

2007

40th year

May 11, John, Len & Carolyn

Meter a 2275

We opened the cottage, it was sunny and in the 70's. Everything works well, the water flow in the bathroom sink is slow. John mowed the lawn with our lawn mower. The picnic table needs some repairs.

The well pump motor seems to run too long, we checked everything and nothing is leaking - Steve Bacon fixed the pump.

June 11-19 ²⁰⁰⁷ / Harvey III + a buddy

I had the opportunity to pull away from this 'real world' thing and escape here for the first time in a couple of years, so I took the opportunity. No one else but one friend of mine could do the same, so we came up together. It was weird having no one in the background tinkering with this and that in the garage, though. Alone and without supervision, I can assure all you readers I was on my 'best' behavior :)

Well, my buddy Ryan and I really didn't do much of anything besides swimming, fires, games, and beer. Everything seems tip top here. I noticed the slow flow of water in the bathroom, but it has drastically improved during our stay. No problems of any kind to mention otherwise.

We launched out the swimming dock and attempted to put the other dock in. Key word there was attempted. I'd need a veteran of the task to guide me next time; all I accomplished was a set of sore hands and some sunburn.

And speaking of sunburn, well... we had our eight straight days of blistering heat and sunshine. It's often a gamble in these parts this time of year, but we definitely lucked out. Not a day passed with the high lower than 85° and we slept each night with the doors open.

The first morning, upon attempting to take a canoe ride, I was surprised to find a few stowaway mice nesting in the corner of the canoe. They were quite adamant about staying, though, so I had to literally submerge the canoe completely before the little buggers bailed out. Needless to further say, don't be surprised if you see a mouse when going for a canoe ride.

Three of the Holda girls were present down the road, so we spent lots of time with them, too. Sun, beer, friends, and a great place to get away... who could ask for more? :D Thanks and see ya' next time. -Harvey III

7/14 - 7/21/07 2007

The Gibson family - David, Alberta, Jacob, Jessica

Enjoyed another wonderful week at the cabin. The days were pleasant in the upper 70's. The nights were chilly - great sleeping weather! Our biggest accomplishment was the replacement of two barrels on the roller raft. Gary Wight, of the "Came Wight Inn" offered to sell two practically unused barrels. The individual who made these had long retired and he obtained them about 10 years ago just in case... but after sitting in his garage he opted to depart with them after seeing the platform listing badly.

In addition, also repaired the picnic table that had one of the support planks split.

The rest of the trip consisted of rest, relaxation, and sight-seeing to Mackinac Island, 'steeping' near Mears ~~near~~ Glen Lake Island, and Charlevoix. It's always so sad to leave...



7/14/07 - 7/22/07 John + LeeAnn

Enjoyed the week with the Gibson family. Things done:

- 2 Swim Raft barrels Replaced.
 - Picnic Table Repaired
 - Cut the Grass - the whole lot
 - Beach weeded and Raked
- * Pump check over and working good.

2007 August

8-11 to 18

Liz, Karla, Rosemary, Melissa & Bessie & Peter
Girls week, time to relax and recharge. Weather we
had it all, a bad storm our 2nd night with thunder &
lightning, sunny & still, sunny & windy, cool 40's → 70's @ night
No docks out makes it look nude, the mail box was
never put out either. We burnt some of the logs at
the beach until a burning ban went into effect
on Friday 17th until Further notice, open burning of
any kind is ban due to drought. We could have
used some small logs for our last few nights in
the cottage Brrrr. We almost asked the neighbors for
some of their logs. Copy came up on Tues. unaware
that we were here. He stayed at the Greens and
headed home the next day. An awkward situation
that made me feel bad that Uncle Copy didn't
get any vacation. We had both BR's & LR occupied
for sleeping and enjoyed our girls week.

Charlevoix Wed, Dunes Thurs., Bellaire Festival on Friday
Brownwood was closed on Sunday the flea market
was in Central Lake. Is Brownwood still open?? Not sure?
We had a wonderful week enjoying the peace and
beauty of this area, the lake and the cottage.

Mother would have been 100 on Aug. 10th and
Mom mentioned it @ garden club & church guild
and many told their fond memories of her.

I know Harvey and Mother would be pleased and
very proud of the cottage upkeep, love and attention.
They both may have rolled over at the most recent appraisal
Until next year ☺ Lizzie

2007

AUG 25-31 - BRUCE, RICKIE, PAT & JUDI - B & R ARRIVED SATURDAY AFTERNOON AROUND 4:00. WE ENCOUNTERED RAIN & OVERCAST ON THE WAY UP, BUT IT WAS JUST BEAUTIFUL WHEN WE GOT HERE. THE COTTAGE WAS IN BEAUTIFUL CONDITION... THANKS, LIZZIE! PAT & JUDI DIDN'T ARRIVE UNTIL SUNDAY AFTERNOON, SO WE TOOK A TRIP TO ALDEN FOR MIRACLE BLEND AND TO CHECK OUT THE STOPS. WE STOPPED AT SHORTS IN BELAIRE TO CHECK OUT THE LOCAL BREW PUB. JOHN HAD RECOMMENDED THE CHERRY PORTER AND I CAN ADD MY RECOMMENDATION, AS WELL. WE HAD IT WITH THE HUMUS/PITA WHICH WAS REALLY GOOD. WE DID SOME CLEANING, FOCUSING ON THE FANS & LIGHTS. ALSO GETTING RID OF COB WEBS ON THE CEILING. ENJOYED READING THE LOG BOOK TO CATCH UP ON ALL THE ACTIVITIES. WE HAVEN'T HAD ANY PROBLEMS WITH THE BATHROOM DRAIN, SO MAYBE IT FIXED ITSELF? HOWEVER, THE TOILET TENDS TO GET STUCK OPEN WITH EVERY FLUSH... MUST ANNOYING TO HEAR THE PUMP DRONE ON AND ON. SO, WE DID SOME RUBE GOLDBERG FIX-IT BY PLACING A COUPLE NUTS ON THE CHAIN AND REMOVED THE STRAWS (FROM A PREVIOUS FIX-IT?) ANYWAY, IT SEEMS TO BE CLOSING OK NOW. I DRILLED HOLES IN THE TWO BAD DRUMS (FROM THE SWIM. FLOAT) TO DRAIN THE WATER. I NOTICED THAT THE PREVIOUS DRUM THAT WE FIXED WITH POLYESTER RESIN IS STILL INTACT, SO THAT WORKED PRETTY WELL. ONE OF THE "BAD" DRUMS LOOKS TO BE IN PRETTY GOOD SHAPE (ASIDE FROM BEING FULL OF WATER!) WE MIGHT WANT TO KEEP IT AS A SPARE AND DO THE RESIN TREATMENT ON IT.

I GOT A HAIRCUT IN CENTRAL LAKE, AND BVA
 BRIAN BROUGHT ME UP TO DATE ON THE LOCAL
 HAPPENINGS. HE SAID THAT THEY HAD 30 DAYS
 WITHOUT ANY RAIN THRU JULY. IT POURED
 DOWN RAIN ON MONDAY NIGHT/TUESDAY MORNING
 AND THEN CLEARED UP INTO THE MID 80's IN
 THE AFTERNOON. WE HAD BREAKFAST AT MRS. PETE'S
 WHICH HAS REOPENED TO REPLACE THE CAFE BELLAIRE.
 WE DIDN'T DO ANY "OUTINGS" THIS YEAR,
 OPTING INSTEAD TO PLAY BRIDGE....
 A LOT OF BRIDGE. AND READING, TOO.
 OUR STAY WAS SHORTENED THIS YEAR
 BECAUSE WE HAVE TO GET BACK
 IN TIME FOR A PICNIC FOR THE
 WAGNER FAMILY ON SUNDAY, SO WE
 WILL MISS THE MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
 IN MICHIGAN. WE LEFT FOR HOME
 EARLY FRIDAY MORNING. WE ENJOYED
 OUR "MAGIC" TIME IN MICHIGAN.

Sept 2 → 5th John & LeeAnn

— Came up here to do the Mackinac Bridgewalk on
 Labor Day. There were 57,000 walkers this year, and
 we Rang in at # 40,896th. We walked the 5+ miles
 in 1 hr & 10 minutes. The weather was Ideal for this
 time of year. Got to see Copy & Harvey Jr. & Megan for
 an evening

Sept 5 - 17th Copy, Harvey III & friend

Oct 22 2007 John & Carolyn Closed cottage Electric meter reading (New meter) 0320.3

2008

May 16 2008, John & Carolyn opened cottage for season.
Electric meter reading 0320.6. Hot water tank full just needs
turned on at box. Likewise the fridge need switched on.
The plastic blind in garage has disintegrated, I bought a wooden
replacement, but did not get it put up.
Have a wonderful vacation everyone!

June 12th - 15th Rose & Bryan Scott
Arrived around 9 am on the 12th, had a long night drive
with many detours. Spent the first day managing the
lawn the best we could. After many failed attempts to get
the Toro running we ended up whacking all the grass down
by hand with the sickle. More dragon flies around the
cottage then ever seen in past. Neighbors here and very
active with up keep of property. The weather was great,
mid 70's and few night showers. We bought wood in town
and left some in cabin and by beach. Central Lake was
hosting a car show over the weekend that we enjoyed. It
was an awesome first time visit for us without all the
family. ♡ April 20th, 08 ♡ ~ Rose & Bryan

June 21 - July 2, 2008 Copy, Mary & Harvey.

The weather has been windy and cool with a few
nice hot days. Harvey put out the swimdock in the
next morning, only taking about 5 minutes. I (Copy)
was exhausted from working 6 days a week at a used
appliance store in Erie. Harvey rented a very ugly
Dodge crossover SUV to make the trip. I drove my
old (1990) Ford Escort.

I checked the lawnmower and found the choke valve
broken out, and the flywheel key sheared. When that
was corrected I started it and heard a loud clanking

80
in the crane case. I realized it had reached the end of its useful life so I set it out in front of the road with a sign saying "FREE" attached and it was gone 5 minutes later when the first pickup truck went by. The replacement is in the garage.

The belt broke in the little dryer. I will bring a new one when I return in August.

I tried to put up the dock, but high winds shut me down. You can see the result in what I did get done.

July 2 to 9 2008 John & LeeAnn

We arrived up North to Rainy/Stormy weather at 4pm. The cottage was opened and welcomed us with delicious Veggie Soup & a stack of beer. Thanks Copy & Mary & Harv. The cottage looked great and thanks for starting the dock process. There is no Right OR Wrong way; → just that I can walk out on the water without getting wet. Good job Copy & Harv II. Mom & Margarie had been up here and welcomed us with more food & beer. The weather turned for the best → Classic Summer Michigan day & nights. Fourth of July was celebrated in Central Lake with the parade, chicken BBQ, and fireworks at night from boatside on the lake. We saw several friends on the lake including Mom & Marg during the fireworks. They looked too Cool dressed for November weather in the low 50's temps (In July!!!). I stayed warm from my sunburn that I got earlier in the day. LeeAnn came up here Pre-Trained wearing her OSU gear. The lake was very active over the weekend, despite gas being \$4.72 a gallon (Perhaps a deal for next years prices!?) Continued →

John & LeeAnn 7/2 → 7/9 2008

→ Continued → During the nice weather, LeeAnn reclaimed the beach area by dweeding as much as we could do. I did alot of yardwork by cutting & trimming or whatever it took to make it look O.K. The new lawn mower moved us up to the 21st century landscaping capability. Continued beach assault would be appreciated 😊. Our only big ventured was going to Charlevoix on Monday. Tuesday we picked 30 lbs of sweet cherries from Shooks farm. We were one of the first pickers due to a late season and them letting us pick one week early due to us leaving and still willing to pay their \$1.75/lb price despite a suck season. Brownwood was open this season and did the tourist thing; although we didn't by fudge at \$15/lb. in Charlevoix. It was enjoyable watching the hummingbirds from the cottage window. We bought a thrift store hang feed & put it by the porch. Now the birds are around here like boats at the sandbar at the lake. I did install the bamboo blinds in the garage----- Good luck if you can figure out how to get them up & down. Thanks Mom & Mary for all the good food, punch & desserts although we weren't around much, but got to hang with my friends from the past. We had a great time and hope anyone here can share the same (Good luck on forecasts) Oh, by the way, I left my Christmas Exchange gift game the "Battle of the Sexes" for those that feel challenged!!! Have a great Summer to all & hope to see you soon ~~~~~

Chili (dog)
too
7/13/08 - 7/19/08 Jess, Keith, Jenna (7), Marissa (4), & Will (2)

It's been a couple of years since we've made the trek up here... Marissa was too little to remember her first (& only) visit & of course it was a new experience for Will. Keith had knee surgery on Friday - took it easy with his leg elevated most of the day Saturday - and we left at 5:30 am Sunday morning. The trip up actually went remarkably smoothly -! We arrived here at about 1:30 pm & so were able to enjoy most of the day Sunday. Keith drove the entire way up, & of course we towed the boat... he says he drove because he couldn't elevate his leg anyway in the passenger seat, but I suspect me ^{accidentally} driving the minivan over the curb on Fri made him rethink his "Jess won't have any issues towing the boat" theory. ☺

Anyway. What a joy it is for me to bring my kids here - and what a wonderful, relaxing vacation for all of us. The weather was gorgeous - sunny days in the low to mid 80's, cool clear nights. The kids practically lived outside, enjoying the beach. Jenna & Chili swam a bunch, while Marissa & Will did more wading. Set the minnow trap & caught a gob of crawdaddies - went fishing - took me & the kids inner tubing - went to Bachman's & Brownwood - ate, ate, ate - all the usual Michigan things. Mostly we just lazed around & felt lucky & content. ☺ Our stay went so quickly I can hardly believe it... we asked the kids what their favorite thing about Michigan was. Marissa said "The beach!" - and Jenna said "Everything." which I think sums it up perfectly!

Jess, Keith etc cont...

"High lights" of the trip...

After a lengthy ^(+ probably annoying) lecture about being careful with everything, not breaking anything, treating the cottage with respect, or we wouldn't be allowed to come back, blah, blah, blah - yeah, of course I knocked a lamp over + broke the globe. We will replace it... but didn't you just know that was going to happen?

Saw Marjorie + Carolyn for a brief visit before they left to ~~head~~ home - got to get hugs + see their smiling faces, which made my day. Also got to overlap a bit with Mom + Dad, which we all enjoyed.

Keith was weaving the boat back + forth with the girls in the inner tube - I was sitting in the front being a spotter when I heard ≡ scrabble scrabble ≡ and then ≡ BLOODSH! ≡ Chili fell overboard in the middle of the lake! Luckily no harm was done + we got her back in the boat. Talk about excitement.

Jenna cut her foot pretty badly - there was broken glass + beer bottle caps in the firepit, on the beach + in the water around the dock. It bled off + on for a couple of days - a nasty, deep gash. Luckily she didn't end up needing stitches.

Will locked himself in the bathroom! Thankfully he figured out how to unlock the door because we were just getting to the point of wondering how in the heck we were going to get him out... ah, those kids keep you humble - and on your toes - don't they? ☺

Until next year - hope everyone has as wonderful of a time as we did!

Thurs, July 17 - Sat, July 26 Bruce & Rickie, Pat & Judi Barrett

Bruce had a dentist appt and I had an eye dr's appt, so we didn't get started until noon. We had the best kind of trip up - uneventful. Traffic was heavier & more frenzied than we had expected, considering \$4.00+ gas prices, but there were no construction delays or anything. We checked into the Bridgwalk B+B in Central Lake, where we stayed while Jess & Keith & kids were at the cottage.

The B+B was really nice & homey, the proprietors very warm & friendly, & an excellent cook. We spent two nights there in the Willow Room. The stream running through the property is a true "babbling brook" and the setting is so peaceful, we really enjoyed it.

We stopped in to see J & K Thursday night, but we were pretty tired, so we didn't stay long. On Friday we spent the day together, enjoying watching the kids playing in the sand, burying "treasure" and plastic soldiers & animals, making roads & sand castle bricks with a plastic mold. I wouldn't be surprised if a few animals are out there wondering when someone will unearth them. Jess & Keith treated us to steaks, and we ate on the picnic table where we could all sit down together, & where we had a nice breeze from the lake.

A swan family came to visit while we were eating, which made Marissa extremely uneasy. I don't blame her - they sure look big when they come up on land!

Jess & Keith left on Saturday, so we schlepped our stuff from the B+B and settled in for our week. Jess had mentioned that the mattresses in the little bedroom needed to be aired out. Phew - they were musty & moldy from the high humidity and smelled up the whole bedroom!

We made a trek into Traverse City on Sunday and bought two new mattresses and moisture proof covers for them (not plastic-breathable). Pat + Judi pronounced them very comfortable. I hope others find them so - and they don't stink, so that's a plus.

The weather turned quite cool after J + K left, so we spent ~~out~~ our time reading, eating, playing cards, and drinking wine. We went out to dinner to the Blue Pelican, & then went back another night for their \$2 Tuesday specials (margaritas, draft beers, burgers, brats, pulled pork) Nothing to write home about, but a cheap dinner for sure!

Bruce had a serious accident while we were up here (well not serious, but major) He was carrying a tray of dishes from our dinner on the picnic table. As ~~he~~ ^{he} went in the porch door, the door handle caught his sleeve and the whole tray went down. We lost 4 dinner plates and the salmon leftovers, ^{and the brown + orange} but ~~the~~ ^{plaid platter} fortunately the salad bowls survived the crash. We will try to find replacements on eBay.

We did connect with a replacement globe for the floor lamp, and laundered blankets, quilts, mattress pads, & bedspreads, & Bruce cut the grass with the new mower, but that was about it for projects. Pat also fixed the toilet. It wasn't flushing properly because the little ~~tube~~ tube that fills the bowl kept popping out. He put a plastic shower ring down over it, and that took care of it. THE WEATHER COOLED OFF SOMEWHAT FROM THE 85-90'S WHEN WE FIRST ARRIVED - WE HAD A COUPLE OF THOSE OVERCAST "MICHIGAN DAYS" WHICH GAVE US THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY SOME SERIOUS BRIDGE. THE NEW LAWN

MOWER WORKS GREAT... A GREAT ADDITION! I
FEEL REAL BAD ABOUT BREAKING THE DISHES AND
I HOPE FOR FIND REPLACEMENTS. I NOTICED
THE THE DOOR TO THE WARDROBE HAS A BROKEN
HINGE.... I WILL TRY TO GET A REPLACEMENT
PART FOR IT. I GOT A KICK OUT OF THE
HUGE MULLEIN GROWING OUTSIDE THE
KITCHEN WINDOW.... A BEAUTIFUL WEED!
THE BEACH LOOKS GREAT... THE KIDS SURE DID
ENJOY PLAYING IN THE SAND. LET'S WATCH
OUT FOR GLASS AROUND THE CAMPFIRE. WE
WILL LEAVE THE COTTAGE AND SPEND A COUPLE
DAYS AT THE BELLAIRE INN SO THAT WE
CAN OVER LAP WITH ETHAN, STEPH, + NORA
WHO WILL BE ARRIVING THIS AFTERNOON.
PS - IF YOU NEED TO USE A COMPUTER, THE LIBRARY
IN CENTRAL LAKE HAS THEM AVAILABLE FOR FREE.

I forgot to mention - Bruce + I saw four weasels
crossing the road! I had never seen a weasel in
the wild before, much less 4 of them! SEVERAL STRAPS
HAD LOOSEENED ON THE CHAISE AND I SAW WHERE
A FEW OTHERS HAVE BEEN REPAIRED. IT MAKES ONE
SUSPECT THAT ALL OF THEM WILL NEED TO BE FIXED
AT SOME POINT... A GOOD PROJECT FOR SOMEONE?

2008

Saturday, July 26 - Friday, August 1 Ethan, Stephanie + Nora
Green

We overlapped with Bruce + Rickie for the first couple days of this trip. They stayed in Bellaire. We enjoyed the company, the delicious food, and the free childcare! Every morning since they left, Nora's been asking when Grandma + Grandpa are coming back.

Nora's four this year, old enough to stick a life jacket on her and send her down to the beach while we watch from the house. She was out there at 7 a.m. our first rainy morning here, all bundled up in her hooded sweatshirt, galoshes, and life jacket, diligently trying to fill the lake up with rocks thrown from the dock.

We didn't do anything terribly adventurous this trip. Went to Alden and Charlevoix. Noticed that a lot of the shops in Charlevoix seemed to be closed down. But we mostly just hung around the cottage trying to eat, read, and sun ourselves into a blissful stupor.

We're heading to Saginaw today to spend the weekend with some friends we haven't seen since they moved from Ohio a year ago. An apartment full of the three of us, the two of them, and their three kids should be an interesting experience after our quiet week!

NORA WAS CLIMBING ON THE CHAISE AND ONE OF THE STRAPS GAVE.

8/3/08 - 8/8/08

Harry, Jeung & Max

The cottage was clean & welcoming when we came. Thanks Ethan, Stephanie & Nora. Since we haven't been here for a couple years, it was wonderful to be back.

Much improvements & it looks great.

Weather was great & we enjoyed swimming.

Max was very proud because he swam to the deep dark scary drop-off. We are looking forward to next year.

Love Harry, Jeung & Max

8-9-08 - 8-16-08 Liz, Karla, Rosemary, Peter & Bessie

We had beautiful weather all week, Low eighties in day and high 50's night. Great dreaming weather!

The Cottage is in great shape and we enjoyed watching the hummingbirds. The new feeder is from Chautauqua N.Y., the old one is from Bellair Hardware. The green one does not attract them too much and it seems to drip.

I got three kids books / ok, adult books for the cottage Peter and his pet Petoskey, Northern Lights, Hiawatha.

We went to Brownwood for Sunday Flea Market & Greg playing guitar. Charlevoix to shop & swim and Big Buck Brewery for dinner. The rest of the week we were on the beach. We had a nice time bonding as the "three Musketeers" once again. The neighbors were quiet for the most part, they said they entertained all summer and this was their rest and down time. We did not do anything major to the cottage, and we did not do any damage to anything, we just enjoyed ourselves.

Until next year, Lizzie, Karla & Rosemary

Copy, we ate the veggie soup the day we got here - mmm it was good ☺ Thanks

St, 11 2008

Copy, Harvey, Danny and Emily 8-17-9-5-08 (Monday)

Harvey and I arrived at 7 pm after a 14 hour 580 mile trip. The weather was cool with rain at night. Danny and Emily arrived Thursday afternoon. We grilled swordfish and made vegetable soup. The boys drank beer like crazy, went to Charlevoix and Traverse City. We all went to Rapid City to Millers Antiques. I bought a bucket and a tool box. We had a good old time. The boys and Emily had to leave on Wednesday 8/26 and I was alone and forlorn for awhile. And so I worked on stuff which I'll tell you about.

I replaced the drum belt on the little drier. It works good now. The washer leaked badly. Checking it, I found the rubber boot at the bottom of the spinner basket was bad. I have to order the piece if it is available. If not, well, it's the end of its useful life I guess.

The blender ran rough, so I replaced the motor with one I had on hand and it works good now.

I cut a lot of dead branches from the trees especially by the road.

I set up my tent and slept out a lot the weather was sunny and hot - 92° on Labor Day.

In the garage, I cleaned the big window, moved the refrigerator over and organized the garden tools so they can be easily accessed. Also, I scraped and applied Penetrol wood preservative to the bottom edge of the garage, and dug away soil to keep it away from the plate - the bottom board. I also scraped and painted the white window trim in areas where it was bad on the garage + house.

In short, I putzed around like I always do. I left early on Friday 9/5/08

Love to you all

Copy

Aug 30 → Sept 6 2008 John & LeeAnn

Beautiful weather over Labor Day weekend with alot of activity on the Lake. We did the 51st Mackinac Bridge Walk on Monday Sept 1 (my B-Day) in 1 hr. 25 minutes and Rang in at 19,653rd (out of 40+ thousand) for 6+ miles. Visited Copy a few times and got him out on the boat. By the end of the week, it got cool, wet and desolate for the Fall transition Copy, Mom & I closed down the cottage for the season.

Friday Sept 5 2008 Electric Meter: 04482

John & I finished closing cottage for season. Copy had drained the hot water Tank & reserve Tank. The cottage is in beautiful shape.

Carolyn

2009

Feb. 28 2009 - John

Outside: White/Frozen Inside: 16°F - Need I say more.

May 14 2009 Electric meter 04482 - John + Carolyn opened cottage

No problems, turned on hot water tank for 24 hr. to test it, Refrig not turned on. Ketchup + mustard new this year. Two big white pine limbs down.

May 16th Very windy and stormy today. The Lake is kicking up some major waves. I chainsawed the pine branches and stacked the wood. Big Limbs by the driveway and behind the garage. I also Racked the ROOF of pine needles in 30 mph wind → Fun!!! I felt like Moses parting the Red Sea on top of the Roof. Also was able to cut the grass. MOWER RUNS VERY good.

June 15 - 24 2009 - Janice & Jim

We had July weather in June. The Temp was in the 80's during the day & 70's at night. I did not have to put on a pair of long pants once!!! The Cottage, as always, looks wonderful. Always so comfortable, like coming home. John + LuAnn came up Thurs Fri + Sat. So we had great Boat days. The Row Boat is still the best way to go. I went swimming in the drop off and the water was warm!!! There were a pair of swans & 4 babies that came to see us almost daily. We saw many many deers along the roads. Also we saw 2 foxes & wild turkey. Mom was up here almost the whole time & enjoyed sitting by the lake. Jim fell in love with Michigan and hopefully will be back next year! Remember I love you all & am still waiting to see you in Florida. Janice.

2009

P006

June 26 to July 10 2009 Copy, Mary Harvey Danny, Forrest + John

We were greeted by cold rainy weather which persisted for the first week. Temperatures ranged from 48° at night to around 60° during the day.

Danny (Dannit), and Harvey were here with their girlfriends Rickie and Emily the first week. Harvey stayed on when they left on Thursday.

Two of Harvey's friends, Forrest and John came up on Wednesday of the second week.

We didn't get much done during our stay. The weather was pretty crappy until a couple days ago. Before that we had to turn on the heater every evening with temperatures in the high forties.

The little washer is fixed now and we used it to wash a lot of stuff like rugs and blankets. It took a solid week to fix it, but thanks to E-6000 adhesive it no longer leaks.

I didn't have a chance to put up the clock but I plan to work on it today (Sat 7/11)

July 14-24- Marjorie and Carolyn 2009

July 14 3:00 Marjorie + Carolyn Electric meter 05079

~~Remember~~ Remember years ago when we'd all be here - and Mother would be up in the cottage doing something Motherly like baking a cherry pie - or washing and waxing the floor - and all the rest of us would be down at the beach sunning and swimming? Carolyn and I were thinking about that. The weather has not been top-rate - mostly chilly and grayish. (Bought heating oil and used the stove -) - So back to the thought about the old days - The pendulum has swung for us - and we decided to spend our time giving the cottage an extra-special

Hummingbird
Syrup.

2009

Combine $\frac{1}{3}$ c sugar
 $\frac{1}{4}$ c water. Bring to boil. Cool

TLC cleaning - Carolyn mostly inside - Marjorie more outside. And as odd as it may seem - that has given us a good and happy feeling. Will let you know a list... but it wasn't all work-work-work. We were so lucky at the cherry orchard getting the last of the early dark sours (with which Carolyn baked a delicious pie for us -) and being the first people to pick the biggest fattest dark sweets I ~~can~~ can remember. We could stand there and pick a bucket full off one tree! So we canned some for winter enjoyment - and picked enough to bring a bunch home.

Speaking of food above (the pie) - Copy left us a pan of ^{Chicken} soup that we enjoyed so much. Thanks-Copy.

My part of the cottage work included cleaning all the lower cupboards - in which I found 1986 newspapers - and looking in the logbook - discovered that Rickie had put them there --- Do you think it was time to replace them? I also did the mantle - washing all the little things in our memory museum. I took the big rug to the laundromat; we bought four new perennials for our garden - and I expended tons of energy and about three days work trying to shape it up. ~~we~~ ^{we} spread the humus mulch.

The hummingbirds have been coming all week - one little one especially. Lizzie's feeder gives us so much fun.

Through a stroke of luck we found a source of wood - a face cord delivered and stacked - nice red and white oak, \$65 - plus \$5 to stack it. His name is on the bulletin board.

I took my laptop to the library to get on line and update my virus protection. Sheesh - I'm used to Road-Runner's speed. I had to sit there 2 1/2 hours to creep through the process.

(continued next page)

Thanks to
Copy for
organizing
+ hanging
all the
tools.
So handy.

2009

Carolyn notes: July 14-24

Marjorie + I had a ~~totally~~^{totally} enjoyable time in the cottage we love. There were certain muscle jobs we were not capable of doing, Like -- mowing the lawn, moving the grill equipment back into the garage.

- 1) There is a leak in our water system at the valve (rt side) under slab in back of cottage. Result the pump turns on often. I'm afraid it is going to be a biggy to repair it.
- 2) Chaise lounge support straps need repaired. The metal screws are on the mantel, drill bits are in the garage.
- 3) The toilet is slow moving at times, the septic tank needs sucked out, I'm sorry I didn't ~~get~~ have time to get into it. So go easy on the toilet paper.
- 4) I left my electric weed eater here so the grass down by the lake can be clipped. My new shoulders don't allow me to do that yet.
- 5) The stove drip pans were gross, I replaced them, please clean them if you have a boil over.
- 6) If the garage refrigerator is turned off please leave the door open so mold doesn't grow.
- 7) The hedge clippers are broken to the point of worthlessness.
- 8) The ~~bag~~ of fireworks that were in the living room are in the garage on the sail boat.

We are all so blessed to have a place like this.

Love to all Carolyn + Marjorie
(#1 Fuel oil)

P.S. if you need fuel oil. Get #1 fuel oil at the former exchange in Ellsworth

P.S. It has been a very cool summer, so far in MI

2009

July 25 - August 1, 2009 - Jess, Keith, Jenna, Marissa, Will & Chili

Once again our time here has flown by - but a wonderful relaxing time was had by all. We pulled out of our driveway at 5:02am Saturday & pulled into the driveway here at 12:05pm, so we made record time & had most of the day Saturday to enjoy. The kids hit the beach immediately & Will & Marissa went through half of their clothes within the first 4 hours. ☺ The cabin was sparkling thanks to Marjorie & Carolyn's TLC. We didn't do much running this year - the weather was really good to us (highs in the mid-70's & sunny except for a day or two of clouds, & it only rained at night). * I think we really lucked out based on the weather that others have had up here this year. So we spent most of our time swimming, going for boat rides, lazing around & (of course) playing on the beach from sunup to sundown. We used the crawdaddy trap to torture unsuspecting crawdaddies... the girls made elaborate crawdaddy castles in the sand, complete with moats, & used lake foam to give the crawdaddies bubble baths, etc. It was great fun... 'ahem!': unless you're a crawdaddy, probably. But they set them free each evening to share their ~~horrible~~ ^{horrible} experiences with their crawdaddy kin, so the story has a happy ending. Other than that, we took a trip to Torch Lake City & Grand Traverse Bay - and despite it being very windy, the water in Lake Michigan was so warm we all (except Will) took a nice long swim. That was glorious. We also went cherry picking & the kids ate their body weights in dark sweets (luckily with no dire consequences) & we drove to Brownwood spitting cherry pits out the open ^{car} windows & feeling that all was right with the world. Mom & Dad came up Thurs & we got to overlap with them - the kids were so excited to see them, & we enjoyed some great meals & good conversation & lots of laughter. So grateful for another wonderful time here - lots of love to everyone! Jess, Keith & Co

P.S. Oh! we put up the dock - taint party, but it's sturdy! A new adventure for us. And Keith mowed the lawn... with "help" from Will (& a plastic lawn mower from Bachmans)

#chilly at night - though - we had a fire almost every evening.

And I had my first ever hobo pie! Yum.

(August 1)

July 30 - August 8 Bruce, Rickie, Pat & Judi Barrett

We arrived on Thursday, July 30 around 4:00 and settled in very comfortably at Carolyn's for a couple of days. When we came over to the cottage, Marissa & Will were looking a lot like clowns, with wide smears of cherry juice all around their mouths and purple hands - somehow Bruce failed to get pictures!

We enjoyed visiting with everyone, took the kids for a little expedition to the Children's Museum at Carey's cottage in C.H. - closed, doggone it. So we visited Bachman's & the Toy Store in Bellaire & played at Richardi (sp?) park.

After Jess & Keith & kids left early Sat, we moved in & Pat & Judi came up around 5:00 PM. It had stormed much of Saturday but cleared up for their arrival. That was the story for most of the week - we had incredibly beautiful weather, and even on days it rained it would clear up so Bruce could cook out. The temps. were mostly in the low 70's with that incredible clearness of air & blue, blue skies that at home we call "Michigan days." It was pretty breezy most days, so swimming didn't really tempt us, although the water was fairly warm. Nights were cool, 50's, but not cold enough for fires or to light up the stove.

We spent a lot of time reading, playing many rubbers of bridge, & cooking fabulous meals. We made only a couple of trips - to the Nifty Thrifty in Bellaire, where we got the great microwave bacon cooker for 50¢ Try it with bacon from the Bellaire Smokehouse - delicious! We also went to the resale shop (The Treasure Chest?) in C.H. - a nice little shop. Our other outing was to

Cottage was nice & clean - & the lawn mowed, too - thanks!

4th

the Rainbow Resale store on US 31 just south of Charlevoix.

It's a really nice store with some of everything, all clean and well organized and priced really reasonably. That's where we got the glider for the porch - really comfortable and all-weather, so it should do fine being left on the porch. We also picked up 6 dinner plates to replace the ones we broke last year. Bruce did a few projects - worked up blisters re-fastening all the webbing so the chaise is usable again, had the septic cleaned (as the guy from De Forest + Bloom observed, "Looks like it's full of crap..."), had the pump checked and the pressure switch adjusted, replaced a bolt on the dock, and got wing nuts to make the swim dock ladder more secure.

Had dinner at the new Blue Pelican - really nice! They have really fixed up the old Lamplight and it seems to be doing well. Burgers at the Bellaire Bar were still as good, too.

The week has flown - Pat + Jude headed home Sat. AM, + Ethan, Stephanie + Nora will be here tonight.

NOTE - THE SWIMMING DOCK NEEDS A NEW BOLT + WING NUT (ONE OF THEM IS STRIPPED) - IF YOU REPLACE IT, GET A 5/16" STAINLESS STEEL

August 8-13 Ethan, Stephanie + Nora

Arrived around 4:30 Saturday and enjoyed a steak dinner prepared by Bruce + Rickie. Well, the meat-eaters enjoyed steak; I just gluttoned myself on bread and wine! Went to Alden on Sunday to restock our supply of Miracle Blend from the Mill House and get our annual fix of Higgins ice cream. That was pretty much our only outing.

The weather had been cooler before we arrived, but it started to warm up and get muggy on

Sunday. The change in temperature and humidity caused the floors to become positively soaked. We actually had to mop, and the bedrooms didn't dry out completely till Monday afternoon. Rickie said she couldn't remember such a thing happening in the 40 years she's been coming up, but Bruce thought he remembered it happening once before. Let's hope it remains a rare occurrence!

We all had a lovely time, though. Ethan and I devoured several books apiece, and Nora was alternately a mermaid (in the lake) and a squirrel (in the house).

LEFT THE RECYCLABLES - JUST DIDN'T HAVE ROOM IN THE CAR, AND WITH THE DUMP CLOSED... SORRY FOR THE INCONVENIENCE.

2009

August 15-22 Liz, Karla, Rosemary & Petey & Bessie the dogs
Karla & I traveled up w/ dogs on the 15th Rose stayed home with her sick dog (lymphoma). Rose & Bryan had her put to sleep on the 16th. It was very sad a 4 yr old dog that was petey's sister was lost so young and quick in 2 mths. Rose was heartsick and already had the week off so, Bryan and Karla met halfway late Monday night to get Rose up here to heal & mourn her loss. Karla & Rose got here @ 4:00 AM Tues. We had a nice week, the weather was 70-80 Rain on & off the last 2 days. A storm with 60mph wind pushed the floating dock with weight over in front of Radkees. Jim ~~Keeser~~ helped pull it back w/ skido but the weight is in front of his dock marked with a milk jug. That is all the farther he could get it. →

R.I.P. "Cheyenne" 🐾

Liz Contr 2009

We enjoyed watching & feeding the hummingbirds. For how cute they are they sure are mean little bastards, they fight over the juice and chase each other. There were a family of Bluejays and a small squirrel we watched also. I found 11 petoskeys in front of the cottage my first day here and 14 more @ Charlevoix beach. I could see the rocks here due to waves, cleaner water and small feet at the beach? Just a theory because I have never found that many on our beach. We gave the bathroom a good scrub down and got new curtains for windows & shower. Also, curtains in back bedroom, they complete updating all window coverings in cottage. We think it looks better, hope you do too! ☺ (old in utility room) We love it here and look forward to next year. Liz

Copy 8/22/09 - 9/21/09

The weather was very nice throughout my time here. It rained this morning for the first time in 3 weeks. I had a good, productive period to do the things I do.

I painted, targeting the areas needing attention badly; the front of the porch, and the picture window area of the kitchen. I painted & recaulked all the picture window frames, including the garage. I scraped and painted lower areas, the plate all along the south side, the back, and around the garage. I painted the south end of the garage and the side door & frame. Just check it out. You can see the difference.

I was able to get the outboard motor running "reliably" and used a tank of gas riding around the lake.

The garden areas Marjorie did were beautiful. It broke my heart to have to tramp back in there to paint. I used over a whole gallon of cottage paint, and a quart of white-
can'd

can'd, 2009

The swim float was all messed up from its ordeal and I had to reattach one of the drums which was out of its retainer. I also painted, and replaced the reflectors.

I visited with Tom Greene a lot. It's doing good. One day Jimmy Smith was walking down to the lake with a grand kid in tow. He hollered loudly,

"How are you doing copy?" What a guy.

I'm leaving now. It's 9:30 AM - not very early

Copy