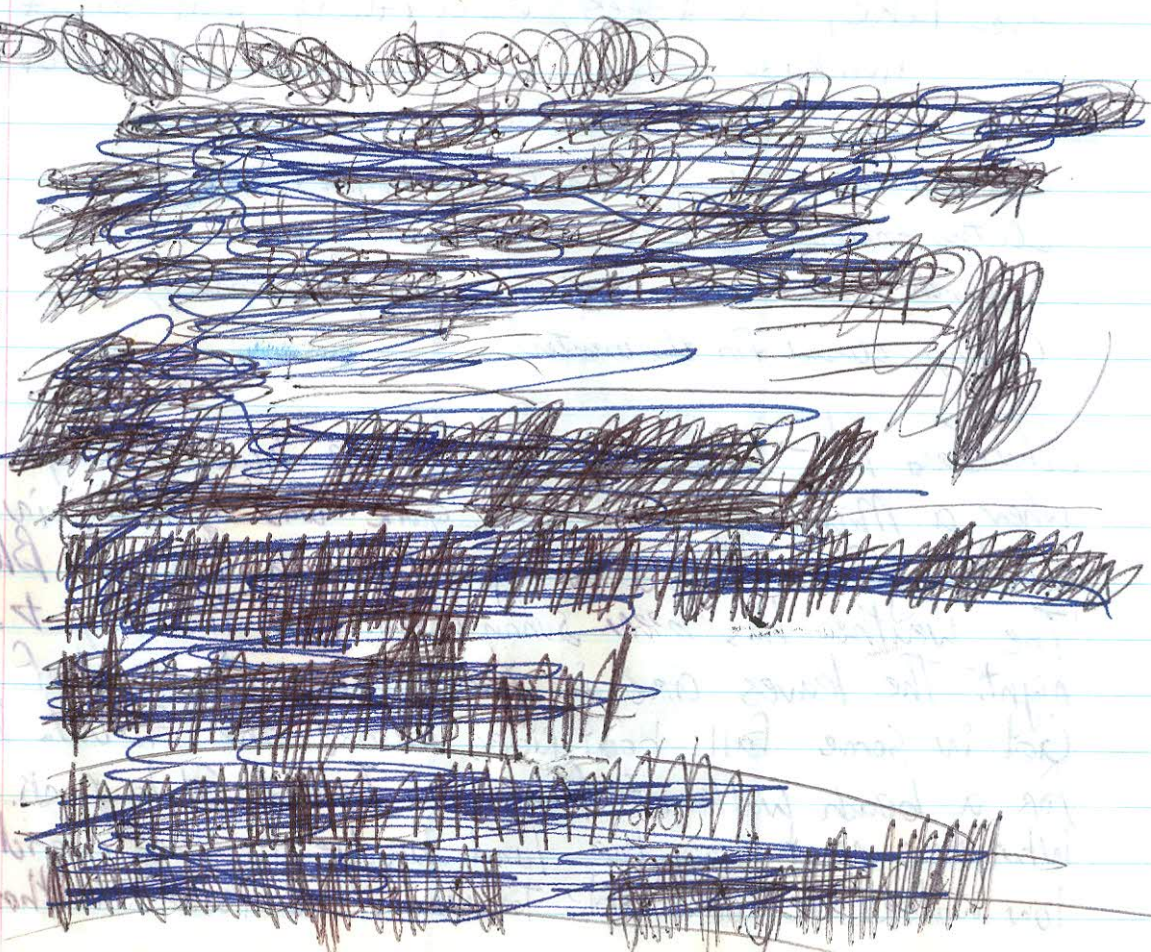
June 1 2005 Opened up cottage for the summer. The Shower
Sprung another leak. I fixed it with epoxy as Bruce did a couple
years ago. Sen mowed the lawn, Repaired 2 of the dock sections,
not enough time to do the others.

June 12 → 15th John + SARA

Sun-Wed Had hot/humid 90's to Cold, Rainy weather within 3 days.
We did not have enough time to set-up the dock due to conditions
and with Sara still on the mend from Shoulder surgery. The repaired
dock links are much heavier but should last another generation

There is a stack of Firewood down by the beach that
would be good for beach fires & not good for indoor
Fireplace (Pine, Rotten, small cuts) Hope that lights up the
night for several fires to come.

Sorry →



2005

Tuesday 6/28 (Copy Mary + Harvey - cont'd) Harvey and I (copy) put up the dock yesterday and got sunburned. We had a couple of niscues and had to take part of it down and start over. It took about four hours of quality time with my son - priceless. After thinking about the problems with the 5.5 hp Fleetwin 5 years, I had an epiphany; It runs fine, it just craps out after a short time; it has to be a fuel delivery problem. And so, I checked and tightened all the hose connections, some were loose, and the hose was split on another. I chased all the spiders out of the boat, put on the motor, rowed out and started it up, and by God, I was right. It ran and didn't crap out. As I speak, it is 86° here. This is the first time in memory I didn't have to use the heater at night. Last year it was 48° in the morning and with a high of 60° if you were lucky. We couldn't swim.

7-9-05 6:30 AM; As we ready the place for Marge and Wolt, we had a real nice vacation. Carolyn's ^{cherry} apples were the best I ever had; Jim Smith was friendly; Tom Greene was as feisty as ever.

Harvey single handedly defoliated the beach area and removed pine needles from the roof.

We had a great time

My dad and I set up the dock; a few outer segments could stand to be raised a few inches. I ~~was~~ launched the swimming dock but had to bring it back in because the left barrel (or, more descriptively, the barrel right beneath 'Greer') was taking in water. My dad had to drill a hole in the side to drain it but we didn't have the time to repair it. I marked in green spray paint the two places we believe it's leaking - the hole he had to drill to drain it and the inner seam. If no one else ~~has~~ looks at it, my dad will probably fix it the next time he's up.

July 9 to July 15, 2005 Mayjone and Walt

What a contrast to the terribly cold summer last year. We had temperatures above 90° every day --- great swimming, and even the nights were warm.

Loved the looks of the very clean beach thanks to Harvey III. The fix-it hand of Harvey II was apparent in many places - but especially in the like-new hibachi on the porch. Grilling isn't my thing - so ^{we} left it in its beautiful condition.

Walt fixed the broken webs on the chaise. I cleaned out the flower beds.

We had a satisfying attack of cherry fever and spent two days canning and jamming - The orchards were loaded this year.

Visiting was fantastic this year. Carolyn and Len were here. Being able to be with my dear sister makes me very happy. (Not to leave Lennie out....!) Also - we had several visits with Tom, Carol, Jennie and Laura at the Greene's house.

We missed the swimming dock - but it was not possible for us to fix it --- no matter --- swimming out to the drop off sufficed.

May everyone else have an enjoyable a time as we did. Mayjone

Walt - Had a great time doing all of our favorite things. - In the water every day and swapping "War Stories" with old Tom Greene. "Air Force Bomber Shop" and U.S. Navy - W.W.II - we had some wild ones to tell! Looking forward to next summer. Love to all.

Walt

2005

Mon 7/25 to Sat 7/30 - Jess, Keith, Jenna, Marissa, & Chili (Edog)

Keith had a ^{fishing} tournament in Chautauqua, NY on Sunday so we ended up leaving at 3:00 am Sunday night / Monday morning - with a 4 year old, a 1-year-old, & a 7 mos old puppy, that seemed like the best plan!

The trip up went really smoothly - we got here at about noon, & the "Are we there yet?"s didn't start until we had gone through Mancelona. All in all a wonderful but too brief vacation! Weather was beautiful - mid to upper 70's & only rained one day (& then overnight one night).

Lots of swimming, fishing, lazing about. Keith really needed to unwind (he's been working 16-hour days) & this is the perfect place to do it.

On Thurs Mom & Dad came up - it was nice to get to visit w/ them & they helped with the girls a bunch, watching Marissa so we could take Jenna petoskey hunting & inner tubing behind Keith's boat, etc. We had to go to Central Lake on the boat to find swans to feed - Jenna got nipped by a really greedy swan but managed to emerge with all fingers attached. 😊 Keith & Jenna had a great time fishing - Jenna was catching bluegill as fast as Keith could get them off her hook, & Keith caught a 4-pound small mouth. Dad & Keith (hopefully) repaired the swim dock - so far it is level & "the Captain" has been seen strutting around on it so he must approve. We are sorry to leave but are feeling refreshed & happy thanks to our dose of "Michigan Magic." Until next year - Love, Jess, Keith, Jenna & Marissa

P.S. We loved all of the changes - the new things just added to the charm & made me happy we were giving this beloved place some TLC. How lucky are we to have this refuge from the world?! 😊

BRUCE & RICKIE - THURS 7/29 - MON 8/8 - Came up to overlap w/ Jess, Keith, Jenna, & Marissa (& Chili dog) We stayed at the Bellaire Inn in the air conditioning... Bruce & Keith fixed the swimming dock, at least for the rest of the season. They painted it w/ fiberglass resin (after cleaning all the rust & suck off the barrel). They launched it, & it has been riding level all week. Bruce added new rope, clips, & a tension spring,

and in the morning after the big storm on Weds night, it was still there, so I guess that's good. We did some baby-sitting so Jess + Keita could take Jenna petoskey hunting & to feed the swans.

Pat + Judi came up Sunday, arriving late afternoon. They brought the hot weather - it was 90° or better everyday until the big storm Wednesday night. We layed around, ate too much, enjoyed the lake the most we have in years, and played some bridge.

Monday, Pat + Bruce put the boat out on Smitty's lot with a "for sale" sign. We didn't really expect any action on it, but the first guy who stopped (Monday afternoon) bought it! We got \$700 for it - he was happy & we were happy. Oddly enough, the guy lived on Maple St, just like the guy we bought it from back in 1984.

After the boat is out of there, there's a lot more room in the boat house! Bruce gathered up some other junk for the dump & cleaned the boat house. It looks pretty good!

One of the dock sections had broken at the main support beam where the sections join. Bruce + Pat took that section out before it could get any worse and then moved the remaining sections back so the dock remains serviceable. We also put the little boat, which was full of water, up on shore & put the motor in the boat house.

On Thursday, we all went to spend a night at the Grand Victorian B+B. What a gorgeous place! Pat + Judi had the Blossom Room with the original master bath & 110-yr old clawfoot tub. Bruce + I had

2005

The Queen Anne room, with bathroom in the closet - very small, but a great shower which we took full advantage of. We went to Lulu's for dinner - very good meal but terrible service. We went to the Lamplight in Central Lake for dessert. The pie was very good and the service restored our good humor. Breakfast the next morning was fruit & German pancake with lemon & powdered sugar. Very tasty, but not as special as we had expected. The owners shared interesting history about the house.

We returned to the cottage, played bridge, ate too much, went for bike rides, made a few trips to Alden, swam and lazed our way to Sunday. Sunday we borrowed Len & Carolyn's pontoon boat & Carolyn joined us for a tour of the lake. Bruce took us up the channel towards Bellaire, a new experience for all of us. Then Len & Carolyn joined us for dinner at T-Bones at the Bellaire golf course. It was a very nice dinner.

We cleaned up & left early Monday AM. - a great ~~year~~ week this year - the best weather I think we have ever had.

August 13-20 Liz, Karla + Jake, Rosemary + Bryan
We came with two SUV's, two motorcycles, two dogs... ^{Bessie}
^{Pete}
Our week was packed with fun and adventure!
Sunday the first day here we went to Brownwood. There was music, flea market and a petoskey for 800.00!! I bought a petoskey book for the cottage. Record your findings if your a hunter. The Greene girls were here all summer and had to fly home to Florida the day after we got here. We all went to their bon fire on their last night. There was

a bunch of townies at Green's fire. One of the kids had a guitar and we all sang for a couple of hours. It was good to see Tom, Jenny, Amanda and Samantha. We spent a day at Charlevoix enjoyed boats, fudge, swimming, raw oysters, petoskey hunting. Lake Michigan was beautiful, the water was clear and not too cold. We had dinner at Big Buck Brewery in Gaylord ☺ ^{Beer Sampler} The day we went to Sleeping Bear Dunes it was rainy and it was much easier to climb. The Peirce Stocking Dune overlook #9 & 10 has the steep climb. Bryan and Jake went down and back in about 25-30 minutes. They are trying to stop people from climbing at this location because the foot tracks are making it erode quicker. The boys had to climb it for bragging rights and they were double dog dared by the girls. Friday night the Rubber Ducky festival kicked off with a band in the street by Ruthies and a car show with about 30 cars. This was just the "cruise in" the big car show is Sat. We saw a lot of wildlife this year... deer, fox, turkey, rabbit, turtle, ducks, ^{hawk}. The kids fished from the floating dock, a big one got away. We brought the dock in before leaving. It was floating level so the barrels must be ok because we used it a lot when swimming. This was my first time to trailer my Harley up here. Bryan borrowed his friends bike to bring up. We took a ride around Torch Lake. Beautiful scenery but dangerous with 55mph, hills, curves, gravel and sand on turns. I pulled over a few times to let cars go around

2005

Aug 13-20 Cont

me, so I could relax and enjoy the ride. We had a few beach fires and one in the cottage. The flu was working good it didn't get smokey. There is not much wood left. Maybe the guy next door could sell us some since he has so much? All the newness in the cottage is wonderful. I'm sure Harvey & Mother are smiling down with approval. This is a special place to recall old memories and foster new ones. Michigan Magic!! Jake works in a shop that cuts steel, he brought the cut out above the stove. Feel free to relocate it if you want to keep that area clear, watch out its heavy. My damn dog scratched the screen door the first day we were here, but the hole was already there. He had a great time here and did no other damage, he swims like a fish. I've written too much ☺ We had a great week in a nutshell

J13

August 26 to September 11 2005 - copy

I arrived here at 6:30 PM after a 12½ drive. I wanted to do some of the maintenance tasks of my leisure. Most of these issues involved surfaces - scrubbing, varnishing, stripping, sanding, mowing and etc.

The grass was long and I mowed it twice while here. The lawn mower started on the first pull every time. I've never had one that would do that. I tested this by forcing Carolyn and John to try --- first pull.

I brought a compressor + spray gun and sprayed preservative on the dock sections. The spray had paint thinner, tung oil, linseed oil, and a little color in it. I also did the boat seats and other wood, and the saw horses. I finally ran out. I finished refinishing the two kitchen window chairs, the table top, kitchen window sills and recoated

Copy brought in the dock. Defrosted and cleaned
the refrigerator. Bought 10 gal fuel oil.

the bathroom and utility room doors. I varnished
a lot of other stuff to use it up. The chimney
bricks were cracking in places, and I fixed
those and retarred the cap. I used fiberglass
screen to bridge the places it ~~at~~ always cracks
open.

The weather was perfect all the time I was
here. I love it here. Copy

Sept. 27th 2005 Electric Meter Reading 1236

Len, Carolyn, Maryjorie & Walt, closed cottage for the
~~summer~~ ^{winter}. The cottage looks beautiful, lovingly maintained
by everyone.

2006

May 10 2006 - Len + Carolyn

Many large white pine limbs down, from winter ice storm.
Len cut them in burnable lengths

There is a problem with the water well pump, our attempt to repair it didn't work. New pump installed by Bacon Well drilling of Billari 533.6365.
6-10-06

Copy ---

June 11, 2006; Arrived @ 5:45 PM after a 12 1/2 hour trip - 524 miles. My 20 year old Escort used 10.6 gallons of expensive gas getting 40.3 mpg.

The electric meter read 1249 upon arriving.

The lawnmower busted my b---s. It started up on the third pull, and quit. I couldn't get it going again until I removed the air filter. It had fresh gas, full of oil - all set --- And so, I let it breathe free and mowed w/o the air filter. Anyway, the yard is mowed.

The heater works well. It was about 48° inside when I woke up, and I decided to test it.

I put a new cord on the clock and lubricated it and it runs quiet - for now anyway.

July 1-8 Bruce, Rickie, Pat + Judi Barrett

Arrived Friday late afternoon. Copy had the cottage in great shape - very welcoming. We spent an enjoyable evening reminiscing, drinking a few beers, & then having dinner at the Bellaire Bar and ice cream at Ruthie's. Copy left early Saturday.

Pat + Judi got here about 10:30 Saturday, having left home around 4:00 AM to avoid the Holiday traffic.

John didn't get here until after the Parade (really a big deal this year - quite the treat), but he joined us for supper & then took us out on the pontoon boat

to enjoy the fireworks. Bay, was that a cold boat ride out + back!

Wednesday we left for an overnight in Petoskey. We had lunch at Weatherware Terrace in Charlevoix & then continued on to stay at the Perry Hotel, an historic hotel, built in 1899. We had a great time - dinner in the Rose dining room with a great view of Little Traverse Bay, then watching the sun descend into the bay from our balcony while being entertained by a steel drum band playing at the Veranda below us.

We came back & enjoyed more fabulous meals, reading, and playing bridge (although Bruce did whine a lot about his cards). Thursday evening Pat, John, & Bruce put out the swimming dock, but it was really too cold for swimming.

The only project we did was Pat put an inline switch in one of the twin bedroom lamps because it wasn't working.

The weather was beautiful the whole week, raining only at night, but it was breezy & on the cool side. As usual, the week flew by and we are sorry to have to leave.

Oh - Copy, the kitchen chairs you redid look fantastic - it's hard to believe they're the same chairs!

Had dinner at the Blue Pelican down by Brownwood - a very good meal, and the outside dining was quite nice (but try to miss the "entertainment").

July 9 → July 13 John

Thanks Bruce & Rickie, Pat & Judy for leaving the flowers & beer. The place was left picture perfect. Copy → you did a great job on setting up the dock this year. It is solid as a rock after the repairs Dad had done. I spent most of the week out on the lake in the beautiful weather most every day. Hope everyone is well
John

Hey Johnny - what's a big idea of drinking that beer?
Maybe Bruce left it for his big sister...

July 15 to 25, 2006 Marjorie, Walt and Molly the cat
A great 10 days - we managed to have some neat activity every day. Weather went from roasting hot to just right with blanket nights. Of course we did Charlevoix, stocking up on Mordicks for the family chocoholic (neither Marnie nor Mollie). We had the Greenes (Tom, Jenny, Samantha)^{over} for dinner. I picked cherries with Jenny and Sam - didn't go nuts this year - just enough for a cobbler and eating. Still have some left at home (canned) from 2005. We got a bang out of the Meadowbrook Fiesta... crafters... good music with a "local favorite" named Dominic Fortuna. Can imitate any old fave you might mention.

The real show stopper this year, though, was the estate auction on Bell St. in Central Lake. Nice looking stuff. I spied some braided rugs to replace our dirty little raggy green ones. (I must insert here that Walt and I had bought 4 folding lawn chairs - really sturdy and pretty at Kmart in Charlevoix - since we had such a shortage here...) That said, I really didn't want to buy the chairs at the auction... BUT when the auctioneer couldn't get anybody to bid on them, he threw the rugs in with the chairs and the whole

2006

(July 15-25 - Marjorie and Walt continued)

batch - 6 chairs and 3 rugs - went for ^{my} a high bid of \$4.00. I about fainted. So we'll take the K Mart chairs home (They cost \$62.00) For the cottage then - 4 folding chairs of various types and colors - one is a canvas "captain's chair." ^{or director's} Can't beat that! Also got 2 of the ~~stutter~~ ~~stut~~ sturdier variety of the white plastic chairs - so maybe we can dispose of the cracked one on the porch that Copy has valiantly tried to repair (still ^{it's} cracked).

At the auction I also bought a box of heavy duty stainless thinking that those skimpy little dudes in the drawer ^{were} we all we had. But when I went deeper I found the set of nice stainless in there - so the auction box will go to someone at home who needs it. But to sum up the auction - if I were the owner of that, I think I'd have been bent at how low things went. One glaring example - a very new looking and not cheap davenport - clean and white - went for \$17.50. Only a few things got bid up... well, enough ^{said} about that - except it took lots of restraint to keep from buying stuff just because it was so cheap.

Note: the hummers do not like the red stuff --- prefer plain sugar solution.

Copy's maintenance work is great. Varnishing and all - Kitchen chairs look gorgeous. Cut wood neatly stacked. I cleaned all the windows. Walt weed whipped - and I dug out some of the beach. If everybody did some, it would help so much.

We celebrated our 7th anniversary by chowing down some delicious ^{rare} rare beef at Big Bush Brewery in Gaylord. Fertilized the perennials.

Marjorie

July 24, 2006

Notes: From Marjorie

I replaced the little framed picture in the bedroom with a painting I bought at the auction. If the picture is of value to someone, I left it in the utility room for now.

On the table in the same bedroom is a rain-bow ruglet made by a little girl and sold at the Meadowbrook Fiesta for \$3.00. Seemed like a low price for the labor involved... and pretty too.

I put the green braided rugs in the garage. If someone else wants to mend them, I suppose they are still useful. I mended them several times over the years. The replacements are from the auction.

The big, thick old-time quilt is perfect for using on the ground (sunbathing - or sitting) Hope it isn't some priceless heirloom.

Items you may find in boxes on the porch are available for the taking.
(Auction extras)

Note to Everybody: For Goodness sakes - be careful and quit chipping the dishes!

July 15-25 Contini: Treat those window cranks with lots of TLC - and never crank them open hard to their farthest point---

Matt -

I had a great time being here with Marnie - but being anywhere with her is great. - We celebrated our 7th yr. together at "Big Jack Brewery" Steaks were fabulous.

We went to the movie to see "Pirates of the Caribbean" - Not bad-funny! When we got here we didn't notice a large "hornet's" nest stuck under the overhang - above the kitchen window - We noticed it when Marnie got stung refilling the humming bird feeder. So I got some "Killer Stuff" at Home Depot in Gaylord and got rid of the nest. Of course we went to Brownwood both Sundays to hear "Mr. Greg" play guitar and harp - he's pretty good & has a good sound. Molly - "our cat" was playing the "phantom" climbing and walking around in the rafters.

Slept like a stone every night and had a great relaxing vacation with my "best pal". See you next year "Dunlookin"

Aug. 5th - 12 ^{29.} Liz, ²³ Karla, ²¹ Rose, ²² Melissa
Dogs - Petey and Bessie

Beautiful weather all week breezy and sunny and cool @ night. Shooting stars our last night were amazing. Lake temp was around 80° surface Lake Mich. was not too cold to swim. We went to Charlevoix beach and I found a lot of Petoskeys.

2006

Aug 5-12 Cont.

I got a rock book at Brownwood that identified all the Lake Mich. rocks. I found most of them and had fun searching. We had bee's above porch door outside and killed them. Two more nests still exist. Above picture window in kitchen and in the brush by the woods. (Pine brush far right) I got stung on the back of the neck and the dogs both got stung by the woods. Petey kept bringing big bones back from Smiths yard and we were hoping they were not human! After we looked it up in Karlas Anatomy book we decided it was a deer leg or something?

We swam everyday and enjoyed lounging on the beach. The girls weed about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the beach and it looked much better. Petey swam morning noon and night and was able to swim out and around the floating dock. He was very calm and behaved well. ~~with~~ He had a good time and he was entertaining to watch.

The Hummingbirds were very active eating a lot and fighting over the food. Wasps were chasing after the birds.

No problems with anything at the cottage everything is in tip top shape. Copy did a nice job painting and cleaning.

We were unable to make it to the Dunes this year gas prices \$3.19 gall. Did go to Big Buck Brewery and indulged in beer sampler 8, 50z glasses = 40 oz. We had a wonderful, relaxing and fun week.

Michigan Magic, recharges our souls ☺

Sat. Aug. 19 - Sat. Aug. 26 Ethon, Stephanie + Nora Greer
This was our first time here since 2002, and Nora's first time ever. She's two. We left Ohio on Saturday morning in the pouring rain, and I immediately spilled coffee in my lap, but things improved after that. Stopped to visit friends and have lunch in Detroit. Nora was great the whole way up. Got in at sunset to see the Captain waiting to greet us on the swim dock. The cabin looked great, although we immediately noticed a strong smell of oil. The oil stove had been left on. This is the first chance we've had to enjoy the new appliances. We bought a pizza cutter in honor of the stove and an ice cream scooper in honor of the freezer. ~~Sorry~~ about the damage to the teakettle. I, uh, caught it on fire. There was a big burned up chunk of something under the burned that I didn't notice until it burst into flame, engulfing the teakettle. Ethon was sleeping in, but he woke right up when I yelled "Fire!" No major harm done, though.

It rained all day today (Friday), but other than that the weather's been lovely, and I have the tan lines to prove it! Nora had lots of fun playing in the dirt, throwing rocks in the ~~lake~~ lake, and hanging out on the dock, which she kept calling a piano. We had fantastic butterscotch scones from Pomponi's, the Italian bakery in Central Lake.

I NOTICE THERE ARE A CRAPLOAD OF LITTLE CLAM-LIKE CREATURES IN THE LAKE. PROBABLY SOME KIND OF MUSSEL. THERE ARE DOZENS, PERHAPS

HUNDREDS OF THEM IN SPITTING DISTANCE
OF THE DOCK. THEY STICK TO ROCKS AND
LOOK LIKE MINIATURE CLAMS, WITH ONE END
OF THE SHELL ELONGATED.

Sept 6, 7th Swim Float + Dock brought in by John, Len + Carolyn copy 9-23-06

Copy.

The closing instructions
are at the front of the
Log Book.

Enjoy yourself

Carolyn

I dug out the area
under the slab so the
sand won't get into the
open valves during the
winter. You leave
them open

THANK
COPY
9/23

METER: 2163

2006

Sept. 17 - 26, 2006. Copy I arrived at 4:30 PM after a 1 1/2 hour trip. The cottage was very clean and neat. I really liked the graded rugs you bought at the auction. Marge; Tom Greene was also showing me stuff he got.

The lawn chairs you bought are excellent, and much-needed.

The weather has been marginal, pretty cool, and quite rainy. However, it was 74 and sunny on Saturday (9/22).

The grass is pretty long, but I decided to have mercy on it and not mow. I did mow out by the street to run the gas out of our wonderful lawnmower serving us since 1999!

This was a mission of escape, housekeeping and maintenance. I cleaned and mopped all but the bedrooms. The utility room was Nasty. I brought the sprayer and redid the dock sections, the swindock (float?) with a mixture of kerosene and linseed oil.

John - I decided to put up the dock this year to give you a break after all these years. Your Dad was concerned at ^{the} prospect - skeptical even, but, he gave me a tip; make sure it's level and tight; good advice.

A quick note on the fireplace: When I tried to close the flue, it moved very hard to the point of breaking. I sprayed the lever bushings with wd 40, and then oiled them with differential grease. What a difference! I also loosened a lot of soot, rust and pieces of brick an motor accumulated along the bottom of the door, and ~~etc~~ vacuumed it out. It opens and closes easily now. I listened to you on this John.

Bruce The blue folder in the front of the file box has receipts for the allowable expenses I incurred while here. It's for everybody - all of us, anyway.

2002

METER: 5163

9-26-06 MERER 2274

I closed the cottage for the season. No problems encountered. Everything was double-checked and looks good.

The weather has been marginal, pretty cool, and quite rainy. However, it was a sad sorry on Saturday (9/23). The grass is pretty good, but I decided to have more on it. I did not mow. I did mow out by the street to run the dog out of our wonderful lawn mower service as usual. This was a mission of escape, housekeeping and maintenance. I closed and mowed all but the bedrooms. The utility room was dusty. I brought the sprayer and rebed the dock sections, the swivel/floats with a mixture of kerosene and linseed oil.

John - I decided to put up the dock this year to give you a break after all these years. Your Dad was concerned of prospect - skeptical, even, but he gave me a tip; make sure it's level and tight; don't change.

A quick note on the fireplace: When I tried to close the fire, it moved very hard to the point of breaking. I sprayed the lower fireplace with WD-40, and then oiled them with differential grease. What a difference! I also loosened a lot of soot, rust and pieces of brick so major accumulated along the bottom of the door and stove. vacuumed it out. It opens and closes easily now. I listened to you on this John. Bruce The blue folder in the front of the file box has receipts for the allowable expenses I incurred while here. It's for everybody - all of us, anyway.