



RESORTER REPORTER

Congress of Minnesota Resorts

www.Minnesota-Resorts.com

CMR President's Message

Greetings Resorters!

Well, the busy summer season is in full swing now and hopefully everything is going swimmingly at your resort. Even in the midst of all the craziness, the CMR board is diligently working in their respective committees on tasks, promotions, and future events for our membership. We welcome members to share their talents and ideas on ways to help fellow resorters succeed and prosper in this industry.

In early June a resort member posted a suggestion on the chat line that the CMR consider putting together some type of informational piece for new resort owners so they have an idea of all the licenses and fees they need to pay and maybe some brief rules from the Minnesota Department of Health; Like a reference guide or handbook for new resorters. This idea was put on the agenda for our June board meeting. After some discussion, the board felt that while it was a good idea for new resort owners to have this type of information, it would be extremely difficult and time consuming for the CMR to collect the information and keep it current, considering the differences in county and township rules, and differences in health inspectors. It was felt that the different governing bodies, such as the DNR, MDH, etc. and the selling party should take on the responsibility of informing resort owners of what the various expectations are for the business. It was further felt that the CMR chat line, workshops and conferences were also a good way to acquire this information.

As rules and regulations seem to constantly evolve, staying involved in the CMR and supporting its efforts of 'Resorters helping Resorters' is a great way to keep it manageable. Happy Resorting!

Respectfully,

Su Ugstad, CMR President

Balsam Bay Resort, Remer

Fall Resort Tour

We are looking for volunteers to be willing to show off their beautiful, unique resort on the annual CMR Resort Tour. The date will be determined later, tour is usually held in early Sept. No requirements other than willingness to open your doors and knowledge to other resorters. If interested, please contact Timberly Christiansen at finnfeather@hotmail.com. Thanks for your consideration.

CMR Mentorship Program

The Congress of Minnesota Resorts board is considering starting a mentorship program. This program would be targeted to new resort owners, both members and non-members of the CMR, to help support them in their new venture and help get them connected.

We are currently seeking out members who would be interested in taking on the role of a mentor.

The role of the mentor would be casual but with purpose. When a new resort owner is "discovered" in your local area, you would be asked to be their mentor. It would require you to call the new owner and set a date to stop by and meet them in person. You would make yourself available to answer questions they might have about running their resort, connect them with local advertising groups, encourage them to join the CMR, help refer them to area businesses, basically help them with anything they have questions about. Perhaps you would meet them for dinner, invite them over for a tour of your own resort, etc. You would make an effort to call every now and then just to check in to see how things are going for them.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please email Vince at vprososki@gmail.com or give him a call at 218-758-2343 or cell 763-360-0944. If enough members show interest in becoming a mentor, we will begin the process of more formally creating the program.

Thank you.

Vince Proski, CMR Mentorship Program

Northern Lights Resort, Richville

AIS Program Changes Approved

The special session of the legislature on June 13th provided many changes to Minnesota's aquatic invasive species (AIS) program. The controversial boat decal program has been replaced, and the new requirements to attest to knowledge of AIS requirements when purchasing a boat or fishing license takes effect on January 1, 2016. The non-resident requirement to attest to AIS requirements begins on March 1, 2016.

The legislature also set a \$25 penalty for non-compliance with the new requirements - eliminating the concern about large fines on unsuspecting boaters or anglers.

The legislature continued funding for AIS programs like ramp inspections and education to help prevent further infestations in Minnesota waters.

The decal program was almost impossible to implement. Many resorters and legislators expressed concern about the impact the decals would have on tourism, particularly non-residents that did not have knowledge of the law. CMR urged legislators to amend the program to make it more user friendly and effective, and we are happy these changes were approved and signed by the Governor.

Here are links to the final legislation passed during the special session and a summary of the bill.

HF 4

https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=HF4&version=0&session=ls89&session_year=2015&session_number=1

Bill Summary

<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/bs/89/2015-1/HF0004.pdf>

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Grow Minnesota!

The statewide Grow Minnesota! business retention and assistance program is administered by the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce in partnership with 80 local chambers and economic development organizations throughout Minnesota.

Every Grow Minnesota! visit has four parts: first, to thank your business for being in Minnesota; second, to get a better understanding of your business and its activities; third, to offer assistance with any business-specific problems related to doing business in your area and the state; and, fourth to hear your thoughts on the overall business environment and what can be done on a statewide basis to strengthen it. We're particularly interested in the trends that are affecting your business.

We recognize that you're extremely busy, but our experience is that Grow Minnesota! visits more than justify the time spent. Every visit lays the groundwork for Grow Minnesota! to provide your business with direct assistance should it ever need our help to solve a problem or take advantage of an opportunity related to doing business in Minnesota.

For more on the Grow Minnesota! program go to www.growminnesota.com.

Contact information:

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2015 Fall Conference

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the CMR Fall Conference being held on October 25-27th at Giants Ridge in Biwabik. The vendor show will be held on Monday, October 26th' from 1-4pm. Speakers and presentations are being planned. If you have ideas for topics at the conference, send us an email or give us a call!

Tina Reuper [218-947-4467](tel:218-947-4467) vacation@sandypinesresort.com

Karen Senger [218-832-3808](tel:218-832-3808) cedarpoint@bigfork.net

New Members

New Resort Members:

Kim Osterhoudt, Pine Beach Resort—Side Lake, PO Box 5, Side Lake, MN 55781 Phone: 218-254-3144

Email: pinebeachresort@yahoo.com Website: www.pinebeachresort.com

NOMINATING RESORTERS FOR THE 2015 RESORTERS OF THE YEAR AWARD

SEPTEMBER 1, 2015 DEADLINE

The Congress of Minnesota Resorts selects, through nomination by its members, one resort and resort owner that has shown a dedication to the improvement of the Minnesota Resort Industry by adopting and carrying out business policies and practices that reflect a personal pride in the industry as a whole. They also live up to the organization's motto of "Resorters Helping Resorters" by involvement in community activities and by displaying a willingness to help other resort owners to successfully operate Minnesota resorts.

You can go to the CMR website www.Minnesota-Resorts.com , scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on Membership. Then, by using your User Name & Password you will get into the Members Only sections and click on Applications then print a copy of Resorter of the Year Nomination form. Mail the completed form to: Congress of Minnesota Resorts, PO Box 358, New London, MN 56273-0358. If you need further assistance please contact Vicky by emailing: CMR@Minnesota-Resorts.com or call 320-212-5107.

NEED \$500 FOR SCHOOL?

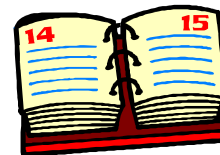
It is not too early for your child or grandchild to get the application started!

Application needs to be at the CMR Office March 15, 2016

Each year the Congress of Minnesota Resorts offers four \$500 scholarships to a junior or senior in high school or a current undergraduate or technical school student. March 15, 2016 is the deadline for the scholarship application to be received at the Congress of Minnesota Resorts office. A scholarship application can be printed by going to the CMR website www.Minnesota-Resorts.com. Scroll to the bottom of the Home Page and click on Membership, then by using your Login and Password you will be able to go to Applications and click on Scholarship Application and print a copy. If you need further assistance please contact Vicky by emailing: CMR@Minnesota-Resorts.com or call 320-212-5107.

CMR CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Sept. 1, 2015 | CMR Membership dues are due in the CMR office. |
| Sept. 1, 2015 | Resorter of the Year nominations are due in the CMR Office |
| Fall 2015 | Fall Resort Tour, Area and date to be announced later. |
| Oct. 25 - 27, 2015 | CMR Fall Conference, Giants Ridge, Biwabik |
| Oct. 26, 2015 | CMR Vendor Expo, Giants Ridge, Biwabik, 1p.m. to 4p.m. |



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WWW.MINNESOTA-RESORTS.COM

Keep your listing current
on the CMR website.

CMR MISSION STATEMENT

The Congress of Minnesota Resorts exists to help family owned and operated resorts in Minnesota to continue as a viable segment of the Minnesota tourism industry.

CMR MOTTO

The Congress of Minnesota Resort's motto is "Resorters Helping Resorters" We believe that none of us is as smart as all of us.

CMR'S 2014-2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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