



shorelines

*Published By The Balsam Lake Homeowners' Association
A volunteer, nonprofit organization serving the lake community since 1974.*



AUGUST 2018

Avg. Temp.....65° Avg. Low.....52°
Avg. High.....76° Avg. Rain.....3.5"

For Current Weather:
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BALSAM LAKE HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION 2018 BOAT PARADE WINNERS



2nd Place: The Incredibles - The Keogh Family



3rd Place: The Circus - The Launstein Family



1st Place:
The Loon -
The Peterson/Radner
Families



4th Place: Trolls and Flowers - The Erickson Family



5th Place: The Kingdom of Balsam Lake -
The Newman/Rupert Families

SAVE THE DATE!

Balsam Lake Homeowners' Association Annual Meeting

Saturday, August 11, 2018
Paradise Landing

Balsam Lake Invitational Ski Show

Saturday, August 18
Along Hwy. 46 - viewing by boat only

Balsam Lake Invitational Ski Show

Saturday, September 1, 6 p.m.
Bring a chair or blanket to sit in front of
Sunnyside Marina.

Milltown Fire Department Taco Feed

Saturday, October 13, 2018, at 4 p.m.



Summer Is Here And That Means One Thing ... Grilling!

Gather your friends and family for a barbecue with your favorite recipes, including fresh pork! Chef Ernest Servantes officially kicked off Grilling Season doing what he does best: cooking up something special on the grill. Chef Servantes, a self-taught pit master and former champion and now judge of Food Network's hit show, "Chopped," is widely known for his one-of-a-kind blends of New American Cuisine with Texas flair. Grilling is a proud tradition in every Hispanic community - from Mexico, Puerto Rico, Peru, Colombia, Argentina, the Dominican Republic, Cuba and even in the U.S., every community uses the grill to create one of a kind flavors. It's a tradition steeped in history.

Grilling season is officially here, so get your grills ready and in the words of Chef Servantes, "¡Viva BBQ!"

Costillo de Tejas /Texas Ribs:

2 racks Smithfield Pork Spareribs, membranes removed

Spice Rub Recipe:

1/4 c. packed dark brown sugar
1-1/2 tbsp. ancho chili powder
1 tbsp. smoked or sweet paprika
1-1/2 tsp. onion powder
1-1/2 tsp. kosher salt
Pinch of cayenne or chipotle powder
Freshly ground black pepper
Set aside for later.

Barbecue Sauce:

2 tbsp. canola oil
1 small sweet yellow onion, coarsely chopped
3 cloves garlic, coarsely chopped
1 cup ketchup with 1/3 c. cold water
1 chipotle chili, chopped
(from can of chipotle chilis in adobo)
2 tbsp. dark brown sugar
1 heaping Tbls Dijon mustard
1 tbsp. honey
1 tbsp. molasses

Kool-Aid Play Dough

This month's recipe is for Child's Play although adults like playing with it, too. It smells wonderful and is very pliable. When kept in a Ziploc bag it keeps a long time. Play with it outside, though. It is not carpet friendly!

2 and one-half cups flour

One-half cup salt

2 pkg. unsweetened Kool-Aid (your choice of flavor)

3 tablespoons vegetable oil

2 cups boiling water

Mix dry ingredients. Add boiling water and then add to dry ingredients. Stir quickly, mixing well. As it cools you can mix it with your hands. You may have to add a little more flour if it is sticky. If the color is not as intense as you would like, add a drop or two of food coloring. Store in airtight container. A one-inch diameter dowel cut into 6-inch lengths makes a great child's rolling pin and don't forget the cookie cutters!

shorelines

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• To submit an article or photograph: debbie.irestone@meritide.com

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Layout: Gayle Olson. **Editor:** Debbie Irestone.

WARD'S BALSAM BEACH RESORTS STORY

By Mary Skaret

In the early 1970s, Balsam Lake had 23 resorts that were listed on a sign next to the library on the Main Street of Balsam Lake. Visitors could go into the hardware store that was also on Main Street and find out where there were vacancies at local resorts. Now, only one of the 23 “Ma and Pa” resorts still have resort customers – Balsam Beach Resort on the far west side of the lake next to County Highway 46. Even then, lake prices were increasing in value and those prices were a lot more than in town. But people really couldn’t afford to keep a resort unless they had another income and the more lakeshore the higher the taxes.

This area on the west end of the lake started to be developed (houses and roads) in the 1860s. Balsam Beach Resort was originally built in 1919 by “Jake” Jacobson as a bathing beach resort and rumor says his daughter was quite a good diver. Two of the log cabins were built about 125 years ago and like most resorts of that time the cabins were gradually added one by one as business increased and the new buildings could be afforded.

I first talked to Ron and Stephanie Ward in 1996 when I was beginning to collect Balsam Lake history. Ron was 8 years old when his father and mother, Dick and Mercedes (Merce) moved to their favorite vacation spot on Halloween day of 1953. They came from Rockford, Illinois and Ron had one brother, Jack who was married and not living with them. Ron said, “We bought it on a ‘prayer’ so we never owned our own boat and just lived in the old house that was there originally. We all worked very hard, but loved it. It is still hard for me to relax. I’m always wanting to make sure the customers are having a good time and the kids like the place. Or maybe that is how I relax by fixing the dock or making sure someone gets a good fishing spot. Of course, when we got here in the ‘50s there were only outhouses, ice boxes in the cabins and we had to bring ice every day. We used to cut ice in the winter from the lake and kept it all summer long in an ice house, the ice packed in sawdust to keep it insulated. All the cabins had a row boat and some people had 5 or 10 horsepower motors – no bass boats with the big motors in those days!” The Wards did not realize they were starting a family lifestyle that would last four generations.



Mary continues, “In the early ‘60s, I went there as a teenager to get boat gas for waterskiing (and to see their cute son, Ron, who was a couple of years older than me). They had a swimming raft, several cabins and a community cabin on the beach that sold pop, ice cream, candy, pizza and beer. Merce even made hamburgers, lunches and breakfasts for a while. We always tried to get Ron skiing a bit, but he didn’t seem that interested in teenage socializing and was happy to stay around the resort.

When Ron came to Balsam Lake there were 11 students in his class but in his freshman year, Unity School opened a consolidation of Centuria, Milltown and Balsam Lake schools. The new school offered better classes and a great building. “I went to elementary school in Balsam Lake and there was a hill next to the school where we went sledding at recess, kids got on the bus holding their sleds. When I remember that hill, in my memory it was as big as Trollhaugen but it was actually hardly as tall as this living room,” Ron related. Ron graduated from Unity in 1962 and went to River Falls State College and then to Marquette to become an oral surgeon/dentist. Ron then added, “We are real lucky we can stay here. The taxes are so high that we would have to have 3 cabins rented all summer just to pay the taxes. But I can understand why they are so high because I got a dynamite education at Unity High School. When I went to River Falls to college, I only had to take the mid-quarter and the final to get an A in Chemistry. We even had the same textbook! Chemistry was a 2-year program at Unity and was taught by Mr. Klatt who just died last fall.”



In 1957, Ron met Stephanie Clarkson at the resort where her family were customers. Then Stephanie clarified, “He was so much older and I was only 11, so he really was more interested in my older sister, until we re-met when I was in nursing school in Rockford and he was at Marquette in dental school.” In 1967, they were married and went off to Japan, where Ron served in the Air Force during the Vietnam War. They eventually settled in Wauwatosa, north of Milwaukee and had four children. Ron’s dental practice usually allowed the family to spend 6 weeks at the lake with their grandparents. “All of our kids worked here and many of their friends. Back then it wasn’t unusual for a kid to work with his father, now it is almost unheard of.” At that time, it was 3 generations involved. In 1979, Ron bought the resort but Dick and Merce and continued to run it. “We wanted to help them out and we had another income with the dental practice. I always liked to have my hands in the business even when I was practicing.” He laughed, “We didn’t even mind the mosquitoes, they were only a little bigger than the fish.”

Continued on Page 4

Matriarchs and Patriarchs of Balsam Lake: Ward's Balsam Beach Resorts Story - Continued from Page 3

Balsam Beach was always a family resort and people are very nostalgic about it, "something you can't get at the Holiday Inn." Many of their customers are the 3rd and 4th generation including grandma and grandpa on down to the grandchildren and even great-grandchildren. "One extended family, after coming here for 35 years, had to rent 5 cabins to hold everyone. One of our favorite couples honeymooned in one of our log cabins and 50 years later retired here in their own trailer. They are all part of our big extended family." Stephanie says, "We have gone to more weddings!" Ron agreed saying, "Even Steph's family were customers and still are. I guess we are a living testimonial of what can happen."

Starting in about the winter of 1965, I bumped into Ron's dad, Dick who I knew from the lake, working the rope tow at nearby Trollhaugen Ski Area in the off-season. I remember saying to him, "What are you doing here?" He laughed as he always did, he was cute and friendly and funny, always teasing. Ron said, "He worked there for several winters - it was nice for him and he liked it. I remember they wanted him to supervise the snow making operation, and he said, 'Are you kidding? I supervise the resort all summer, I just come here to work!'" Dick died in 1991 and Mercedes in 1995.

(It is hard to believe that Ron didn't have this next part in mind all along.) Dr. Ward had a dental assistant, name Dawn, working for him in Wauwatosa who he really like right away. Dawn later told me, "Suddenly he was talking all the time about his son, Kyle. I thought, who is this Kyle?" Kyle is Ron and Stephanie's oldest son, who had just returned to Wisconsin from Montana. It seems Ron introduced them and they eventually married in 1994. By the winter of 1996, they were at Balsam Beach running the Balsam Beach Resort. A double house was built for Kyle and Dawn and their 3-month-old twin boys, Dakota and Hunter on one side and Ron and Stephanie on the other side, residing year-round in Balsam Lake. This finishes the part of the story in 1996.

Now we fast forward 22 years - Ron and Stephanie are back here all summer. They retired from dental surgery in 1994 and have a house on the east coast of Florida where they go in the winter. In 1996 Kyle said, "My dad hardly takes a shower until hunting's over." And Ron told me that he and Stephanie don't leave Balsam Lake until after Thanksgiving. A few years ago, they built a beautiful log home next to the resort. Stephanie said, "In 1999 when we built our home, we had to tear down one of our cabins that was a resort favorite. We were afraid to tell our customers because many of them are our good friends." They have always had several side businesses and now have a business with sons Peter and Kyle and a nephew, John Gisel. Ron said, "It's part of keeping a vital community providing jobs for our young people and a service that is needed." They started a business called CWS Security that is connected to the Internet to provide security to cabins, home and businesses year-round.

Stephanie said, "The city sewer system in 2000 made a real difference on how many cabins or mobile homes we could have at the resort. We had a septic system that worked well for us that we put in in the late '50s and was inspected each year. We really took care of it - even our renters in the cabins!" Ron added, "It was really expensive for this much property to put in sewer but we had to do it and I think it is better for everyone."

Dawn and Kyle said it is still the same family-oriented resort with many of the same families - but with a whole new dimension for guests. On the shore and up the hill behind, they have 18 seasonal campsites for customer-owned recreational trailers but with the same access to the lake. Kyle said, "There is a huge demand for space for travel trailers. We have a family that used to have a cabin on the lake, but now are enjoying not having all the upkeep involved with their own property. This also provides an option to people who don't have resources to buy property or pay high taxes. The old cabins have been updated, 2 cabins were even joined to make a large one and they have winterized a cabin to handle Wisconsin in colder weather, but they are still painted the traditional red!"

In May 2008, Kyle and Dawn moved to a house in nearby Frederic, but they move back to the lake by May 1st of each summer. Oh, and by the way, their 20-year-old twin sons are college age now. Dakota is at St. Thomas University majoring in "Business Management" and Hunter is at the University of Wisconsin - Stout majoring in "Hotel and Restaurant Management." Looks like they might be preparing to be the next generation managing Ward's Balsam Beach Resort!



HELP! OUR EDITOR DEBBIE IRESTONE IS RETIRING AND LEAVING OUR BOARD

If you are interested in writing an occasional article, would like to send us a recipe, photos, anything that might be of interest to our membership, let us know at editor.shorelines@balsamlake.com. Thank you for any help.



16TH-ANNUAL MILLTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT TACO FEED



The 16th-Annual Milltown Fire Department Taco Feed is fast approaching. If you have not yet marked your calendar for the fun and festivities with the Milltown Fire Department, the fun will be on **Saturday, October 13, 2018, at 4 p.m.** There are many prizes that will be given away, a live auction, and as always, all-you-can-eat tacos. (*Hot dogs are also available*)

MFD would like to thank all the past sponsors of the Taco Feed and everyone for stopping in past years. Without the sponsors and you, they would not have been able to make this such a success.

If you weren't aware, proceeds from the Taco Feed allows the department to purchase new equipment, which makes their job safer and allows them to provide better service to you.

4 TIPS TO PULL TOGETHER A GARDEN-TO-TABLE MEAL THIS SUMMER - BPT

The summer season is the best time for enjoying the garden you've worked so hard on throughout the spring months. As the flowers bloom, the herbs mature and the vegetables ripen, it's time to celebrate all your hard work with a Garden to Table Meal. Chris Lambton, garden and yard care expert, suggest letting the bounty of your yard inspire a summer party. "Invite some good friends and just let the blooms, herbs, produce and outdoor setting guide you," Lambton says. "When you let your yard and garden take center stage, the possibilities really start to emerge." To help inspire you, Lambton shares his ideas on how to bring fullness and life to your garden-to-table gathering.

Play Around with the Party Theme – Like a Pizza Garden Party

What makes homemade pizza taste even better? When it's topped with fresh ingredients grown in your garden! Make it memorable by setting out personal-sized pizza dough so your friends can customize their own. Include plenty of garden goodies, like freshly sliced tomatoes and eggplant, basil and chopped peppers and onions, along with some artisanal meats and cheeses. After adding the toppings, it's time to pop it in the oven.

Refresh Your Summer Cocktail Recipe with Garden Herbs

Herb-infused cocktails like juleps and mojitos are not only delicious, but the herb leaves also give off a refreshing fragrance when they're freshly snipped from your garden. Make sure to harvest their delicate leaves properly, so you can enjoy their bounty all summer long. If you have leftover leaves, don't toss them. Instead, use them to make herb-infused ice cubes; these can make cold summer drinks extra flavorful and refreshing.

Adorn the Table with Beautiful Blooms

A centerpiece of colorful flowers is the perfect décor accent to a Garden to Table Meal. After choosing your favorite blooms, look around your yard for additional texture to add to your table that will command attention. Look for slender branches with leaves, smaller blooms, berry stalks and grasses. Before placing the stems and branches in water, remove excess leaves and snip the bottoms at a 45-degree angle to keep the bouquet looking fresh and healthy.

Let Nature Inspire Your Table Design

A great party always features thoughtful design that sets the mood. To complete the look, a homemade felt runner with a personalized design and colors that complement the outdoors and tie the table together. Try crafting customized place settings and trendy succulent napkin rings for a stylistics touch!

Given the countless hours spent planning and planting your garden, it's equally important to enjoy the creations from your harvest. A freshly cooked Garden to Table Meal and a summer-inspired table are the perfect way to celebrate. And follow Chris Lambton's advice and use quality implements in the Fiskars brand to help you get the sharp cuts and curves that will give you the appearance that you are looking for in your foods and table décor.



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BEAR WATCH

By Mary Skaret

DID YOU SPOT A BEAR? Black Bear are exciting wildlife to observe and photograph, but they are wild animals which can pose a threat to human safety. Respect their space and view them at a safe range.

Black bears are the only bear species (*Ursula Americanus*) found in Wisconsin. Males range in size from 250-300 pounds and females are 120-280 pounds. Black bears are opportunistic eaters and eat both plants and animals. Black bears are normally shy and avoid humans, but if bears start to associate food with humans, problems can start to occur. These habits are hard to break. If a bear finds a consistent food source around people, they will make a habit of visiting the area. Never feed the bear - they are wild animals.

Yes, we do have black bears at Balsam Lake - lots of you have seen them! They are cute but scary and they love our garbage, our bird feeders, our grills and our pets food. We received 5 good suggestions from the DNR office in Balsam Lake:

- 1) Get together with your neighbors - you individually cannot do prevention unless your neighborhood is working together - bears will just go next door to get fed.
- 2) If you are leaving for a week, don't put out your garbage to be picked up later in the week. Have someone else put it out the day of pick-up.
- 3) Only feed the birds in the winter or take in your bird feeders at night.
- 4) Clean grills and store them inside.
- 5) Store pet food inside.

Normally bears are shy around humans, but it is important to scare them and chase them away to reinforce this fear. Suggestions are:

- Place yourself in a secure area so the bear has a clear escape path.
- They don't like noise so make a lot of it - yelling, honking car horn or banging pots and pans - they don't even like dogs barking but dogs need to be on a leash or inside the house.
- Install motion activated water sprinklers, lights or alarms.

If you encounter a bear, do not approach the bear. Bears are usually only aggressive when they are protecting their young or a source of food. They also get aggressive if startled. If they are aggressive:

- Talk to the bear or start yelling.
- Wave arms to seem bigger.
- DO NOT RUN - face the bear and back up slowly.
- Always leave an escape route for the bear.
- DO NOT LIE DOWN - fight back.

Never attempt to rehabilitate a wild animal yourself, they can be dangerous, even a baby animal! They will fight to defend themselves against a perceived threat such as a human or a pet. They also have specific dietary needs and housing requirements that are not easily met in captivity. If you find an abandoned cub or an injured wild animal, contact the DNR at 1-800-936-7463 for help to find a licensed wildlife rehabilitator near you.



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Quinn Larson on his ride home from Grandpa's cabin. He is a tuckered-out boy.
– Photo submitted by his Grandpa Larson.

Lake Rules:

- Relax
- Relax
- Relax



Linda and Dennis Moll's 10-year-old granddaughter with the sunfish she caught off their dock.

ON SUNNY BALSAM LAKE!



Quinn Larson and his dog Dexter admiring the lakeshore.
– Photo submitted by his Grandpa Larson.



BLHA representatives presenting a check to representatives of the Balsam Lake Fire Department for donations BLHA received from attendees of our "Welcome to Summer Party."

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THE KUNY'S ON BALSAM LAKE

By Debbie Irestone

The Kuny's first came to Balsam Lake on a Fishing Vacation in 1939. Their home was in St. Louis, 650 miles away, but Lloyd and Dorothy had heard of the great fishing to be had on Balsam Lake and decided they had to go test out the lake. They enjoyed it and from then on, their summers were spent on Balsam Lake. At that time, Howard and Isla Schnur owned Paradise Island and in 1949, Howard and Isla decided to sell the island and Lloyd and Dorothy decided to buy it!

Paradise Island was eleven acres of land with 57 feet of mainland for the bargain price of \$5,000. At that time, Joan was 13 years old and Jerry was 10. There were four cabins on the island, two of which were bunk houses (meaning beds only) and two were furnished for housekeeping. The previous owners had moved to California and the island was basically abandoned. The Kuny's knew they had a good deal and knew they had some work to do on it!

Isla Schnur said that the Kuny's were wonderful people. They owned a fire door business in St. Louis. Lloyd Kuny was a sheet metal contractor and at that time Isla was told the sheet metal workers went out on strike every summer enabling Lloyd and Dorothy to spend time on the island. It was also said that Jerry pestered Art Lundmark (the Highway Commissioner at that time) to give him a summer job, which involved a lot of dirt and tar and no laundry facilities.

Jerry remembers when he first learned to Water Ski, around 1950. He said he thinks he still has his first Water Skis - old, yellow, long and wide White Bear Water Skis, "They're somewhere on the island." And he knows he has his first pair of jumpers (wooden Flea Jackson Signature Skis). Jerry believes the first Water Pageant was held in 1958 with Cedric Adams as Master of Ceremonies. He and Rosemary have good memories of enjoying the summer sports on Balsam Lake.

The Kuny's and the Stanze's families still own Paradise Island and Jerry and Rosemary's oldest child, Janine who lives in Scottsdale with her husband Pat, own Cedar Island in Balsam Lake now. Jerry and Rosemary still enjoy coming up to the lake every chance they get. With five generations of Kuny's /Stanze's families they will continue to enjoy life on Paradise Island.



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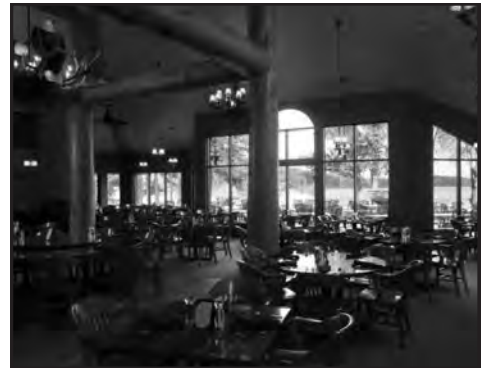
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