



RESORTER REPORTER

Message from the CMR President, Jennifer Bateman

Now that things have slowed down, I hope you are all putting your feet up for just a little while to relax and enjoy September. I'm hoping to go biking in Itasca State Park before it gets too cold. I also want to have a camp fire with just my family (you know what I mean), let them play in the fire with sticks, and eat smores until we're silly!

I'm sure you all received from the Explore Minnesota Tourism office, an internet survey regarding the new Travel Green Program. I hope you took the time to fill it out to let our state know your thoughts on the idea. It was nice of them to ask us for our input. I would imagine years ago resort owners may not have been "considered" when it came to state input. It feels good to be recognized!

As you are making your end of the season "to do" list, don't forget to attend the annual Fall Conference, this year at Breezy Point near Brainerd, October 28, 29 and 30th. Education of members about the resort business is one of the CMR's biggest strengths. The fall conference is a particularly fun time, full of great people and new ideas! If you don't think you will be able to attend any other educational opportunities offered by the CMR this year, please try to attend the Fall Conference.

Have a great September.....

DEADLINE

For annual membership dues was September 1st.
If you haven't yet paid, please take a minute to drop the check in the mail.

We value your membership!

“Get on Board”

Don't miss the CMR Fall Conference!!

It's not too late to sign up for a fun time and an opportunity to network with fellow resorters. Breezy Point Resort is a beautiful resort and if the weather holds you can even get in a game of golf. So join us on October 28-30! The brochures have been mailed so sign up now.

For fun the Harmony Engineers will be entertaining after the Sunday evening dinner. This year's bonfire will be a special "burning" event. We invite all attendees to bring something they want to "burn", it might be your mortgage, it might be a bad guest experience, or it might be your most fun memory of being a resorter. Don't miss this fun event...plan on bringing your "burn" item to the conference and enjoy the ceremonial bonfire.

On Tuesday afternoon after the conference join us for the Good Ol' Days Family Resort Tour. After 90 years of service the resort's buildings needed retirement! Bob and Cindy Tyson are proud to host an informal tour of their brand new resort. You are encouraged to bring your bag lunch from the conference and tour their resort and ask any questions. They are excited to host this tour and look forward to telling you about the changes at their resort.

Sign up now and join your fellow resorters for another great CMR Fall Conference! Share a brochure with a neighbor or maybe your conference brochure didn't make it to your house or is hiding, that's okay just go to the CMR website www.minnesota-resorts.com Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on CMR Members, this will bring you to the Membership page scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on "2007 CMR Fall Conference Brochures". You should be able to print a copy of the brochure from this point. See you at the conference!

Notice of Proposed By-Law Changes

Attention Members:

At the annual meeting on October 29th, the Board of Directors will be proposing some by-law changes dealing with the term length of board members. If you are unable to attend the meeting but have questions regarding the suggested changes, please contact Jennifer Bateman at 218-732-5434.

Article III-DIRECTORS

Section 2: Qualifications and Tenure

Current reading:

Thereafter, the Board of Directors shall consist of present Directors, and Directors who shall be elected at the annual meeting of the members by a majority of the votes cast at such election by ballot or, in the absence of objections, by or on behalf of any member present or represented at such meeting, in any other manner. Such newly elected Directors shall hold office for two (2) years. An incumbent Director may be re-elected for successive one (1) year terms.

Proposed change:

Thereafter, the Board of Directors shall consist of present Directors, and Directors who shall be elected at the annual meeting of the members by a majority of the votes cast at such election by ballot or, in the absence of objections, by or on behalf of any member present or represented at such meeting, in any other manner. Such newly elected Directors shall hold office for three (3) years. An incumbent Director may be re-elected to successive terms.

Current reading:

Except as specifically stated elsewhere in these By-Laws, the term of incumbent Directors shall continue until the first regularly scheduled monthly board meeting after the annual meeting in the year in which their respective term ends, at which time the respective terms of office shall expire and the term of the newly elected Directors shall commence.

Proposed change:

Except as specifically stated elsewhere in these By-Laws, the term of incumbent Directors shall continue for two months following the annual meeting in the year in which their respective term ends, at which time the respective terms of office shall expire. The term of the newly elected Directors shall commence during the first regularly scheduled monthly board meeting after the annual meeting in the year in which they are elected.

CMR MEMBERS ONLY

Submitted by: Tim Aarsvold, Website Chair, Geneva Beach Resort

Information regarding www.Minnesota-Resorts.com

CMR Website Repair

Update your Resort Information.

- We repaired the “Resort Region” Selections, some areas of the state were missing, and please check to make sure your resort is listed in up to 2 regions that best advertises your area. To log into your individual resort listing, go to www.minnesota-resorts.com. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the CMR Membership link. Enter your login information. Make the changes you want and be sure to click on the SAVE PROFILE link when you are done to save your changes. Your changes will be seen when you log out and navigate to the page or log back in.
- PLEASE HELP the CMR website increase traffic by linking from your website to the CMR www.Minnesota-Resorts.com website. Faster Solutions, Inc., our advertising webmasters, highly recommends more links to the CMR site. This, in return, will also increase traffic your websites. To set up a link, log in as a member and go to “media”, and follow the easy directions. The more links to the CMR website, the higher the rank with search engines.

Crackerbarrel Quilters

Attention: CMR members

The summer season is winding down and it's time to sew and chat again!! On Monday, October 8th, the Crackerbarrel Quilters will go to Twin Springs Resort. Elaine Grove will host the group. We will begin at 10a.m. and end at 4p.m. Elaine will make a pot of chili for lunch and we can all bring a snack or munchies to share with everyone.

If you are a CMR member and have never sewed with us, you are invited to join us. We try to meet every month until April or May rolls around again. Sometimes we work on a special project, but this first time we will just work on our own sewing projects. The most important part of our day is the "crackerbarrel" chats that are pretty much ongoing all day long! It's so fun to share our best and worst guests, new things we tried, best purchase we made, etc.

Even if you don't sew, you can join us. Just contact Elaine at twinsprings@tds.net or 218-675-6633 to let her know you are coming. We certainly don't want to run out of food!!

CMR Fall Resort Tour

Submitted by: Timberly Christianson, School of Resorting Chair, Finn-N-Feather Resort

The CMR Resort tour was held on Wednesday September 5th, and toured the Akeley/Nevis areas. It was a beautiful fall day with plenty of sunshine and a record number of resorters in attendance. The first stop was Big Timber Lodge, where we were greeted to coffee and donuts and were given a brief history of the lodge and resort. Then we were allowed to roam the grounds and view many of the cabins. What a peaceful setting and so much history! Congratulations on celebrating 100 years in business.

From there we were off to Camp Liberty Resort where one of the first things we saw was the beautifully landscaped fountain and pond. It was a treat for all the senses and you could really feel the attention to detail. Then we again were allowed to roam the grounds looking in the many beautiful cabins. For all of you that missed out on the tour, I can't stress enough how fortunate it is to be able to see other resorts in person and get a real feel for what everyone else is doing.

After that we were off to In-We-Go Resort. What a wonderful place with so many diverse accommodations. From hotel rooms, to lake side cabins to RV's it had so many different places to explore. The new pool and huge playground system were so neat. It's a good thing my kids were not along or we would have never made it to the next stop.

The final stop was Crow Wing Crest Lodge. Here we were greeted with a wide arrange of food and drinks! After all that walking we were all very thankful for the hospitality! The resort was almost completely empty so we were free to wander around. I don't know how many made it into all the cabins, but all I could think of was how many there would be to clean! Yikes. After all the touring many resorters welcomed a chance to sit down and reminisce about summer guests, plans for next year and closing the season.

Thanks to all the resorts that opened their doors to us. What a wonderful day and what a great time had by all. This is one of the many wonderful benefits of being a member of the CMR. It's not everyday you get to look into other resorter's cabins and lodges and freely get ideas on areas you can improve your own resort. What a true expression of resorters helping resorters. I can't wait till next year!

WWW.Minnesota-Resorts.Com

The Congress of Minnesota Resorts in the past year has redesigned the website and hired Faster Solutions to Administrate and Market for us. Since its activation, the activity continues to increase (with some seasonal fluctuation). We do not have comparable numbers from the past, but this is what we are seeing now.

		Visits	Page Views
January	2007	4,568	27,795
February	2007	3,713	21,584
March	2007	4,770	27,911
April	2007	4,002	24,349
May	2007	4,434	28,159
June	2007	5,464	34,156
July	2007	6,003	38,734
August	2007	3,942	24,042

With this report we are also told that the three leading areas searched for the month are as follows:

January	2007	Park Rapids, Brainerd, Alexandria
February	2007	Grand Rapids, Alexandria, Walker
March	2007	Brainerd Lakes, Otter Tail Country, 1,000 Grand Lakes
April	2007	Brainerd Lakes, Otter Tail Country, 1,000 Grand Lakes
May	2007	Brainerd Lakes, Otter Tail Country, Central Lakes
June	2007	Brainerd Lakes, 1,000 Grand Lakes, Otter Tail Country
July	2007	Brainerd Lakes, Otter Tail Country, Alexandria

This report does not give further information as to where the visitors link to after selecting an area. You can get that information from your website host statistics. In looking at my own website statistics, I found that the Congress of Minnesota Resorts ranks fourth in referrals. The first three include my local Chamber of Commerce, Explore Minnesota, and Google.

My website numbers from the Congress of Minnesota Resorts website referral are as follows:

January	2007	74	February	2007	69
March	2007	89	April	2007	83
May	2007	113	June	2007	102
July	2007	119	August	2007	73

Congress of Minnesota Resorts has committed to increasing traffic to its website thru additional advertising dollars being spent on Google, Yahoo, and MSN. Show your commitment to CMR by adding a LINK to www.Minnesota-Resorts.com on your website, by going to "Members Only"/ "Media" and follow the easy instructions.

We are also adding to and changing the website as needed to keep it up to date and interesting. We will accept suggestions and help from any member that has an idea, expertise, and/or time.

Tim Aarsvold, Treasurer/Website

Congress of Minnesota Resorts

TJA@GenevaBeachResort.com

NEW MEMBERS

New members/owners since the June newsletter. Please give them a call or email of encouragement and welcome them to the Congress of Minnesota Resorts.

New Members;

Mark & Katie Shafer, Pine Acres Resort, 29604 Highway 38 N, Grand Rapids, MN 55744 phone: 218-326-2082 email: info@pineacres-resort.com

Jon & Penny Perry, Loon Lake Resort, 32053 Loon Drive, Vergas, MN 56587 phone: 218-342-2509 email: llresort@eot.com

Dan & Teresa Baumann, Golden Eagle Lodge, 468 Clearwater Road, Grand Marais, MN 55604 phone: 218-388-2203 email: cmr@golden-eagle.com

*WELCOME
&
GOOD LUCK!*

Associate Member:

Scott Legatt, Viking Industries, Inc, 38169 County Road 2, St. Joseph, MN 56374 phone: 320-259-0909 email: sales@vikinglogfurniture.com website: www.vikinglogfurniture.com

Ken Priebe, LarsonAllen LLP, Post Office Box 648, Brainerd, MN 56401 phone: 218-825-2914 email: kpriebe@larsonallen.com website: www.larsonallen.com

Al Bird, Al Bird Sales, 704 207th Avenue NE, Cedar, MN 55011 phone 763-434-1527 email: allanbird@msn.com

Minnesota T's Inc., 822 Front Street, Brainerd, MN 56401-3517 phone: 218-829-0029 email: brad@mn-ts.com website: www.mn-ts.com

Edward Jones-Jim Tousignant, Contact persons, Joell Schmidt, Post Office Box 424 (607 Oak Street), Brainerd, MN 56401 phone: 218-822-3313 website: www.edwardjones.com

“Get on Board” for the CMR Fall Conference

October 28—30, 2007

Breezy Point Resort, Breezy Point, MN

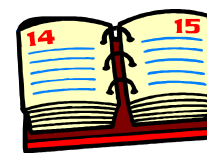
View and print the 2007 Fall Conference Agenda and registration form by visiting the CMR website:

www.minnesota-resorts.com On the home page please go to the lower left corner and click on “**CMR MEMBERSHIP**” you will now be at the **MEMBERSHIP** page. Scroll to the bottom of this page and click on “2007 CMR Fall Conference Brochure. You will be able to view and print the brochure from this point.

See you October 28th!

CMR CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| October 28-30, 2007 | 2007 CMR Fall Conference, Breezy Point Resort in Breezy Point Registration starts at noon |
| October 29, 2007 | CMR Exhibitors Expo 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. |
| October 30, 2007 | Resort Tour after close of the Fall Conference at Good Ol' Days Family Resort, Nisswa, Hosts Bob & Cindy Tyson. |
| January 22-24, 2008 | Explore Minnesota 2008 Tourism Conference, Alltel Civic Center, Mankato |



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Phone: 888-761-4245

Email: cmr@minnesota-resorts.com

**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 2006-2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE'S

President: Jennifer Bateman, Two Inlets Resort, 218-732-5434
email: vacation@twoinlets.com

Vice President: Dana Pitt, Bailey's Resort, 218-547-1464
email: vacation@baileysresort.com

Treasurer: Tim Aarsvold, Geneva Beach Resort, 320-763-3200 email:
TJA@GenevaBeachResort.com

Secretary: Mark Novotny, Hyde-A-Way Bay Resort, 218-675-6683
email: hydeawaybay@tds.net

EDUCATION:

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email: vacation@pineterrace.com

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tfallis@paulbunyan.net

Tam Mahaffey, Lost Acres Resort, 218-835-6414 email: lostacre@blackduck.net

Darvin Ferguson, Pine Terrace Resort, 218-543-4606
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Kim Bowen, Crow Wing Crest Lodge, 218-652-3111,
email: relax@crowwing.com

Jeanne Pingel, Thunder Lake Lodge, 218-566-2378, email: japingel@juno.com

LEGISLATIVE:

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