



Craig & Jinx

Resort Content

*Beautiful Lake Belle Jaine
Nevis, Minnesota*

SWIM, FISH,
RELAX IN THE SUN!

**GIFT FROM
A FRIEND!**

Check out the video on our website. We want to thank Corey from Winona for the footage. Using a drone he captured the pictures and edited the footage for us to use. Over the years his warm generous family has touched our lives in many ways.



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REFLECTING ON THE YEAR - 2016



Because of you our little business continues to grow and prosper. Some of you have been with us for a long time. I believe Randy and Shirley from Staples have been with us for over 25 years. Their annual stays date back to our first year of operation. Growing up I was a Girl Scout. One of the campfire songs we loved to sing went something like this – “Make new friends, But keep the old! One is Silver and the other Gold.” Running a resort is hard work.

You are our inspiration. We value your friendship. I believe success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful. We love you!



Some policies and procedures have changed over time. But the overall principle applied to everything we do is to, “**Keep It Simple**”. Our primary goal is to provide clean comfortable lodg-

ing at a reasonable price. Our resort caters to families with children. Come swim, fish, or just relax in the sun. We work hard to maintain a quiet, relaxing atmosphere in a natural “up north” setting. We are here to help you enjoy what nature has to offer. We provide an opportunity to escape the hustle and bustle of a busy lifestyle. Time spent with family and friends builds relationships and creates a lifetime of memories. Many weeks the occupants of all 7 cabins are related in one way or another. Our best advertising comes from a satisfied customer. Let us know what we can do to improve your vacation experience.

FRIENDS



Many of you may be accustomed to having us meet you in the parking lot and show you to your cabin. We understand you are anxious to get settled in and the kids need to use the bathroom. However, this is our opportunity

**PLEASE REPORT TO
THE OFFICE!**

to welcome the entire family and set the stage for the week you will spend with us. Often either Dad or Mom comes to the office to pay the bill after you unload. We want to encourage everyone to report to the office when

you check in. We want to meet the entire family (group). We may have information to share with you. Our goal is for the resort to run smoothly and we want everyone to have a good time.



Communication is a complex process. We know the message sent often is not the same as the message received. No matter what you say or don't say – people apply a meaning to it. It is impossible to fail to communicate. One of the keynote speakers at the MRCA Fall Conf. talked about "Communication - Across the Generations". While his presentation fo-

COMMUNICATION PATTERNS

cused on hiring and keeping good help, it made me think about how I communicate. Each generation has a tendency to communicate differently. To improve communication we need to understand what motivates and makes each generation tick. We cannot assume all generations have the same core values.

Veterans/Traditionals - If you were born before 1943 you believe in hard work and dedication. You respect authority and honor is important to you.

Baby Boomers – Baby Boomers were born between 1943-1960 and have a tendency to be optimistic and team oriented. They are focused on personal growth and a sense of accomplishment.

Generation Xer's – Born between 1960-1980, Xer's are a tech. saavy bunch. Very informal in their approach to the work environment, they strive to be self reliant. They take a casual approach to authority.

Milennials/Generation Y They entered the work

force after 1980. They are realistic and pragmatic. They appreciate diversity. They are accustomed to sticking up for themselves. Most have been making decisions all of their lives. Understanding the core values of each generation and knowing how to motivate and reward them can be beneficial and improve relationships.

CHECK OUR RATES FOR 2017

Rates have been finalized for the 2017 season. We now offer *Early Spring*, *Spring*, *Summer* (Prime Time), *Fall* and *Late Fall* rates. Previously, rates were broken down into only 3 time frames. The change was made to make the shoulder seasons more affordable. We hope to offer a greater savings in the fu-

ture. Prime time rates remain much the same. The other significant change to our rates was to increase the extra person charge from \$20 a day and \$100 per week to \$25 per day and \$125 per week. This was necessary due to the tendency to pack extra people into a cabin rather than book 2 cabins. Families have

indicated to us that while they enjoy being together; they appreciate having their own space. Privacy in varying degrees is important to everyone. We are taking responsibility for an issue that has plagued some family outings. We also recognize extra people add to our costs.

Happiness

*is Like
Jam
You can't
Spread
Even a
Little
Without
Getting
Some
On
Yourself!*

A CORN FEED WAS A BIG DEAL—MEMORIES!

Roasting corn over an open fire was a big deal as a kid. We wrapped our corn, husk and all in a big sheet and soaked it in the lake most of the day. We roasted it until the husk was slightly charred. Then we peeled back the husk and dipped the corn in but-



ter. Big lard cans of melted butter were placed on the picnic table. As we ate, butter dripped from your chin and ran down your arm. The recipe I found suggests soaking 10 ears of corn (in the husks) in a stock pot filled with cold water for about 20 minutes. While the corn is soaking, add 2 Tablespoons minced

fresh dill or 2 teaspoons dill weed, 2 Tablespoons minced fresh chives, 1 teaspoon lemon juice, 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce, ½ teaspoon garlic salt, and ¼ teaspoon pepper to 1 cup softened butter. Carefully peel back corn husks to within 1 inch of the bottom. Remove silk. Spread corn with butter

mixture. Rewrap the corn in husks. Secure with kitchen string. Grill corn over medium heat 25-30 minutes or until tender. Grill should be covered. The object is to steam the corn. Corn will need to be turned frequently. Remove corn, cut the strings and peel back the husks. Enjoy!

I CHOOSE

TO LIVE BY CHOICE,
not by chance;
TO MAKE CHANGES,
not excuses;
TO BE MOTIVATED,
not manipulated;
TO BE USEFUL,
not used;
TO EXCEL,
not to compete;
TO HAVE SELF-ESTEEM,
not self-pity;
TO LISTEN TO MY INNER VOICE,
not the random opinion of others.

**“ LAUGHTER IS TIMELESS ,
IMAGINATION HAS NO AGE * * ***



Not every family that stays with us finds such a clever way to mark their territory and welcome others. It is easy to tell the artist who paints the rocks in the parking lot loves kids and has a great sense of humor. Al

studied art in college, made it a career for awhile, but prefers to use his talent to warm the hearts of others. Megan was 2 when Al and Beth first stayed with us. Megan will be 20 this summer. One year Megan and a friend planned a birthday party. The party was in honor of 2 (stuffed animals) kittens purchased on a shopping trip. The girls crafted invitations, baked a cake, made decorations and

planned games. Everyone was included. Resort guests showed up for cake and ice cream and found themselves laughing and playing games. What started as a family of 3 has grown to include relatives on both sides of the family. Thank you Al, Beth, and Megan. You have enriched our lives and the lives of many of our guests.

DREAMS ARE FOREVER”
Walt Disney

Q U I E T T I M E T O R E F L E C T - B E C R E A T I V E !

Our resort guests are amazing people. This will be the 3rd year Leon and Joan have stayed with us. A quiet couple they use their time fishing, reading, checking out the local eating establishments, and shopping for nothing in particular. We enjoy visiting with them each day. In the afternoon, we can usually find them in front of cabin #5. Leon sits

at the picnic table, knife in hand, carving away. Joan sits beside him in her lawn chair, book in hand. Leon has been carving for about 12 years. Often he is working on a piece he will enter in the State Fair. The photo I have is of a carving completed in 2007. At home Leon finds life dictates what he must do. At the resort Leon enjoys the freedom to



kickback and work on his carving as often and for as long as he wishes. While Leon tells me he is not a serious competitive carver, he has done exceptionally well in competition. We are fortunate to have them as resort guests and friends.

Creativity — as natural & necessary as fresh air & sunshine.



L O O K I N G A H E A D - S U M M E R 2 0 1 7

First and foremost, we must complete a couple projects. We put off siding cabin #4 to work on the inside of the office. Neither project is done. Also, a couple of cabins need a new roof. Safety is a priority. You suggested we need more outdoor lighting and a railing to the sundeck or main dock. I want to get rid of the

kitchen chairs in cabin #3 and replace them with a built in booth. The living room furniture in cabin #3 is worn and needs to go. We will continue to replace a few full size beds with the extra long twin beds. I like the versatility of being able to make these bed up individually or as a king size bed. There are

2 pieces of recreational equipment I am considering. One is called a turbo paddler and the other is a saucer style boat. Both are kid friendly purchases. For our fishermen, we would like to have a couple more 15 horse motors. We would consider used motors in good condition. New motors are heavy

and difficult for Craig to handle. Docks are another issue. A floating dock with several slips would be great. We keep expecting the one old wood dock to break up when the ice goes out in the spring. I don't know how it has lasted this long.

YOUR VACATION
DESTINATION



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*The Best Things in Life
are the People we Love,
the Places we've been,
and the Memories
We've made along the way..*



Mason

**LIFE IS SHORT,
EAT DESSERT 1ST
WORK LESS,
VACATION MORE!**



Remember the Alamo!

While Craig is not passionate about travel, he indulges me. We like the motorcoach tours arranged by the local community education program. When we leave the driving to someone else Craig and I are able to relax. On a bus trip, our choices are limited. Someone else decides when we will depart, where we will eat, and what we will see each day. Craig and I do not spend our time lost and arguing about the driving. Sharing the experience with others makes the time on the road go by quickly. We will be gone 9 days, 8 nights. Our first stop is the Kansas

WE ARE OFF TO SAN ANTONIO!

Museum of History in Topeka. On day 3 we arrive in San Antonio and are treated to a tour of the city. I am excited about seeing El Mercado, an area patterned after an authentic Mexican market. We will spend 4 full days seeing the sites around San Antonio. One of the highlights I am



Studying up for the trip I learned San Antonio is the 7th most populated city in the US and the 2nd largest in the great state of Texas. A visit to the Alamo includes an

eagerly anticipating is our cruise at San Antonio's famous River Walk District.

IMAX theater presentation. Our history lesson continues with a visit to the Institute of Texan Cultures and many of the Missions. The National Museum of the Pacific War will be an emotional stop where the personal stories (World War II) from all branches of the military are told. Lastly, we will visit the LBJ Ranch. As we start home we will stop at the Cowgirl Hall of Fame in Fort Worth and then on to the Old Cowtown Museum in Wichita. I am sure we will arrive home exhausted but happy we live in the great state of Minnesota.

