



Paradise Falls Lutheran Association

100 Years of Evolving Traditions
1922 – 2022

Paradise for All Seasons



Dedication

Without the commitment and thousands of hours of hard work by the Ammon Family, Paradise Falls Lutheran Association would have few of the precious records and memories that allowed us to produce this book. Their love and devotion for PFLA and its people are beyond measure and have kept our history vibrant and alive.

We acknowledge George and Anna Mary for beginning what would become an encompassing legacy. Their three daughters have carried on their parents' labor of love for the past 25 years, with Jinny and Carole assisting Freda (the driving force) in researching, recording and updating PFLA's history. Together, they created the 22 notebooks that document our first 100 years—priceless treasures!

We are forever grateful for their dedication to archiving our history and preserving past generations for all those to come.

Anniversary Committee

Kristy Knabe, Dayle Malantonio, Elizabeth Malantonio—co-chairs. Bill Hoover, Brenda Lange, Chris Matthy—book committee. Marion Knaus, Donna Myers, Nancy Simolike, Nancy Tkacs

Credits

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Photos were taken from the PFLA archives and provided by members, with special thanks to Bob Bell, Ann King Foster, Vincent Franchino, Rob Gally, Kristy Knabe, Brenda Lange, Mary Long, Chris Matthy, Debbie Porter and Ruth Ziedonis.

Designer: Nicole Howard

Printer: Perfect Communication, Moorestown, New Jersey

Be sure to visit www.pfla.org for more history, stories and photos.

President's Message

Things don't seem to last very long in this world. But here we are, reflecting on 100 years at Paradise Falls Lutheran Association. Wow! Happy anniversary to everyone who is or has been a part of this wonderful community in the last century.

I first came to PFLA in the mid-1960s as a young child with my family. We rented the old Brown (currently Wigginton) and White (currently Beck) cottages, and in 1967 we bought our first cottage, Kidd-Lin, now the current Bond cottage. My parents were brought here by the "New York Lutherans," whom my dad knew from working in New York City for the old Lutheran Church of America (known as the LCA, which later merged to become the ELCA). But we all came to love the "Philadelphia Lutherans" once we got here! Staying in PFLA every summer for the entire summer and creating lifelong friendships and memories with family and friends was magical. I cried every year on Labor Day when we went home. There was no place like Paradise Falls.

Fast forward ... I left here as a young adult and moved out West. My parents sold Kidd-Lin, and we left Paradise Falls for a while, but Paradise Falls never left us. In 2000, when my husband and I moved back to Pennsylvania with our young children, we came back to PF for a week and ended up buying Hillverne in 2001 with my parents. It was as if we had never left PFLA, and as we were reunited with old friends and the old memories became current memories, we had a new love and gratitude for this place and this special community.

Much about PFLA has withstood the test of time. We still have ice cream in the Tea Room, a great beach, the beautiful Falls, the frog on the path, the best potlucks and some incredible singing of the old hymns in church. But we have expanded according to God's holy plan—we include a more diverse membership and have modernized some of the Association's infrastructure. But the most important and constant thing is: this is God's show. We are guided by the Holy Spirit to support each other with love and compassion. We are strengthened by our past as we are led to embrace the future.



And now, as we look forward, I urge everyone to take a moment to remember the broad shoulders we stand on. Remember the faces you used to see at the beach, the people you used to eat ice cream with at the Tea Room or pass while they walked their dogs. Remember the people you sat with at picnics and in church. Remember them all.

When our old friend Bob Bauers was on the Membership Committee, he used to tell prospective members that owning a membership at Paradise Falls was not like owning other real estate. He would say, "You will probably lose money fixing up your old cottage. Deer will eat your plants, and there may be people here you do not always agree with. But you will gain something priceless in the memories you will make here." Bob was right, and his statement has never been truer.

Kristy Knabe

PFLA President 2019-2022



Through the Decades

Most members and friends of Paradise Falls Lutheran Association are familiar with our origin story. But how many have heard of PF's pre-history—of what came before we formed the community we know and love?

The land that Paradise Falls calls home was inhabited in pre-colonial days by the Lenape, who are indigenous to the Delaware Valley and had lived here for thousands of years. In 1790, the infamous Walking Purchase negotiated by William Penn claimed all the territory from Philadelphia northwest to present-day Jim Thorpe and then northeast to present-day Port Jervis, bounded by the Delaware River on the east.

The region's earliest homesteaders settled in two valleys starting in 1820 and began farming the Paradise Valley. A Lutheran church, active from 1826-1856, was the first church in the area and was located adjacent to the old cemetery, now a Paradise Township protected site.

Paradise Township was founded from part of Price Township in 1848, and the first tax record of 1849 includes George Smith, who owned the farm buildings that are now Gate Lodge and Social Hall, dating that farm at least to the 1840s. We have speculated that George Smith portioned off parts of his farm to form the other farms that eventually became part of PFLA, including the Abend Ruhe farm (Rudan cottage), the James Heydt farm (Flynn and Elman/Yalovitzer cottages), the Lasher farm (Bond cottage) and the Dimmick Detrick farm (Bauers and Chris Matthy cottages). An early history of Monroe County suggests that around 1900, almost half of Paradise Township was unforested and still being farmed. The original PFLA surveyor, Tadafumi Mikuriya, recalled that the Delaware Water Gap was visible from the top of Summit Drive in 1925 when he began his work. And when the Bauers family first bought their cottage, they could see the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad at Henry's Crossing from their porch.

The area also became known for hunting and fishing; Paradise Stream and the Brodhead Creek are widely regarded to be the birthplace of fly fishing in the United States. The region became known as a desirable destination to get away from the nearby cities, providing an opportunity for people to be restored to health, which is where PFLA's story really begins.



1922-1931

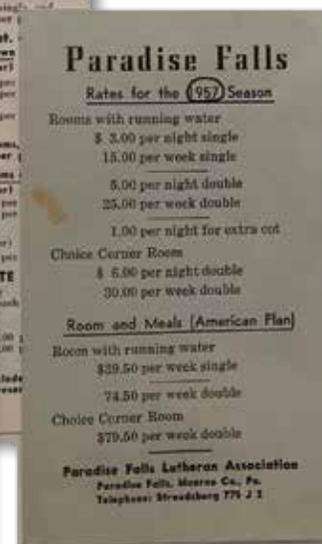
In its first decade, Paradise Falls Lutheran Association was a joint effort of many dedicated individuals who built cottages, wrote constitutions, held meetings to select leaders, expanded facilities, raised money, bought land and dreamed big dreams.

In the fall of 1922, Philadelphia builder Raymond Raff donated 23 acres of farmland to the initial group of Lutherans interested in forming a Poconos retreat for fellow Lutherans. Additional land was purchased, amounting to approximately 500 acres by 1928. For several summers, surveyors laid out lots for cottages, space for a lake and 68 acres for a hotel and golf course—those plans were later abandoned. Barns and farmhouses were soon turned into facilities for lodgers and a hall for social events and worship services.

The guest list at Nestledown and the list of new members read like a “Who’s Who” of Lutherans in the 1920s. Excursions by train and bus were arranged, and hundreds of people came to PF from the New York and Philadelphia areas. Promotional ads appeared in *The Lutheran*, and thousands of leaflets were distributed around the region. Movies and slides depicting Paradise Falls were shown in many churches. Membership grew rapidly.

In 1927, the first *Spray* appeared. This printed newsletter carried information about activities and events planned for the summer. Originally, it was produced in July, August and mid-winter; later it came out weekly during the summer season. By the end of 1929, PFLA showed receipts of over \$72,000 (membership fees, \$4,900; sale of bonds, \$30,000; dues, \$3,400; rooming, \$6,000; board, \$13,400; Gate House, \$1,465; with the balance from miscellaneous sources).

In 1930, some suggested building a swimming pool; a natural pool was soon provided by building a dam across Paradise Creek at the bend near the Lounge. Around this time, the Paradise Falls Girls’ Camp was authorized and opened in July 1931 with 11 campers and three cabins. Eventually, the operation was expanded to accommodate 75 campers who enjoyed horseback riding, swimming, crafts and more. They ate their meals in Nestledown.





The Gift Shop was run by members of the Ladies' Auxiliary.

The Ladies' Auxiliary was founded in 1929 and, until it was disbanded in 2016, ran social events and fundraisers that benefited several projects at Paradise Falls. Nestledown was one of the group's earliest beneficiaries, with the repainting and refurnishing of its lobby in 1932. Through the years, fundraisers were held to benefit additional projects, including a soda fountain in the Tea Room, a film projector and record player for the recreation program, playground equipment, improvements to the tennis courts and more.

Some of the funds to complete Lake Crawford and repairs to the grounds after the 1955 flood were raised by the Auxiliary, which also built the retaining wall at the beach in 1960. What was perhaps the group's most popular fundraiser, the annual breakfast, also helped provide the money to build the Lounge. After the turn of the 21st century, as fewer members had the time to participate fully in the Auxiliary's events, interest waned, and the group ultimately broke up—but not before making a valuable and indelible impact on Paradise Falls.



How to Get to Paradise Falls

BY CAR

From Stroudsburg take route 90. It is only ten miles.

From Scranton take route 611 to Mt. Pocono, turn left and go six miles.

BY TRAIN

From New York and Northern Jersey—Main line of the Lackawanna R.R. to Cresco, Penna. Train will be met with station wagon if reservations have been made.

BY BUS

Greyhound and Maritz lines to Swiftwater, Penna. Some schedules stop at Paradise Falls. If advance reservations are made station wagon will pick up guests at Swiftwater.

A vacation at Paradise Falls is an investment in health with fun and relaxation. Here you will find a Christian family resort with things of interest for all its members. Reservations should be accompanied with a ten-dollar deposit. Money will be refunded if your plans are changed and you can't come.

ALL ROADS LEAD TO PARADISE

For Information Write:
General Manager
Paradise Falls
Paradise Falls — Pennsylvania

Memories Rush Back

Pauline "Polly" Shetlock Werkheiser



Polly in 1948

It's hard to believe that Paradise Falls is 100 years old. Our Bela Shetlock family cottage, "Rualpa," was built in 1935 when I was 3 years old, so I have spent almost every summer of my life in this beautiful place. There were three of us sisters, and

"Rualpa" comes from the first letters of our names—Ruth, Alice and Pauline. I have always loved it here and often thought how wonderful it would be to live here permanently. I'm fortunate to have had my dream become a reality.

So many memories rush back as I think about the years I have spent here.

We still have the old steamer trunk that our family packed with all our clothes for the summer. It was sent by train from Philadelphia to Cresco, where it was picked up by the PF station wagon and delivered to our cottage. At the end of the summer, the process was reversed. I suspect other families did the same thing.

Our family had no car, so we were dependent on the butcher, greengrocer, milk man, bread man and ice man to deliver our basic staples. They would

ring a bell when they reached our road, and we would hurry out to purchase the necessities. The ice was kept in an icebox to keep perishables cool and fresh.

As a youngster, my days were filled with hikes and swimming in the natural pool at the bottom of the Falls before Lake Crawford was constructed. As I got older, I spent every morning on the tennis courts, went home for lunch and then stayed all afternoon at the lake. Dr. and Mrs. Paul Hoh were often found teaching the kids to swim and play tennis. She was a gym teacher and my inspiration to become a health and physical education teacher.

Our evenings were spent at the Center where there was always something going on—hayrides, movies, games, square dancing and, best of all, ice cream.

There were lots of kids on the grounds in those days, and the older ones (14 and 15) formed a group called the Round Robins. So, we, the younger sisters and brothers (11 and 12) decided to do the same and formed the Circling Eagles. We would meet at each other's homes for ping-pong, card games and Monopoly. Some rainy weeks we would play Monopoly all week. We also would make up skits and shows to keep ourselves entertained. We kept in touch in the winter by writing letters. The first person would write and send a letter to a second person; that person would include a letter and send them to the third person; and so on. When you received the letters on the second

round you took out your first letter and put your new letter in.

Since my older sisters were waitresses at the Nestledown Inn dining room, it seemed natural for me to get my working papers when I turned 14 and take my first job as a PF Girls' Camp waitress. I felt very grown-up as I moved into the Dietrich House, where all the waitresses stayed for the summer. The Girls' Camp dining room was attached to Nestledown, and when the camp shut down, the dining room structure was physically moved to the Recreation Field and served as the Rec Hall, where the teens would play pool and hang out. The next year I waitressed in the main dining room at Nestledown Inn, and the year after that, I worked in the Coffee Shoppe (now the Tea Room) and lived right there on the second floor. I have many fond memories of those wonderful experiences.



Polly and Lin Werkheiser in 2021

As you can see, Paradise Falls has always been very special to me. Sixty-seven years ago, my husband, Lin, and I spent our honeymoon at Rualpa. We purchased our own cottage here in 1965 so our children and grandson could enjoy and love this place as much as we do. It is home to all of us, and we are grateful to God that this paradise exists.



1932-1941

At the beginning of this decade, the country was in a continuing and severe economic depression. At the end of the decade, we were at war with Germany and Japan. Both disasters affected PFLA, as they did the whole nation. Our early ambitious plans had to be cut to a more manageable size. Fewer cottages were built, but many guests continued to vacation at Paradise Falls. Complexities in administering the Association, not foreseen in the original constitution and bylaws, led to the adoption of a new constitution in 1934.

Without a doubt, the highlight of the decade was the building of Lake Crawford. In 1938 ground was broken, and the next summer, the lake was dedicated. Mrs. Bertha Crawford, who summered at what was then the Hays cottage, gave \$6,000 toward the total cost of approximately \$23,000, with the stipulation that the lake be named in memory of her husband, Alfred.

Our Beautiful Lake Crawford

Chris Matthy

At a little more than seven acres, Lake Crawford provides one of the core elements of Paradise Falls Lutheran Association. Summer is the busiest time for swimming, paddle boarding, fishing and boating. But visit in October as the leaves change or in April and May when the mountain laurel begins to bloom, or watch the deer walk across the frozen lake in midwinter, and you will truly grasp the value of all seasons at the lake.

In our founding decade, the original plan

was to build a dam in Cranberry Creek (behind what is now the Knaus cottage at the end of Nestledown Road) to create a 25-acre lake. Some prep work was done, but two things halted the project: Cranberry Creek was not a good water source and had a reduced flow in the summer and resources were scarce during the Great Depression.

As an alternative, a low dam was built across Paradise Creek at the bend in the creek across from the Center (location

of the Lounge, Gate Lodge, Social Hall, the playground and the garage) creating a wide pool extending into what is now a wooded area below the dam. But more was hoped for, and plans were laid for a larger lake upstream. According to Rev. Harry Cressman in his 50th anniversary report, state input made the project more complicated and prohibitively expensive. The plan was saved when Bertha Crawford offered to pay 25% of the cost, stipulating that the lake be named in memory of her husband.



Of course, improvements come at a cost. Several years ago, someone came across a post card of “Lovers’ Lane” at Paradise Falls. When asked where this might be, Luther Dittmer answered “at the bottom of the lake.” At one point, before the building of the lake, a secluded path existed between Paradise Creek and Hatchery Run—now covered by water.



Over the years, improvements to the lake have been made. The concrete wall at the beach was added, and a shed was built to store beach chairs and equipment. The Beach & Recreation Committee began purchasing beach chairs for community use. In the past five years, new boat racks organized all the boats and canoes, and, most recently, a new pavilion was built in the boat area in 2021 to host private and Association events.



Owning a lake comes with responsibilities. We are under increasing supervision by the county and state (especially in the last decade) as a public swim area, for environmental concerns and safety issues. Currently, the Property Committee is researching how best to designate the swimming area and monitoring the weekly bacteria testing done by the local health department. Several years ago, the difficult decision was made to remove the diving board because of insurance restrictions.

We also must monitor the dam regularly. During the devastating flood of 1955, the banks of Beach Road adjacent to the dam washed away, imperiling the dam

itself. In the summer of 2021, we were required to report to authorities twice when flood waters rose two feet above the dam during hurricanes Henri and Ida.

Finally, there is the word that has caused strong knees to buckle: dredging. The first dredging occurred in 1967, when the lake

was drained, and the silt was used to cover the defunct dump on Cranberry Creek Road. The next dredging was hydraulic and pumped three feet of silt onto the old recreation field, a practice that would not meet regulations today. A further mechanical dredging meant building a road into the lake and bringing truckloads of silt onto the field, where it was sorted and trucked away. That expense, which imposed a large three-year assessment on members, caused the Association to seek new methods. Currently our budget has money to hydraulically dredge a different part of the lake every two years.

Past challenges fade away when you are splashing your way to the raft, sipping a cool drink in your beach chair or dangling a fishing line out of your canoe. The closing ceremony, with candles floating on the lake and camp songs on the beach, is a highlight of every summer. With care, Lake Crawford will bring joy for years to come.

The new beach pavilion was completed in 2021.



1942-1951

The United States felt the impact of World War II throughout this decade. Gas rationing caused the closing of PF's gas station (located across Route 191 from Gate Lodge where the sports equipment shed is now), and some trees were cut down for the war effort. On the plus side, because people could not travel widely, rooming and boarding facilities at PF were filled to capacity and continued to be popular throughout the immediate post-war period.

Visitors and summer residents generated enough mail—there were few telephones at Paradise Falls in those days, and long-distance calls were prohibitively expensive—that each summer from 1946 through 1956, a seasonal post office with its own distinctive Paradise Falls postmark operated in the small store across from Gate Lodge (where the Lounge is today). When the store closed in the 1960s, the mailboxes were moved to Gate Lodge, where mail continued to be delivered until the 2000s.

The Association paid off the \$23,000 debt for the dam, but because of tight finances, no new construction was begun. Road improvements were curtailed, and the purchase of additional playground equipment was postponed.

Paradise Falls Girls' Camp grew and thrived during the decade, but finally had to be closed in 1952 when it could not compete with the low rates and prestige of Camp Hagan, a neighboring Lutheran camp for girls on the Delaware River.



PFLA post card, 1946



Old gas station (across Route 191 from Gate Lodge)



Hayride, 1947

Evolving Religious Activities

Linda Beck, Amy Matthy, Art Segraves, Joan Scarpa, Nancy Tkacs



Everything changes over time. Religious activities at Paradise Falls Lutheran Association are no exception and have evolved with the years.

Initially, church services were held during the ten-week summer season (from the end of June through Labor Day), and in the early 2000s, a Memorial Remembrance service was added on Memorial Day weekend. Currently, services during the

season are led by guest ministers. In the last two years, Sundays in June have seen services outdoors at the Falls and on the beach, led by laypeople.

Religious Activities Committee members provide messages of faith at the opening of meetings of the membership and the Board of Directors. After years without communion during Sunday services, it is now celebrated the first Sunday of each

summer month. The sacrament is given via intinction, and grape juice is also offered. During the Covid-19 pandemic, communion was provided in individual sealed plastic containers—a serving of wine and a wafer. Congregants served themselves as directed by the pastor.

Monday night pastor's forums have virtually disappeared but are sometimes replaced by small Bible-study and discussion groups. Our closing services in Social Hall and on the beach have included instrumentalists.



In 2014, the Board of Directors researched the legality of the requirement held by PFLA that members must be Lutherans in good standing with their respective Lutheran churches. That research revealed that this requirement was not in compliance with the U.S. Fair Housing Act or the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act; compliance with these regulations is required by the PFLA charter. An amendment to our constitution and bylaws removed the Lutheran restriction to membership and was passed by PF members at the 2015 annual meeting. Our name and other activities remained the same, including Lutheran church services,

pastor's forums, the PFLA logo, signage and devotions at Board meetings.



Rev. Dr. Robert H. Linders

PFLA has done everything possible to retain the Association's vibrancy by maintaining its heritage, traditions, values, religious and community culture without requiring members to be Lutherans. New members who are not Lutherans respect PFLA's religious heritage. The Association continues to meet the intent of its original charter, "to offer healthful retreat and recreation for Lutheran people," while including those of other backgrounds.

In the intervening six years, our Sunday services have not changed much, and the Lutheran format is still followed. Our guest pastors are primarily of the Lutheran faith but others from churches in communion with the Lutheran church have been invited to lead us too. Looking to the future, liturgies may change, though we will always sing beloved hymns of the faith as well as new songs of prayer and praise.

In 2020, during the height of the pandemic, some services were held outside, everyone wore masks and there was no singing or guest musicians. The following summer started out with hope, but a

resurgence of the virus led once again to outdoor services (or inside while wearing masks and maintaining social distance). As we enter our 101st summer, we don't know what the future has in store, but as always, we will face any challenges and continue with worship programs designed especially for our members.

The worship services held at the beach in the new pavilion were welcomed enthusiastically and have opened a whole new approach in Paradise Falls. Perhaps we will alternate Sundays indoors and outdoors. As our membership grows more diverse, opportunities for ecumenical services and spiritual activities, including book groups and Bible studies, abound.

Originally, and for almost 100 years, being a Lutheran was what brought us all together. Now that foundation is enhanced by the wisdom, energy, beliefs and customs of other faith traditions and cultures. Our beloved PFLA is an oasis surrounded by the chaos of everyday life, and we know we are blessed to have this retreat that can fill everyone's needs.



PFLA's Memorial Garden

1952-1961

At this point, Paradise Falls made the change from a predominantly hotel operation through which it had grown so rapidly, to that of a cottage colony. Our boarding facilities suffered by comparison with other local resorts and motels in the Poconos; once gas rationing ended, vacationers had more options with better automobiles and highways. Cottagers' reliance on PF's store gradually declined, and it closed in 1968. The Ladies' Auxiliary became more active in raising money—in part through sales in its gift shop, adjacent to the store—to help pay for Association projects and maintenance.

In mid-August 1955, Hurricane Diane hit the Eastern Seaboard, causing a disastrous flood. Paradise Falls experienced widespread property damage—the disbanded Girls' Camp was leveled, and the picnic area, boat docks, approach to the bridge over Paradise Creek, and the dam were all damaged. Debris and mud in Lake Crawford required draining and extensive cleaning. Tons of soil were brought in to cover exposed roots in the Falls picnic area, and a new bridge was built at the bottom of the Falls to replace the one that washed away.



The devastation caused by Hurricane Diane in August 1955 was widespread at PFLA.

Committees formed to cope with the financial and administrative effects of rapid changes. Rentals of Nestledown and Social Hall rooms were phased out during this decade. Rooming and boarding facilities were now concentrated in the Brown and White Cottages and Gate Lodge until PF became solely a cottage colony. An attempt was made to provide for building motel cottages and apartments, but this never occurred. Nestledown and the nearby carriage house were sold and converted to cottages. The Girls' Camp dining hall was removed from Nestledown and reassembled as the Rec Hall on the old Girls' Camp site (known as Rec Field). And finally, a new tradition was started to close out the decade: the annual picnic was held for the first time in 1959.

Honoring Paradise Falls' Charter—Changing with the Times

Carole Stumpf, Membership Committee Chair

In 1924 when PFLA's charter was recorded, its stated purpose was to offer healthful retreat and recreation for Lutheran people and the encouragement of social enjoyment and athletic sports. Today's members still adhere to this purpose, with the exception that in 2015 the membership voted to remove the Lutheran requirement. This has allowed us to welcome a more

diverse community at Paradise Falls while maintaining many of the traditions and values that bind us.

Memberships were first offered in May 1924 to congregants of the United Lutheran Church in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. A \$100 membership included a 100' x 125' lot on which you could camp or, when you were ready,

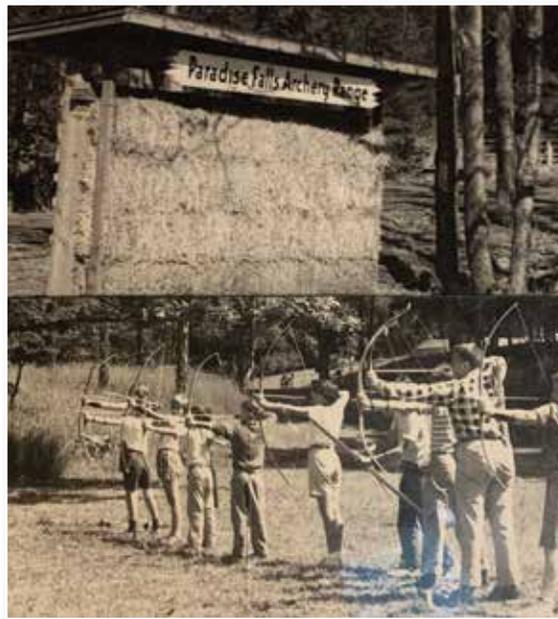
build a cottage for an estimated cost of \$1,500. Membership fees were leveraged to purchase more land for the Association. By July 1924, 29 memberships had been sold. And by August 1924, a large barn had been renovated to accommodate Lutherans wishing to vacation in the Pocono Mountains. This building was named Nestledown.



The Social Hall has seen many changes over the years.



The Recreation Hall in wintertime



Archery was a popular sport for a time.

In the 1930s, '40s, '50s and '60s, many members and renters spent entire summers at their cottages, relaxing and enjoying planned activities, sporting events, social gatherings and Sunday church services. Fathers often would commute on weekends while their families enjoyed the beach, falls and woods full time. As the world changed, so did PF, and cottages were more often used for weekend retreats. Memberships were sold, but as the 20th century wound to an end, resales dwindled.



As members have been retiring and prospective buyers have been looking for year-round living, there has been an increase in full-time residency. PFLA once again bustles with members involved in a wide variety of activities, and the laughter of many children is once again heard from the beach, playground and sports courts.

During the past 100 years, membership has ebbed and flowed along with the world's economic and societal changes. In our 101st year, we have a waiting list for memberships; many visitors inquire about joining PFLA as they comment that PF looks and feels the same as it did on their last visit.

Love and peace be with you all as we journey together to keep Paradise Falls Lutheran Association growing for another 100 years, honoring its original charter, evolving and improving as we go.



PF began its annual picnics in the late 1950s. Carolyn, Edna, Lydia and Ed Stielau join Brenda Lange in celebrating one of the first — 1960 at the Falls.



First annual beach picnic, 1985

An Environmental Connection to the Community—Past, Present and Future

Ann Foster and Pete Sollberger, Environmental Committee Co-Chairs

Since PFLA was founded in 1922, the environment has been its focal point. Even before Paradise Falls Lutheran Association was an association, Paradise Falls was a tourist destination as a natural attraction. When PF was founded, most of the land was old farmland. Fields and pastures went from tilled land to grass fields to scrub forest to the forest we see today. Through all that time, people have enjoyed the land and its beauty. From hiking to birdwatching, fishing and relaxation, games and the making of great memories, the grounds of PFLA have been used and loved for many years. Many of the trails that we hike today have been used for over 100 years, and in that time the grounds have changed considerably. What does not change is the beauty of the forest through the seasons and the diverse wildlife that never ceases to amaze.

The poet John Donne wrote, “No man is an island, entire of itself.” Neither is Paradise Falls Lutheran Association an “island.”

PFLA has a long history of working to protect the environment both within its borders and in the surrounding community; our members understand that how we manage our forests and streams impacts the greater community, and what happens in the surrounding community impacts us in return.



Over the past century, Paradise Falls has demonstrated sound environmental stewardship in many ways, including registering our property as an Act 319 Forest Reserve, part of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture’s “Clean and Green” program designed to encourage the protection of valuable forests and open space throughout the state.

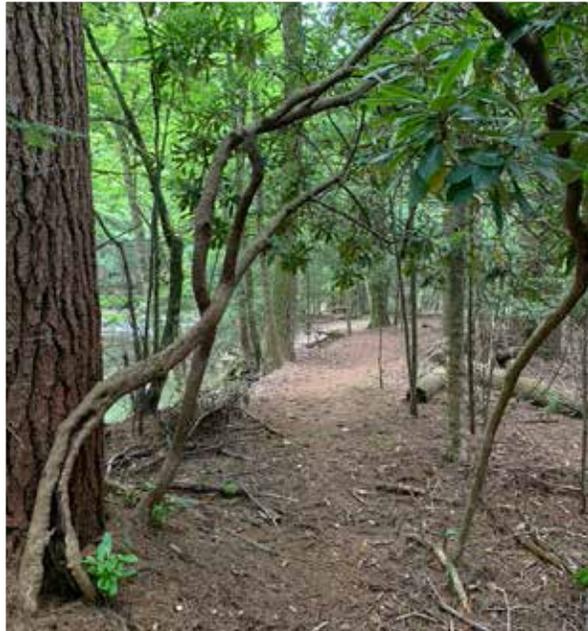
Our support for the surrounding community has taken several forms. Many of our members have served as StreamWatch volunteers, conducting water quality studies at several sites within our borders. Others demonstrate a commitment to the preservation of Paradise Falls and the surrounding Poconos by supporting our community’s environmental

organizations as members.

When an expansion was proposed for a quarry adjacent to PFLA property in the 1990s, the Pro-Paradise group was formed, with Rev. Paul Reisch, a member of PF for more than 40 years, initially serving as treasurer and eventually president. Pastor Reisch was described by other Paradise Township residents as “the firm, gentle voice of protecting Paradise.” He attended

every township meeting and shared the news, leading fundraisers to help fight the quarry, and recruiting other PF members to help in that struggle. Paul also served on the Paradise Township Environmental Advisory Council and Open Space Committee and played an important role in the preservation of many of the

open space properties surrounding us today. He was recognized for his efforts by being named Paradise Township Citizen of the Year in 2002.

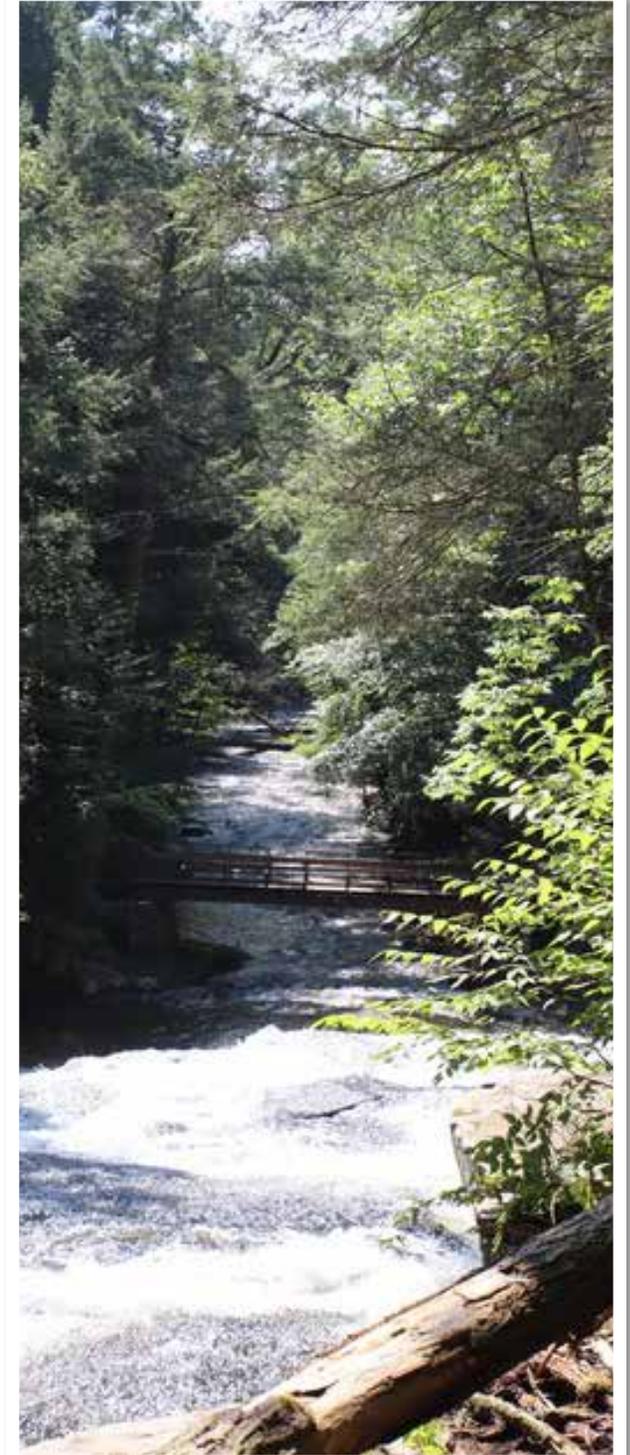




This history of environmental stewardship continues, with programs focusing on invasive plant removal, tree plantings, wise plant choices, habitat restoration and a Bethnic Macroinvertebrate Study to assess water quality. This stewardship is demonstrated in countless small acts by many of our members every day. Our history of partnerships in the surrounding community remains strong and continues to grow. The Brodhead Watershed Association, Pocono Heritage Land Trust, Paradise Township and, most recently, Brodhead Trout Unlimited, are just a few of the local groups who work with us to achieve our common goal of keeping Paradise a true paradise.



The next 100 years will bring new challenges. The land of the proposed quarry site is still owned by the same company, and though dormant, that threat is not dead. A warming climate is bringing more frequent and severe weather events resulting in increased stormwater runoff and sediment and erosion issues. But wise decisions made in the past—forest preservation, riparian plantings and stream restoration—have left us more resilient and prepared to face those challenges. We'll continue to work with our friends in the community to ensure our piece of Paradise remains as pristine and beautiful 100 years from now as it was in 1922.



1962-1971

The last decade of PF's first 50 years opened optimistically—cottages were built and re-sold, and physical improvements were made to the grounds, including a stronger bridge on the road to the Falls, a new porch on Gate Lodge, new shuffleboard courts, improved tennis courts, a repointed dam, and a redecorated Social Hall chancel.

In 1968, the Lounge was built after razing the store/gift shop and adjacent storage building. Originally called the Adult Lounge, it was intended to provide a comfortable gathering place for informal and planned meetings, shared meals (a full kitchen was installed as well as two restrooms) and more. The Ladies' Auxiliary contributed \$8,000 toward the building and furnished the Lounge, which was the site of many meetings, sewing and craft circles, and community meals.



The Lounge then and now. The former gas station now houses athletic equipment.



The tennis courts made way for new sports courts, and the shuffleboard courts got a facelift in 2021.

By the end of the decade, PF comprised 85 cottages, 19 of which had their own wells, and many of which were winterized. By mid-decade the Association was free of debt. Annual dues were raised to their highest level, \$300 per year, and budgets now required that money be set aside annually for capital improvements. Financial prospects were good; the Association's assets, including buildings and grounds, were valued at nearly \$250,000.

PFLA's history was maintained up to this point by Rev. George Ammon and published in the 50th anniversary book in 1972; the last paragraph reads, "As The Story of PFLA ends, there are feelings of thankfulness and confidence. Thanks that we have weathered severe storms, that we are free of debt, and that the third and fourth generation of the founders are now enjoying the benefits of PF, confident that the resourcefulness, resilience and determination of the past will serve us in the future!"

Preserving the Past for Future Generations

Freda Ammon Miltner, Carole Ammon DePue, and Virginia "Jinny" Ammon Warburton (deceased)



The Ammon family, 1953

Our father, George Ammon, was the first social director at Paradise Falls back in the summers of 1934 and '35. He was ordained as a Lutheran minister the following year. He also

was the first person to begin gathering and recording the history of PF through photographs, slides, movies and words, since he loved history, photography and Paradise Falls!

He was assisted by his wife, Anna Mary, over the many years that followed—she was always by his side helping with this labor of love. After our father's death in 1993, the three sisters, Freda, Jinny and Carole, continued to maintain and update the numerous PF records—compiling them into what now are 22 loose-leaf notebooks of our priceless history. There are also DVDs made from old PF movies from the very early days, countless slides, and many photographs.

But our father did not dwell on or live in the past. He was very forward-thinking—a planner and a thinker—though he had great respect for what preceded him and wanted the history preserved for future generations. This is what we see as our task going forward: continuing his legacy

by taking the best of our PF history, remembering and recording, and then moving on with the new ideas of younger generations.

Some of those new ideas that have come to fruition in the last 25 years (since the 75th anniversary book was published) have improved the quality of life here for us all: the Memorial Garden, the upgraded road to the Falls, Social Hall ramp, Wi-Fi in the Tea Room and Lounge, the PFLA Museum, beach pavilion and new worship parlaments.

Our members have reached out and collaborated with Paradise Township on upgrading our address system to better protect us all through the 911 system, and we have instituted formalized environmental compliance issues to maintain and improve the health of our forests, waterways and the animals and fish that call them home.

In general, we have added overall emphasis on health and wellness, volunteerism, year-round events, flexibility in our worship and philanthropy. Through all the above, we warmly welcome new members to an inclusive, diverse community, one that will continue to grow and evolve.

As we look back and recall the good old days, we must also appreciate the best of times that are happening here and now. The Paradise Falls community always has provided a touchstone for our members, in good times and in those more challenging times. The Covid-19 pandemic was an awful time for the world, and yet, at PF, our members reached out to check on the

welfare of year-round residents; helped those members who used PF as a respite from the crowded city; fast-tracked the construction of the new beach pavilion and sports courts to provide safe outdoor spaces in which to gather; and shared suggestions to help improve everyone's health and welfare.

Our parents would be so delighted with how our community has worked together, solved problems together, and supported each other for 100 years—remembering our past, enjoying the present at our peaceful retreat in the woods, looking forward to our future, and continuing to become the caring community we were meant to be.



Freda Ammon Miltner, George Ammon, Anna Mary Ammon, Carole Ammon DePue, Jinny Ammon Warburton, 1986.

Caring for PFLA

Beginning in 1926, Paradise Falls Lutheran Association has employed a full-time caretaker who most often has lived on the grounds year-round. The caretaker is responsible for maintaining the Association's physical facilities, grounds and common space in a safe and attractive condition. He reports to the Property Committee chairperson and often has become a true member of the community in addition to being a valued staff member.

Throughout the years, the caretaker has been called on to oversee and physically manage all types of lawn and foliage care, paint, make repairs and otherwise maintain common areas including buildings such as the Lounge, Gate Lodge and Social Hall.

Some physical upgrades since the 1990s have included refurbishments to Social Hall: new windows, a new front porch and wheelchair ramp, new concrete shingles and a new sound system. The Lounge has been completely repainted in the last 10 years, a new roof and windows have been installed, and a bracing system has been added to the crawl space. Items added inside to make it more family friendly and usable include a large-screen TV, DVDs, games, comfortable furniture and Wi-Fi.

New playground equipment was installed at the Center, and a process of closing off the space between the Tea Room and playground to traffic was instituted to make it safer for children to play. In addition, many of the roads within PF have been paved to help maintain them throughout the often harsh winters and through flooding rains.

A large project that was begun in 2008 was the shutting down of the over-ground water system. In its day, it was a marvel, providing water to all of PF's cottages. At some point, so many memberships had installed wells that the water in the 30,000-gallon tank on the top of the hill wasn't remaining fresh. Constant repairs also were required on the pipes, so the Board gave members five years in which to install their own wells before the system was completely shut down in 2015. The well continues to serve five of the six cottages located at the top of the hill and is maintained by their owners.

One of the largest ongoing maintenance projects at PFLA has always been the lake and dam. It's been necessary to dredge the silt from the lake on a regular basis, a disruptive and expensive process. Recently, we have instituted hydraulic dredging, which cleans one section of the lake at a time. This process is much less expensive and does not require us to lower the lake or get permits; this plan is approved by the Army Corp of Engineers. The dam was repaired with shotcrete several years ago, a process that was completed at the end of 2021 and should last for years.

Planning for the Future

The essential purpose of Paradise Falls' Long-Range Planning Committee (LRPC) is to "develop and recommend long-range plans to the Board and Association pertaining to the life and property of the Association."

Because so much of the life of PFLA revolves around the lake and beach, a lot of long-range planning issues concern this area. For example, the LRPC created and chaired the Lake Task Force, which explored multiple ways of dredging the lake, implementing the current hydraulic dredging option.

The LRPC also performed a 2010 survey that revealed interest in creating a financial cushion to protect us against weather damage or encroachments on our property (like the situation in which the quarry upstream of PF proposed resumption of operations, which would have been dirty and noisy). Thanks to these findings, the Board created the Fund for Protecting Paradise—since rolled into the Paradise Falls Fund. This fund now has almost \$200,000 available for protecting Paradise Falls and its borders.



1972-1981

(George Ammon's daughter Freda Ammon Miltner took over here as documentarian.)

Our sixth decade opened with many summer-long festive events celebrating our 50 years as a Lutheran community. A written and pictorial history was produced (the gold book) that told the story of those first years.



Lake Crawford is beautiful year round.

By 1977, 49 of our 85 cottages had private wells and could be occupied all year. Dues rose over the course of the decade from \$325 to \$900 per year. Fireworks, which have since been prohibited on PF's grounds, exploded over Lake Crawford on July 4, 1976, to celebrate the country's bicentennial. At 50, PFLA was in pretty good shape, although we faced some serious challenges.

The over-the-ground water system created ongoing problems, requiring yearly repairs to the pipes and pumps. The Board capped the number of cottages using the system, and a building moratorium was put in place, holding the number of PF cottages at 87.

The cost of managing the lake—silt removal, beach erosion and three dam failures—became prohibitive at more than \$100,000. The heavy assessments on cottagers were difficult for everyone. Fundraisers were held, and there was talk of replacing the lake with a swimming pool—an idea first suggested in 1966 that was widely panned.

PF won the first court challenge to its Lutherans-Only membership clause in 1973.

Fewer families were using PF's summer amenities daily, prompting the use of volunteers to replace paid social directors. Members stepped up, providing games, arts and crafts, events and book groups for kids and teens, as well as forums and card games for adults.

The Board began to address the needs of full-time cottagers, forming a long-range plan advocating for those needs.

Caretakers

1926-1948	Harold Heydt
1949-1950	Cleo Saunders
1951-1966	Kenny Harrison
1967-1968	Walt Harrison
1969	Stan Smith
1970	Don Galavitz
1971-1976	Richard Kice
1977-1980	Vic Galunic
1981-1986	Clyde Cramer
1987	Mark Airey
1988-1995	Dan Scully
1996-2005	Steve Scorzelli
2006-2013	Dave Anders
Since 2014	Andy Rance

Remembering Heyday Fun

Bill Hoover



Bill Hoover

The Hoover family of six—Erv and Jeanette, and their children, Bill, Debby, Wendy, and Steve—first rented the Ney cottage at Paradise Falls in July 1960. Before Wendy developed an intolerance to seawater, we had

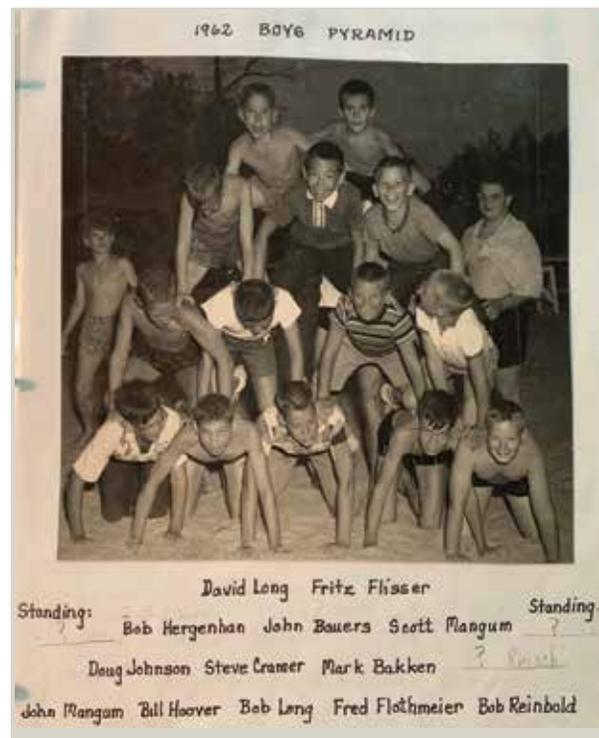
vacationed at Wildwood Crest, New Jersey, but after that first summer at Paradise Falls, we visited PF every year for about a decade. My father knew about it because he had visited as a boy with his widowed mother, and they stayed at Nestledown.

Mom packed the Dodge station wagon with our bikes, enough clothes for a month (we had no washer or dryer at the cottage) and as much food as possible for our trek from Lafayette Hill, Pennsylvania, to Paradise Falls. She would take trips throughout the month to Lewis's Market in Mountainhome when necessary.

Our grandparents visited often, and it was Granddad Waetjen (my mother's father) who taught me to fish and many other skills. At least once during our annual stay, we would drive up to Big Pocono to pick blueberries, hike the trails and have a cookout.

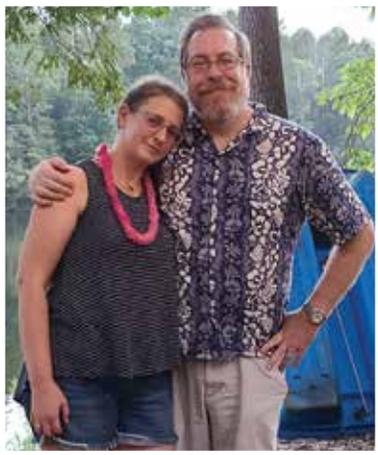
This decade was PF's heyday, with two full-time social directors, a daily program of activities, movies on Saturday nights and a gang of 20 or more teens who spent time at the old blue Rec Hall. Some of the kids in the group were Sarah Schaffner, Russell and Doug Johnson, Claudia Hendricks, Fred Flothmeier, Jim Morentz, Gail Cramer, Bob Long, Ken Teter, Bill Fredrick and Ernie Miller. John Schaffner and Dwight Johnson led the place. Hayrides, square dances, archery, tennis, softball and so much more were all on the agenda. The Tea Room was open every night selling 10-cent ice cream cones.

In the mid-'60s, our family moved to the larger Long cottage, known for its pump organ. We continued our traditions of breakfast at the Falls, potluck dinners, rocking the raft and rowboat races. I developed lifelong friendships at Paradise Falls.



Absorbing PF's Peace

Dan Long



Mary and Dan Long

After rounding the corner where routes 715 and 191 meet, where the remnants of the old Henryville House rest, I kept watch for the wooden sign stating Entering the Grounds of Paradise Falls Lutheran

Association as a final confirmation that we were indeed there! As we pulled into the lane in front of the Long cottage, Grandma and Grandpa (having seen the car approaching from the window) were already walking out the door onto their large front porch buttressed by four stone pillars that looked strong enough to support the weight of the world. We were welcomed with warm smiles, big bear hugs and kisses.

Our days at PF were spent at the beach, where we prepared to take the annual swimming test and paddled around in our canoe. We fished at the Falls, played shuffleboard and ping-pong at the Center and of course devoured ice cream at the Tea Room. My favorite activity, though, was hiking. PF has such beautiful forested land, and I would spend hours just exploring and absorbing nature's peace.

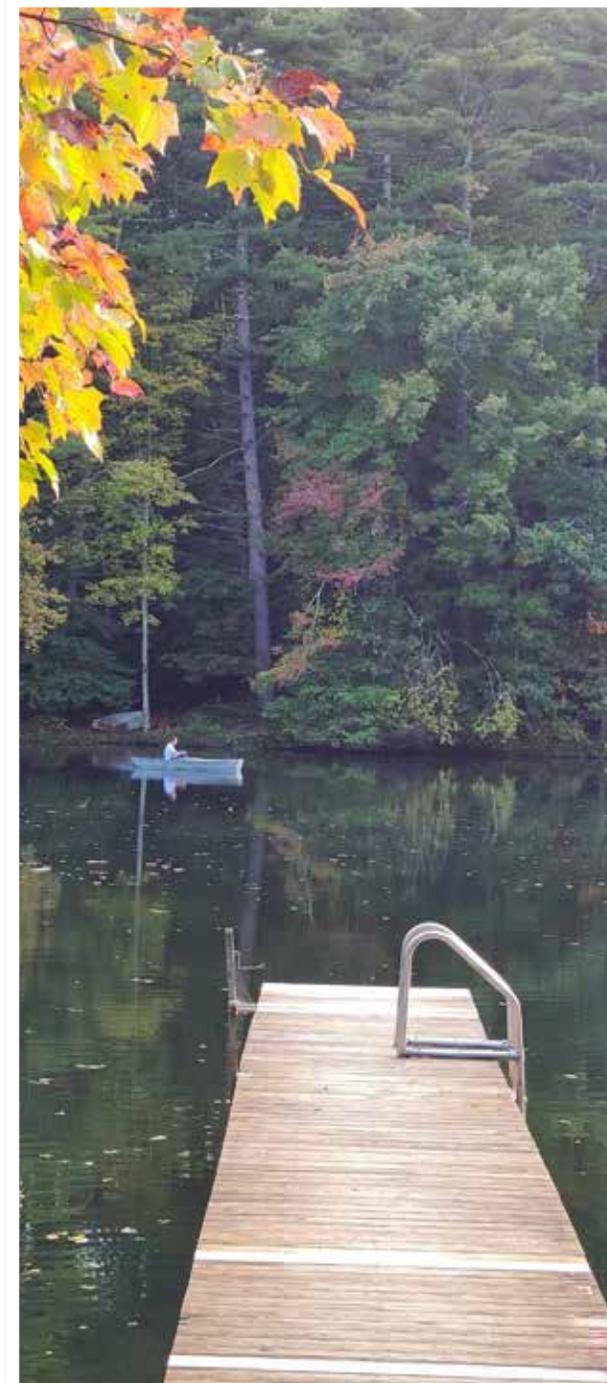
At night we were lulled into a deep sleep by the rhythmic sound of the katydids and

the water flowing continuously over the Falls. Life's worries were smothered by PF's lush green canopy of trees.

Many years later, after Grandpa had passed, the family approached Mary and me to ask if we wanted to take over the Long cottage. I must admit I was hesitant. I had not visited PF in many years, and I knew that the cottage would need a great deal of work. Mary and I met my dad there in November 2018, and I was right. The cottage did need work to be usable again; however, stepping onto the front porch with its strong stone pillars brought all those wonderful childhood memories flooding back. I felt like I had never been away.

With Mary's encouragement, we moved ahead with becoming members and tackling the repairs and clean-up at the cottage. With each wall that we scraped and repainted, we fell more in love with the old house. It is a blessing to be able to preserve the legacy of my grandparents while adding our own touches and memories as well.

I recall visiting Paradise Falls with Mary shortly before Grandpa died. He was ill and didn't speak much. Our daughter, Allyson, was a toddler, and she was crawling around the great room where Grandpa was sitting. We briefly went into the kitchen, and when we returned Grandpa was holding Allyson on his lap and smiling. Although he was ailing, he wasn't going to miss the chance to hold his great-granddaughter. Now Allyson is also a member, and we hope that she will continue making new memories here with her children and grandchildren.



1982-1991

Many repairs were needed during this decade. Work on the beach wall, Lounge foundation, and water system, along with necessary lake dredging, necessitated a dues increase to \$915 per year and additional assessments.

At this time, Paradise Falls and Paradise Township collaborated more closely on improving safety issues within the Association. Township officials toured our property and made some suggestions:

- Pave certain sections of our roads.
- Rebuild the creek bridge, improving its load capacity for emergency vehicles (completed in October 1989).
- Identify all cottages and add them to the Monroe County grid emergency response map.
- Take steps to reduce silting in the lake to eliminate the areas that had become islands with vegetation, since Lake Crawford was in danger of being declared a marshland.

By 1990, nearly a dozen cottages were for sale, with few buyers on the horizon. The Board began an aggressive sales campaign with informational brochures and formalized tours of the property and cottages. The first computer-generated *Spray* was published, members with musical skills provided summer concerts, the Oktoberfest and spring dinner were introduced, and the water system was improved, making it a busy decade.



Recreation at Paradise Falls—The Beach and More

JoAnne Pohl

So many of our wonderful memories of Paradise Falls revolve around its beauty, its people and all the fun activities and events. Many of these memories are the result of the planning of the dedicated members of the Beach & Recreation Committee throughout the years and the hard work of social directors each summer.

Years ago, when the beach was routinely packed with families with children, two full-time lifeguards were on duty every day. They offered swimming lessons and kept the beach safe and fun for everyone—even their peers. The guards were often teens from Paradise Falls, and their friends liked to hang out between the two stands listening to music, laughing and pushing the limits of what their friends (the guards) would allow.

A great rite of passage was passing the swimming test so you could swim to the raft. Everyone remembers the pride and excitement of their first passed test!

Over the years, summer events have included fishing and boat-decorating contests, Water Olympics and Fourth of July games, including the longest-distance underwater swim, relay races and the ever-popular greased watermelon contest. Volleyball tournaments, sandcastle building, egg toss, water balloons and the competitive tug-of-war rounded out our beach fun and games.

Many of our days began with arts and crafts announced by the ringing of the Social Hall bell. Depending on your age, you might make keepsakes out of pipe cleaners, egg cartons or popsicle sticks,

and paint or create willow baskets, copper engravings and painted plaster molds. Most cottages were decorated with such artwork.



*Stacy Naus, Joanie Spielberger,
Barb Flothmeier, Lynn Schmidt,
Dayle Snear and JoAnne Pohl*

Morning activities also included decorated bike parades, pet shows and baseball games in the field (where there is now tall grass and goldenrod). Some summer activities included bobbing for apples, eating marshmallows on a string and relays of all kinds. The Beach & Recreation Committee also always tried to get member Paul Teter to run his annual all-day road rally—they were incredible!

While our days were busy creating memories, so were our nights. The full-time social director, who usually lived above the Tea Room, would ring the bell to signal the start of treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, capture-the-flag (in the Pine Groves at dusk), Crazy Hat Night, or a non-summer holiday such as Halloween or Christmas.

Movies were shown once or twice a week in Social Hall. Nothing was scarier than watching the horror movie *The Fly* while a real bat flew past the movie screen. Everyone enjoyed the square dances, complete with a professional caller. We held shuffleboard tournaments, volleyball games and “sleep outs.” The boys slept in the pine groves and the girls camped on the Lounge porch. In later years, the younger children slept inside the Lounge after enjoying a movie and popcorn.

Young and old alike enjoyed the hayrides, accompanied by lots of hay-throwing and rowdy singing. Sometimes we drove in a convoy to go bowling or ice skating at the rink in Penn Hills. The older teenagers, along with the social director, would plan a nighttime horror hike to the old cemetery. They helped with a haunted house, one year in the Rec Hall and another on the third floor of Social Hall. Some summers, the teens also put on plays. Of course, everyone enjoyed the annual talent show. No matter the age or level of talent, everyone always received hearty applause, and the show traditionally ended with courageous males dressed in women’s evening attire vying for the coveted title of Miss Paradise Falls.

Although time has changed the way some of our events are run—some of the old traditions have been replaced with new memory-maker events—we are sure there are many new activities and events to come, offering memories yet to be created.

Social Directors



1934-1935 GEORGE AMMON

George spent 2 summers during his seminary years planning activities for hundreds of guests staying in Nestledown and cottages.

His room was above the office.

1945 → Anna Mary joined George as Co-Directors and she typed most of the Sprays for almost 50 years.

George Ammon was the first social director at PFLA, setting a high bar for all who followed.

1934-35	George Ammon	1973	Volunteers/parents, Marci Kuhnle, crafts
1936-37	Luther Schlenker	1974	Chris & Chrissy Matthy
1939	Fred Hollenberg	1976	Diane Snear
1940	William Read	1977	Robin Sheetz
1945	George & Anna Mary Ammon	1978	Doug Ziedonis
1946	Arthur Greenawalt	1979	Diane Snear
1947	Marie Fischeles	1980-81	Susan Buchholz
1948	Billy Rutrough	1982	Jay Ambrose
1949	Werner Ortmann	1983	William McDermott
1950	Ham Muus	1984-85	Wanda Senft
1951	Walter Wrede	1986	Beth Reedy
1953	Martin Scholl	1987-89	Anita Montz
1954	David Jentsch	1990	Brian Myers
1955	Chuck Metzgar	1992	Laurie Kochanski & Jason Viernstein
1956	Rick Acker	1993-94	Diane Snear
1958-59	Norm & Novi Melchert	1995-96	Moiria Richie
1960	Mr. & Mrs. John Dreisbach	1997	Diane Snear
1961	Carole Ammon & Linda Haag	1998-99	Volunteers
1962	F. Ammon, P. Teter, E. Miller	2000	Leslie Vogel & Christy Kurtz
1963	D. Westerman, D. MacLean, E. Miller, P. Teter	2001-02	Volunteers
1964	Mr. & Mrs. Roger Turnau	2003	Tristan Fisher
1965	G. Cramer, L. Voehringer, R. Long	2004	Janet Pouch
1966	Mr. & Mrs. James Smith	2005	Volunteers
1967	Mr. & Mrs. Walter Bowman	2006	Eric & Sam Segraves, crafts
1968	Jim Morentz & Ken Teter	2007	Liz Malantonio
1969	Mr. & Mrs. Barry Bealor	2008-09	Volunteers
1970	Lynn Kuhnle & Doug Johnson	2009	Volunteers
1971	Janis Ramsden & Doug Johnson	2010-13	Liz Malantonio
1972	Molly Wunder	2014-21	Volunteers

*missing years are unknown

1992-2001

Paradise Falls' members revisited the Association's early history as they planned for its 75th anniversary in 1997. Historical records, photos and slides were shared. *The Spray* featured historical "Did you know?" columns, and folks tried some vintage activities such as square dances, hayrides, arts and crafts, fashion shows, treasure hunts and bonfires. The green 75th anniversary book was published, updating our history and cottage listing information.

Nature's extremes kept Board members busy. A ban on burning was issued in response to the 1995 drought; the 1996 flood required costly cleanup; and an infestation of woolly adelgids in our hemlock trees required chemical treatments and the release of ladybugs to kill the worms.

On the plus side, our new relationship with Paradise Township encouraged officials there to help oppose the re-opening of a loud quarry on our property's borders. They also recommended an increase in our liability insurance, a review of our boundaries, and the installation of a dry fire hydrant near the dam, to enable firefighters to use lake water to fight fires. The Township also named our roads and assigned addresses to our cottages, adding each one to the 911 emergency system.

What Makes PF Special?

Art Segraves

I often ask myself just what it is about Paradise Falls that makes it so special. And for 100 years, countless visitors, friends, members and passers-by have asked the same question.

I first came to PF in 1967 when I was 10, and my parents rented the cottage now belonging to the Speers family. I can vividly remember running off with my two older brothers to survey our new vacation land when we arrived—leaving our baby sister behind. We quickly discovered the Falls and hiked up to the fish hatchery and back, astonished by how much nature was preserved and glorified in this paradise. We were hooked.

A few years later, my parents bought the Magic Cottage, and in 1991 Susan and I bought the Haag cottage. I was quickly called to serve on the Board of Directors and have continued to serve often. In the past 30 years, many things have changed, while our Paradise has remained; our goal has been to clutch this place close to our

hearts and never let go. As a community, we have been diligent about retaining the Falls, the lake and beach, forests and trails, Tea Room, Social Hall, Rec Hall field and our faith.



Art Segraves has always been one of PF's most-involved members through his work on the Board and other fun activities.

At the same time, we have met many challenges and come out as strong or stronger on the other side. We have fought back a quarry expansion, modernized our roads and drainage, renovated every common building, tried clear cutting of some forest areas, dredged the lake, rebuilt the dam, and changed the structure of our membership inclusion.

Maybe we have lost some minor elements over the years: we no longer have a diving board or a store that sells milk, bread and cigarettes; the Rec Hall and softball field are gone, and so is the mail room. Technically, we can no longer skinny dip at the Falls. But we still have Paradise, where nature maintains her perfection and imperfection. And we have lifelong friendships that are constantly renewed and refreshed in a setting that brings joy to our hearts.

It is with that joy that I celebrate our history and look forward to our promising future.

Finding Grace

Bob Bell



Rev. Marcia and Bob Bell

Before 2014, neither Marcia nor I had ever visited Paradise Falls, although Marcia knew of this unique association from several of her Lutheran clergy colleagues. While we were casually considering the purchase of a vacation home at the Jersey shore, one of Marcia's friends suggested that we check out PFLA instead. I visited that summer and returned home to encourage Marcia to join me to visit the Naus House.

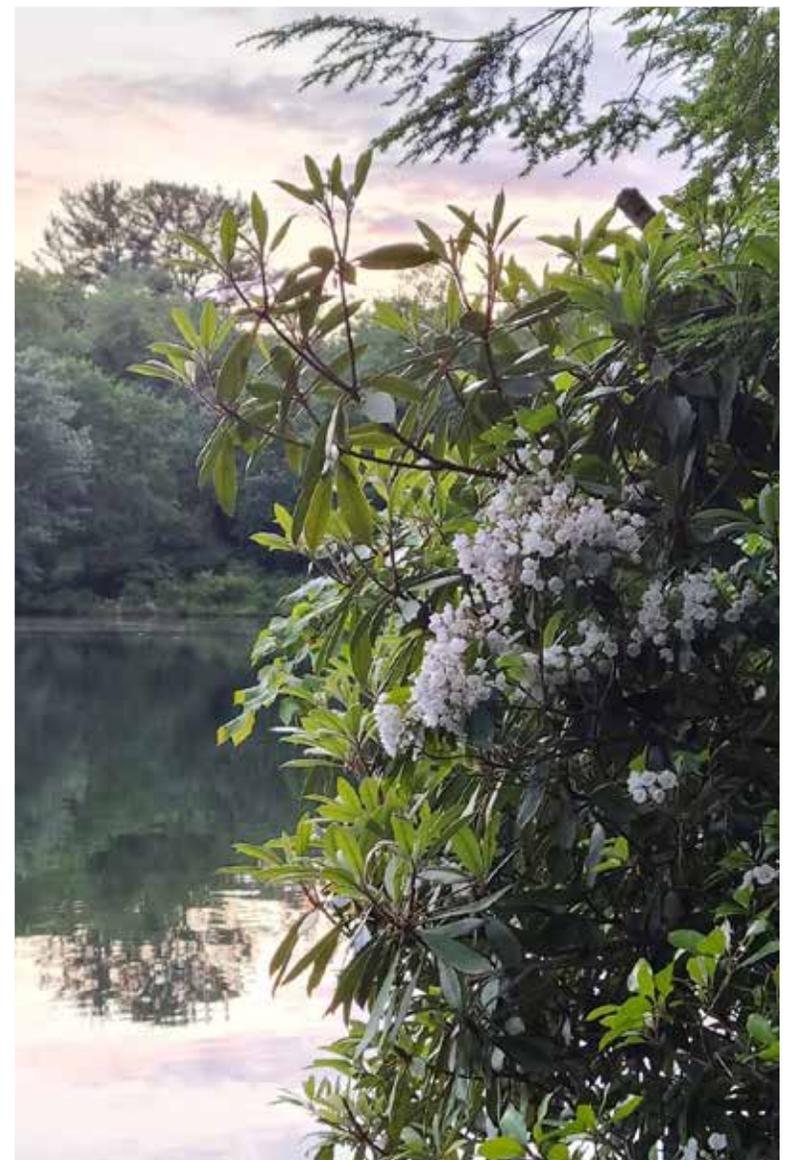
That December, after a few visits, we purchased the Naus membership, and three years later, we renamed our lakefront cottage on Beach Road "Grace on the Lake." Although the cottage was in excellent condition when we bought it, we have made it our own by tiling the screened-in porch, updating the kitchen and back porch decking and refinishing some hardwood floors. We also built a new deck near the lake and created a launch

area for our canoes, kayaks and paddleboards.

We love the peace and privacy at "Grace on the Lake," and we also love to mingle with our fellow PF members, hosting cocktail parties and other get-togethers. We also have opened our cottage to several meetings of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Committee of Deans. Marcia regularly presides over Sunday worship during the summer, and I have been a member of the Board of Directors since 2016.

Our two adult daughters, son-in-law and three wonderful grandkids enjoy Paradise Falls with us whenever possible, and one or more of the Bell family is usually at the lake for a day or two most weeks throughout the year. "Grace on the Lake" is built to be cherished and lived in, so we also loan the cottage to friends and open it for charitable fundraisers.

We love everything about Paradise Falls—its beauty, the great friendships we've made and a chance to share God's grace with others. We feel very blessed to have found PF and to be welcomed into such a great community.



2002-2011

The summer after the tragedy of September 2001, our community held a Let It Ring patriotic program, complete with instrumental and vocal music and poetry and prayers, to reflect our collective grief about the attack on our nation. Our first pre-season worship service was held that Memorial Day, a tradition that continues and in which we remember our members who have passed in the previous year. In 2007, we dedicated our own Memorial Garden in a beautiful grove above the Falls.

This was a very busy decade that saw some major changes at PF. The Property Committee chose this decade to enlarge the maintenance garage, repair the Lounge porch, remodel the pastor's apartment and replace Social Hall's siding and windows. Gradually, the decision to change our water system was made. In 2008, the proposal to require all cottages to drill individual wells by 2015 was passed. And discussions about changing the Lutherans-Only policy for membership continued, with the suggestion that membership qualifications be amended to include members of all churches in communion fellowship with the ELCA. No final decision was made, and the policy change was tabled for future consideration.



For a time, PFLA charged admission to visit the Falls with a tollbooth located just over the bridge near Falls Drive. Today, the refurbished booth sits near the Greig cottage.

Enjoying Paradise on Earth

Ruth Ziedonis



Ruth and Eric Ziedonis

My brother Eric and I have enjoyed living at Paradise Falls for more than 50 years and have truly enjoyed experiencing all four seasons here. Paradise Falls has been

our little Paradise on Earth! Hiking on the trails to the beautiful Falls and to the lake, enjoying the divine nature and wildlife, and cherishing our friendships and programs such as worship services and community events have all been so meaningful.

We made great memories living here as a family over the years. Although we miss our wonderful parents, the Rev. Arvids and Zigrida Ziedonis, we know that they

are with us in spirit, especially here in our garden that we worked on together over the years. We are grateful for 100 years of Paradise Falls and all the blessings that have come with this community and our continued service to that community. We look forward to celebrating its centennial and moving into the future of the next hundred years!

The Association's Administration

From the beginning, Paradise Falls Lutheran Association has been governed by a constitution and bylaws and led by a 15-member Board of Directors. This governing body also maintains PFLA's Rules and Regulations, which are updated as needed and shared with the membership annually. Paradise Falls is incorporated under a charter approved by the Monroe County Court in 1922 and operates under Pennsylvania laws. PF's purpose is to provide healthful retreat and recreation for members, their friends and guests. Prospective members must complete an application, pay their fee, meet with the Membership Committee and be approved by the Board of Directors. Each membership gets one vote in the business meetings of the Association.

An annual membership meeting is held at the end of June. Regular business includes action needed on proposed changes to governing documents, presentation and adoption of the budget for the following year, presentation of reports from the standing committees of the association and more. Special membership meetings may be scheduled as needed.

The Board of Directors comprises volunteers who serve in a three-year rotation and are selected by the membership in June. Regular meetings are held throughout the year either in person or virtually, and all members are welcomed.

PFLA committees include Executive, Beach & Recreation, Communications, Community Relations, Environmental, Finance, Hunting & Fishing, Long-Range Planning, Membership, Nominating, PFLA Fund, Religious Activities, Security & Construction Oversight, and Property. Most committees are chaired by a member of the Board and all association members are encouraged to participate.



Members of PF's Ladies' Auxiliary.



Presidents

1922	William F. Buckner Rev. F.H. Knubel, DD, LLD Honorary
1933	John Borgstede
1936	Rev. Harry S. Kidd
1943	Rev. David Jaxheimer
1952	Rev. Samuel E. Kidd
1954	Rev. Alford Naus J. Curtis Hoyt <i>acting president f or part of 1954</i>
1958	Dr. John Schaffner
1965	Herbert F. Meyer
1968	Adolph Klein
1971	Herbert F. Meyer
1973	Al Long
1975	John Segraves
1977	Max Pohl
1979	Herman Mariano
1980	Al Gaupp
1981	Robert DePaul
1982	Wendell Ehinger
1986	Anne Richards
1988	Arvids Ziedonis
1991	Henry Gally
1992	Catherine Schultz
1993	Diane Snear
1994	LeRoy Ness
1997	Fred Schultz
1998	Arthur Segraves
2000	Catherine Schultz
2002	Rick Fisher
2005	Arthur Segraves
2008	Kristy Knabe
2010	Peter Moyer
2012	Bill Fredrick
2014	Arthur Segraves
2016	Royal Olson
2019-22	Kristy Knabe

2012-2021

As we have once again revisited the past in preparation to celebrate PF's centennial, we also have laid the foundation for a hopeful future. Outside interest in PFLA increased in 2012, when members of the Paradise Township Historical Society toured PF for the first time. The following year, PF's boundaries and old trails were marked and cleared, and displays and tours of the oldest portions of the Association were shared.

The new PFLA museum opened in 2016 in rooms next to the Tea Room, thanks to Kristen and Nolan Olson, Jane Sullivan, Virginia Warburton and Chris Matthy. We now have a permanent area for the display of photos and historical memorabilia.

During this decade, PF also made great strides in modernizing and planning for the future, as shown by the following developments:

- The Board and all committees routinely communicate electronically; a website was built and has been upgraded annually; and all membership communications are made through email and the website.
- Cottage numbers on reflective signs were installed for 911 first responders.
- All cottages had individual wells by 2015 and hilltop cottages formed a consortium to share one well equally.
- A ramp was installed at Social Hall in 2017, offering easier accessibility.
- The road past the Memorial Garden to the base of the Falls was improved, also for easier accessibility.
- A new membership policy was passed in 2015 that allowed non-Lutherans to purchase memberships.

The Covid-19 pandemic that began in early 2020 brought safety precautions to PF, as it did everywhere. The Tea Room started a tab system of payment or would accept only exact change. Patrons gathered to enjoy their treats in socially distanced fashion at outdoor picnic tables. Church services were modified; singing was halted for the season, and most services were held outdoors. Members found ways to enjoy our traditions and activities while caring for the health and wellbeing of everyone.

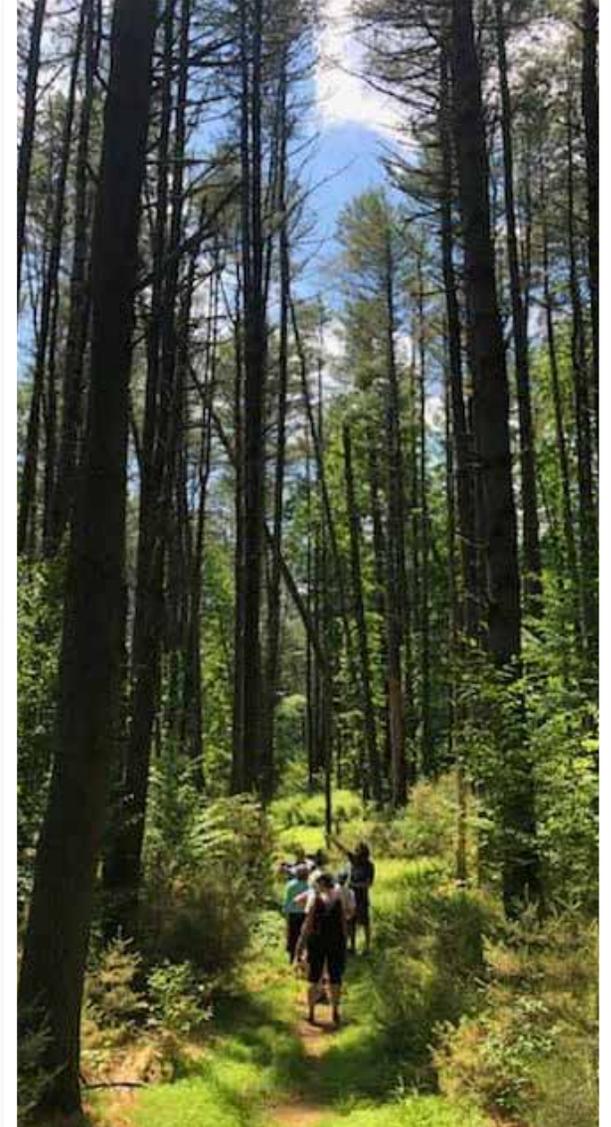
Covid-19 precautions continued in various fashions in 2021, even as excitement began to build for the 100th anniversary celebration beginning in 2022.

Freda's entries end here with the following statement:

“May both old and new members thank God and the thousands who have brought Paradise Falls to this point and inspire others to keep these blessed acres a continuing piece of paradise for everyone.”



Christmas 2021 in Social Hall



Members came out in droves during the 2021 season, as our community continued to grow and bond.

We enjoyed weekly raffle drawings, Field Day, the CROP walk, Oktoberfest and a Christmas celebration in December in Social Hall, and much more!





Oktoberfest 2020

Movie nights were held in the new beach pavilion, as were pizza night and a concert in September.



A Mexican fiesta and the bake sale in the Lounge raised money for the 100th anniversary celebration in 2022, as did the end-of summer ice cream social.



Mary Shafer, author of "Devastation on the Delaware," gave a well-attended presentation in Social Hall about the flood of '55.



Tea Room



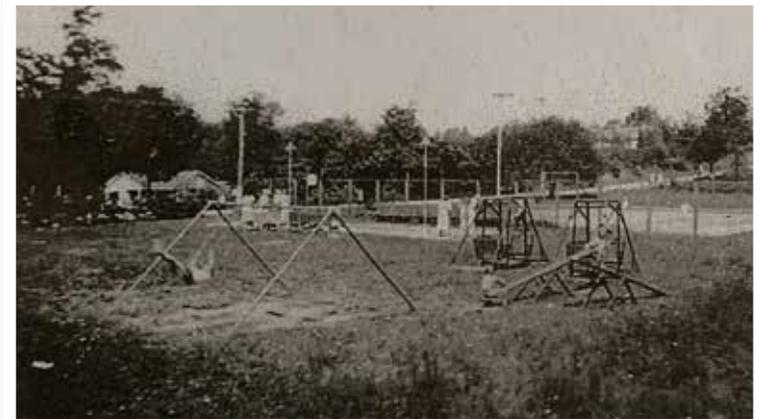
What do we want at the end of a hot summer's day? Ice cream! And there is nowhere better to get it than PF's Tea Room. While you're there, visit with friends, make a puzzle, borrow a book and buy a PF T-shirt!



Playground



A playground has always been an integral part of Paradise Falls, and once upon a time, a second one existed across Route 191, near the shuffleboard courts.





Paradise Falls Lutheran Association Museum



Immersed in Nature and Community

Jen Knight



This afternoon, a friend asked me if I'd known, when I became a member, that I would like my cottage as much as I do. I confessed that I had had no idea. In May 2021, I was excited to join PFLA—to have a place within 90 minutes of my Jersey City home where I could immerse myself in the greens and blues of nature, to be within walking distance of good friends and to meet new ones.

The same week that I became a member, I hit my head on my bedroom door while I was packing, and five weeks later, the brain fog that I was experiencing was confirmed to be symptoms of a concussion.



End-of-season closing ceremonies at the beach are a cherished PF tradition.

Little did I know that my cottage and the PFLA community would be an unanticipated gift of a container in my recovery. Instead of my usual hobbies of reading, puzzling and collaging, which I could no longer enjoy, I noticed I was drawn to my backyard: to weed and lug rocks, distribute wood chips for tick barriers, build a firepit and envision an outdoor shower. I have been surprised by the joy that this outdoor nesting has brought me. And I have been nourished by the welcome from so many members as we pass each other on our morning walks, settle in for yoga on the beach, linger after

a church service or sample libations with the Bier Club.

As my concussion fog lifts, I sense more energy and creativity emerging for dreaming about future cottage renovations and decorating. And I find myself curious about what will emerge within our communal life and especially within other contexts for the sharing of our spiritual journeys together.

Seeking to find a balance between solitude and community has long been a spiritual discipline for me. I know I am refreshed by time alone: in prayer and conversation with God, in reading and reflecting and just being in nature. And I know I flourish in the company of good friends. So, as I write this, near the end of my first summer as a member of Paradise Falls, it is such a gift to recognize how this balance seems to have been given to me here, even amid a concussion.



A Special Place for Sweet Memories

Today, members often visit the PFLA Memorial Garden to reflect and remember their loved ones who have passed. Yet, many may enjoy its serenity without knowing the full story behind its inception.

Kristy Knabe



The PFLA Memorial Garden was an idea that was brought to the Board in May 2004 by my dad, John Lindholm, who had just been diagnosed with terminal cancer. He and my mom had shared their ideas for a memorial garden with other members for some time. So, when he was told he had only months to live, he asked me to join him in presenting this idea to the Board of Directors. He told the Board, "I have a vested interest in asking you to approve the concept of the PFLA Memorial Garden, where people who loved Paradise Falls and this community of faith may be remembered after they are gone." His request was approved, and as we walked out of the meeting, he said to me, "This is where you should do service. Paradise Falls needs people to serve here based on the love we have for each other and this place." (That was the first time I went to a Board meeting, but it certainly was not the last!)



My dad died the next month, on June 22, 2004, and then the work began. Funds were bequeathed to this project by my dad's friends and family; Dayle

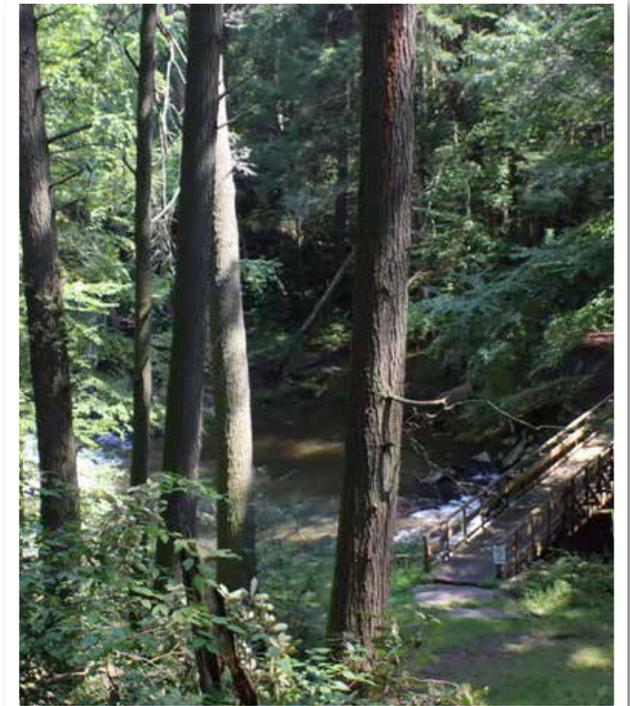
Malantonio helped order the stone benches that would be engraved with the names of deceased members; and we hired Ross & Ross to design the area with natural and native perennials.

My parents had found the perfect spot at the top of the Falls right before my dad died—anyone could access it without needing to take the stairs or walk very far; a natural stone bench was situated there with a great view of the Falls; and the ideal clearing for the simple cross Dad had envisioned all made this the clear choice for the garden.



Since the simple and beautiful dedication service led by Rev. Paul Reisch in June 2007, dozens of names have been added to the current four benches. The plan was for names to be added to the benches at the request of families and friends to honor people who have passed. But all who loved PFLA and have passed on are remembered in this spiritual, reflective haven.

Most importantly, the Memorial Garden is a place to remember how blessed we have been by some special people and sweet memories. It is a singular space where we can go to remember those who have blessed our lives and this place we all call Paradise.



One Hundred Years—Innumerable Memories

Steve Woodward

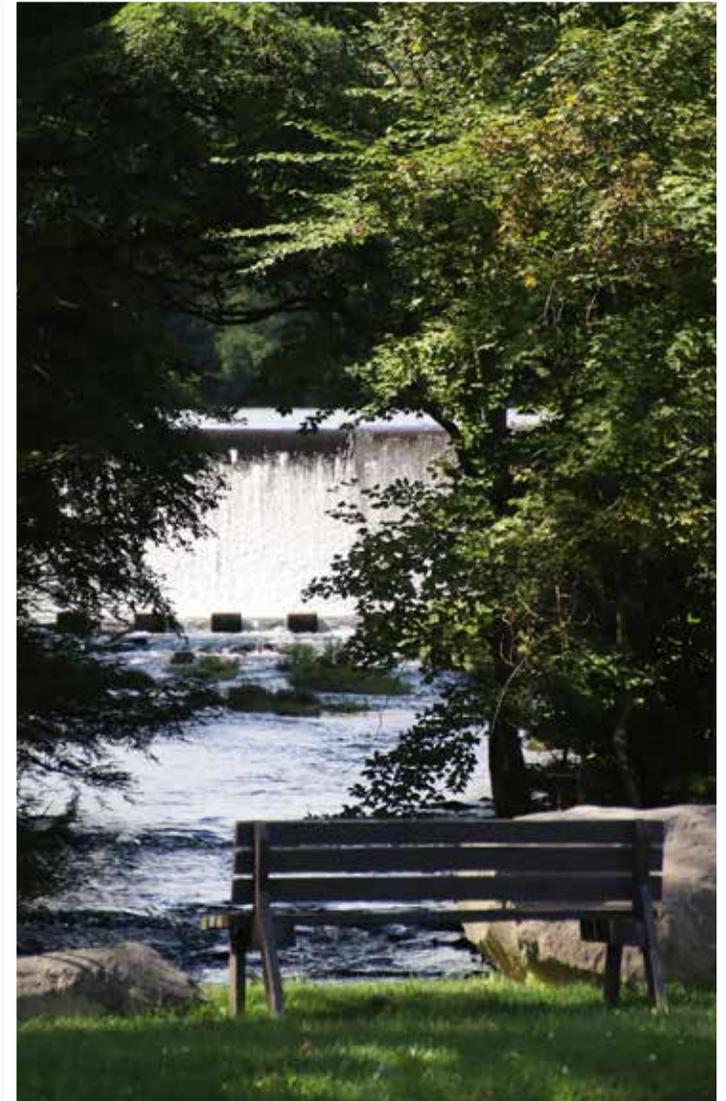
In the sense of the typical history book, there is not much to tell about Paradise Falls. Nothing much has ever happened here: no meetings of importance, no athletic records broken, no great inventions, no new sociological trends. We have had a few members who in their day were relatively well known in Lutheran Church circles, but no one who fairly counts as “famous” in the world at large. But for many of us, Paradise Falls is where much of importance to our personal histories, and the histories of our families, has occurred. Above all, it’s a place of memories, and this centennial focuses us on those memories.

A century is a long time, of course, and no one now living remembers the founding of Paradise Falls Lutheran Association. Only the very oldest among us has any personal memory of the first quarter or more of its history, although some of us recall stories of those days, recounted by parents or grandparents who experienced them firsthand. (When my own grandmother was a young woman in the 1920s, she vacationed at the Nestledown Hotel.) But we too are growing older; and by the time the next landmark anniversary rolls around in 2047, most of us will have passed on to join our parents and grandparents. By then the golden heyday of Paradise Falls in the 1960s and 1970s will seem as remote to the current generation at PF as the earliest decades do to us now and, Covid-19 notwithstanding, the 2020s will be the good old days.

The Pocono Mountains had been a

summer vacation spot well before the founding of the Association, and Paradise Falls was known as one of the area’s beauty spots, to which guests at the many nearby seasonal hotels and boarding houses might make day trips. The impetus for Paradise Falls Lutheran Association came primarily from a Philadelphia pastor and a layman, the Rev. Clifford Hays and Raymond Raff, who had independently come to know the Paradise Valley and appreciate its healthy and generally temperate summers—a major consideration for city-dwellers in the world before air conditioning and the polio vaccine. Happily, that story and the story of the decades that followed is well-documented. In addition to this book, there are accounts on the current website and in the books prepared for the 50th, 75th and 90th anniversary celebrations, as well as a vast amount of supplementary material in the archives so lovingly prepared and preserved by the Ammon sisters.

We are collectively blessed to have that history, and individually still more blessed to have our personal memories of this place and of those with whom we have shared it over the years. Bob Bauers used to say to new members: “You are not investing in a house in the Poconos. At Paradise Falls, you are investing in a lifetime of memories.” How right he was. There are now a hundred years of those memories, in many hundreds of individual lifetimes. May there be at least as many more to come.



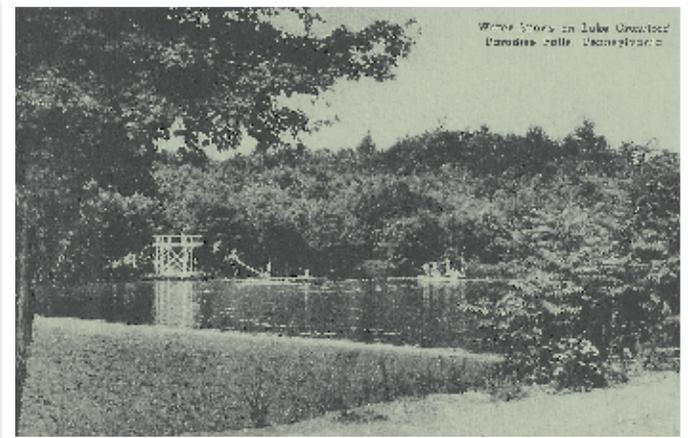




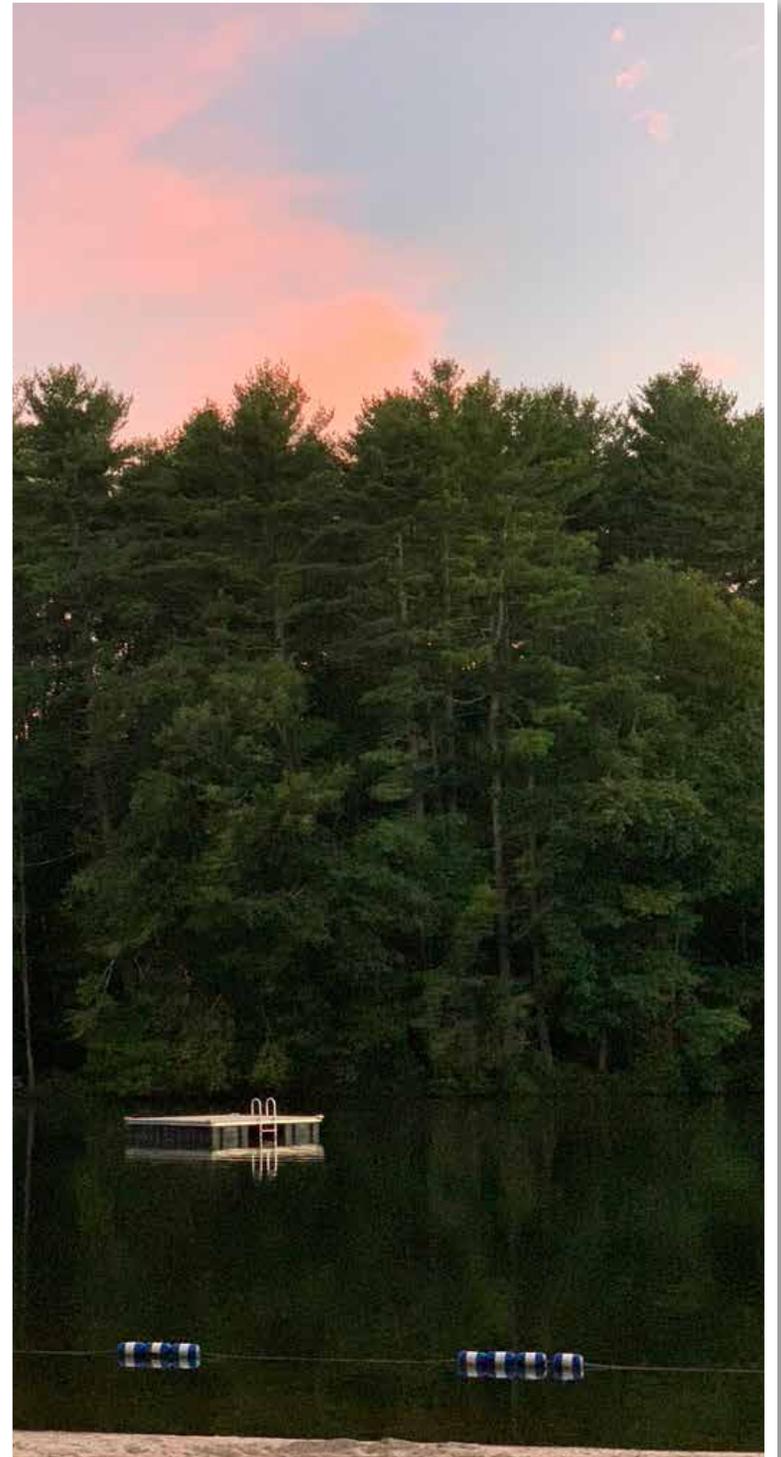
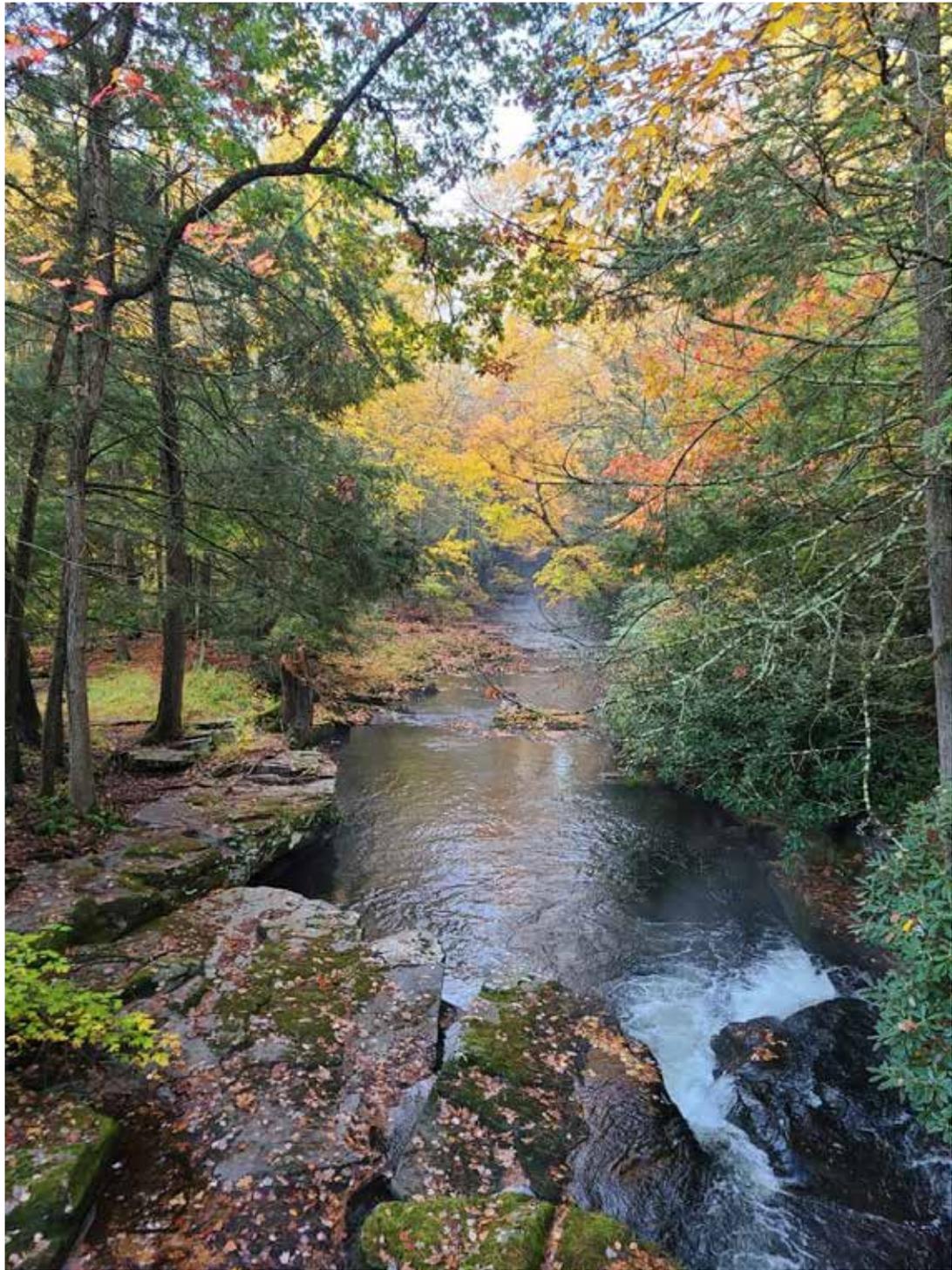




The beach at Lake Crawford always has been a favorite spot for the young and young at heart.





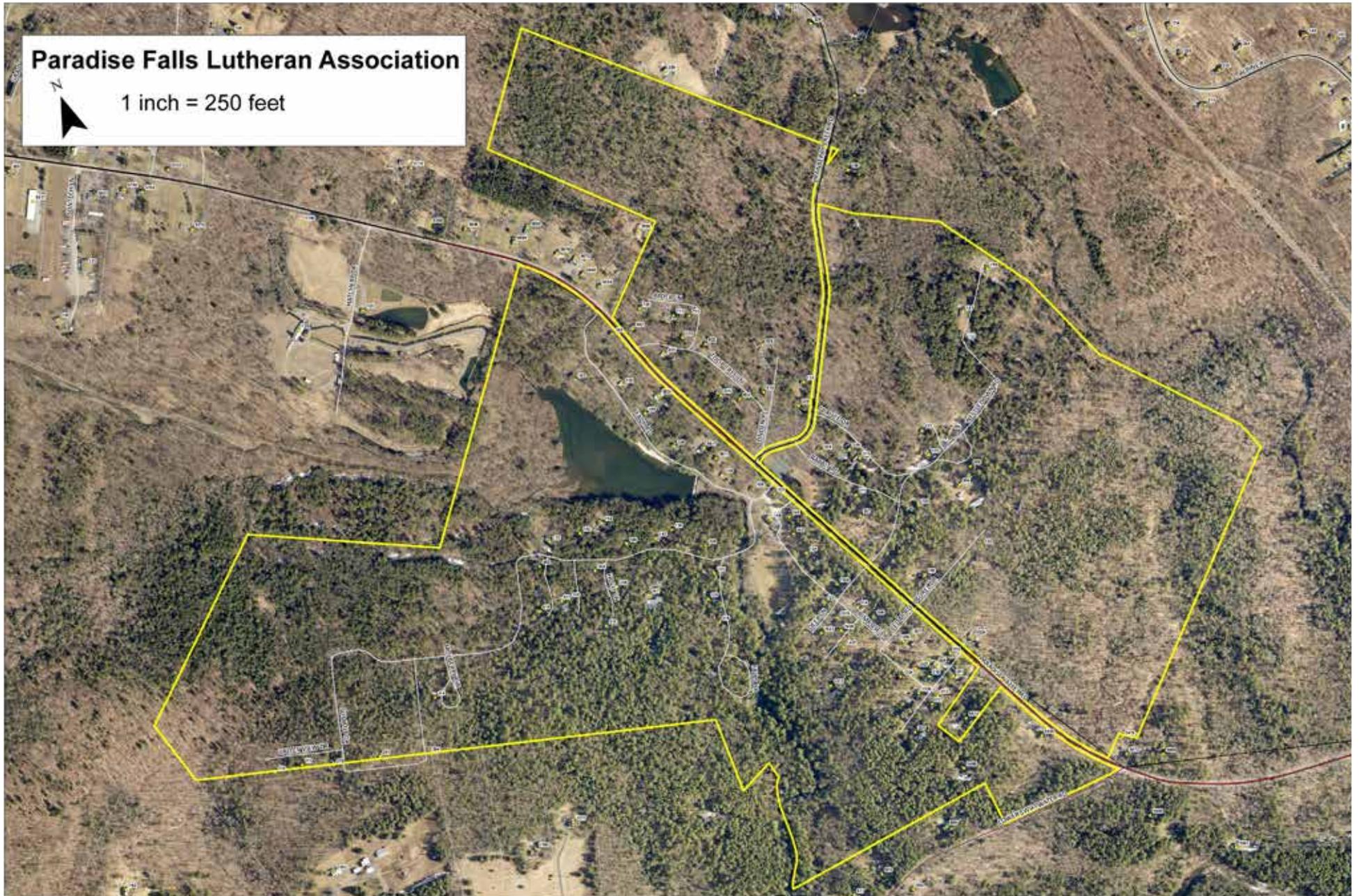




Paradise Falls Lutheran Association



1 inch = 250 feet





Paradise Falls Cottages 2021

In 1925, after several years of surveying the entire property and dividing it into lots, Paradise Falls Lutheran Association began to offer memberships consisting of one 100' x 125' lot each. Survey markers can be found hidden deep in the woods, and even the island between the stream and hatchery runs had lots, though most of those lots remain undeveloped.

Originally, each lot represented a separate membership—so there were more original memberships than exist today. Membership directories from the 1950s included a (c) next to memberships that owned cottages. For example, a cottage that now has four lots could originally have been four separate memberships, which were purchased over time and combined into the current membership.

A note about the membership listings:

Beginning in 1960, “membership” gradually was redefined to mean ownership of multiple lots with one dwelling; sales of non-cottage memberships ended in 1969. In many cases, individuals owned memberships (choosing not to build immediately) before a cottage was built on those lots by a later member, which is reflected in the histories of the cottage listings.

In 1967, the Board determined that increasing cottage membership would stress our facilities and staff (if you were on the beach in the 1960s you know why) as well as affect the rural feel of PFLA, and it was decided to cap cottage memberships at 87. A moratorium was placed on any new building, after which, the only way to join PFLA was to purchase an existing membership and cottage.

Clifford E. Hays paid \$100 for the first membership on December 5, 1925. Today, that lot is located at 120 Nestledown Road and the cottage built there is owned by the Massenheimer family.

These listings represent the people who were and are the center of our life together at Paradise Falls and the cottages they cherished. For many of us, reading these listings brings memories alive.

All listings are accurate (to the best of our knowledge) as of March 1, 2022.



Cottage #1 ❖ 128 Summit Drive

Susan Silverman & Jeff Andreson 2020

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1928

Previous Owners

Jennifer Ehinger 2012

Ann Kidd Noonan 2011

Paul & Violet Scholl 1951

Paul Hoh 1945

Charles Faber 1939

Frank M. Brown 1926

Cottage #3 ❖ 136 Summit Drive

Arthur & Susan Segraves, Scott Segraves, Eric Segraves, Samantha Coleman 2021

Builder: William Vernoy, 1937

Previous Owners

Arthur & Susan Segraves 1991

Richard & Edna Haag

Emily Haag 1931

Samuel Fales 1926



Cottage #4 ❖ 140 Summit Drive “Norwal Pines”

Lester & Joan Hallman, L. Clark Hallman, Alan Hallman, Eric Hallman 2014

Builder: William Vernoy, 1937

Previous Owners

Cheryl & Peter Moyer 2002

Henry & Eleanor Moyer 1977

Eleanor Moyer 1931

M. K. Harr 1925

Cottage #5 ❖ 146 Summit Drive “Ingrid’s Idyl”

William Hoover & Ingrid Thranov,
Anna Hoover, Julia Hoover, Signe Hoover 1998

Builder: Harold Heydt, 1936

Previous Owners

George & Frances Treisbach 1967

Charles & Ruth Kerschmar 1955

Jack & Dorothy Shoemaker 1953

Rudolph & Catherine Burnett 1936

Barbara Gruber 1926



Cottage #6 ❖ 154 Summit Drive “Snear Cottage”

Edward & Dayle Malantonio, Elizabeth Malantonio

Builder: Ray Cortright, 1974

Previous Owners

George Sr. & Barbara Snear 1968



Cottage #7 ❖ 162 Summit Drive “The Hemlocks”

Mary & Eugene (Cy) Fritz, Jean Rykaczewski, Jeff Fritz 1995

Builder: Harold Heydt, 1963

Previous Owner

Albert & Cora Niebaum 1963



Cottage #7A ❖ 170 Summit Drive

Ingrid Titus, Susan Ruth, Stephen Titus 2010

Builder: Blu-Mont Homes, 1971

Previous Owners

Claude & Elisabeth Collins 2001

Herman & Gladys Mariano 1971

Bertha Heid 1945-1954 - donated membership to PFLA

Cottage #8 ❖ 278 Summit Drive “Olewood”

Royal Jr. & Kristen Olson, Nolan Olson 2006

Builder: William Shiffer in 1929; rebuilt after fire, 2022

Previous Owners

Hildegard Miklau 1993

Harold & Annette Bates 1945

Laura Blithe 1927



Cottage #9 ❖ 111 Valley View Drive “Winfried”

Lois & Fred Flothmeier, Andrew Flothmeier,

Grant Flothmeier, Jennika Flothmeier 2009

Builder: William Vernoy, 1931

Previous Owners

Rosemary & Ernest Flothmeier, Frederick Flothmeier 1985

Ernest Flothmeier 1971

Alwine & Friedrich Flothmeier 1929

Cottage #10 ❖ 119 Valley View Drive “Wicky Wacky Woods”

Judy Wicks 1997

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1928

Previous Owners

Erich & Clara Voehringer 1941

Paul Whipp 1927

Joseph Wesley 1992

David Zimmerman 1985

George & Dorothy Fink 1969



Cottage #11 ❖ 291 Summit Drive “The Chalet”

John Wicks, Judy Wicks 2001

Builder: Erich Voehringer and friends, 1957

Previous Owners

Russell & Elisabeth Schwartz 1971

Bernard Thorpe 1968

Erich Voehringer 1946

Alice Seltzer 1926

Cottage #12 ❖ 304 Summit Drive “Idyllwild”

Michael Lange, Brenda Lange, Ruth Larison 2008

Builder: Floyd Cortright, 1932

Previous Owners

Douglas & Ruth Larison 1977

Edward & Lydia Stielau 1953

John Hoyt 1930





Cottage #12A ❖ 114 Mulberry Circle “Dania”

Steve & Margit Higgins 2002

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1929

Previous Owners

Leroy & Evelyn Ness 1986

Eskild & Christa Haugland 1956

Max & Lidy Pohl 1945

William Angerman 1943

Emil Fischer 1926

Cottage #14 ❖ 402 Hemlock Lane

Michael Macksoud 2020

Builder: Miles Keasey (foundation by Harold Heydt), 1935

Previous Owners

Robert Sr. & Phyllis Macksoud 1986

William & Judith Diehl 1974

Edgar & Dorothy Ziegler 1952

Miles & Emma Keasey



Cottage #15 ❖ 414 Hemlock Lane

Elton Richards, Russell Richards,
David Richards & Shannon Barr 2020

Builder: Harold Heydt, 1937

Previous Owners

Elton & Anne Richards 1966

George & Erma Teter 1956

Jon & Edith Johnson 1944

Charles Roswell 1936

Cottage #16 ❖ 413 Hemlock Lane “Lanco Pines”

Carole DePue, Freda Miltner, Kathryn DePue,
Jon Warburton, Julie Hauck, Stephen Miltner 2020

Builder: Messners, 1931

Previous Owners

George & Anna Mary Ammon 1959

Gertrude Messner 1931



Cottage #17 ❖ 310 Wisteria Lane

W. Steven Woodward 2012

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1929

Previous Owners

Donald & Meta Wilson 1998

Donald & Jeanne Young 1991

Leonard & Carole DePue 1991

Philip & Nora Ehrig 1957

Robert & Elizabeth Peterson 1944

Amy Strode 1929

Cottage #18 ❖ 204 Holly Lane “Lasata”

David Pohl, JoAnne Pohl 2011

Builder: Harold Heydt, 1964

Previous Owners

Harold and Hilda Heydt 1952

Edgar Rademacher 1927

Carolyn Pohl, David Pohl, JoAnne Pohl 1979

Max and Carolyn Pohl 1972





Cottage #19 ❖ 214 Holly Lane

Edward & Amy Matthy 2007

Builder: Harold Smith, 1967

Previous Owners

Edward & Roberta Matthy 1965

Cottage #20 ❖ 209 Holly Lane

Bradley Silverman & Jennifer Monson 2019

Builder: Harold Smith, 1966

Previous Owners

George Fink 1928

Anna Bitner 1927

Louis & Wilma Kuhnle 1965

Henning Duhme 1944



Cottage #21 ❖ 141 Summit Drive “Johnson’s Valhalla”

Carlene Johnson, Anthony Zanzamco,

Lauren Johnson, Allan Johnson 2018

Builder: Harold Smith, 1963

Previous Owners

Steve Titus, Irene Titus 2008

Wyeth & Mildred MacLean 1963

Cottage #22 ❖ 125 Summit Drive “Paradise Found”

John & Catherine Pierce 2006

Builder: Earl Tygert, 1930

Previous Owners

Deaconess Cottage, Mary Drexel House 1930

Frederick & Frieda Brezinski 1925



Cottage #23 ❖ 110 Falls Drive

Linford & Pauline Werkheiser, Ridgley Werkheiser,

Lindley Werkheiser 1965

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1926

Previous Owner

Emma Kuntz 1925



Cottage #24 ❖ 116 Falls Drive “Fallscrest”

Walter & Barbara Sollberger, Erica Sollberger, Peter Sollberger 1988

Built in 1926 by a Quakertown builder using a Gordon Van-Tine kit home.

Previous Owners

Margaret Jacobs 1974

Charles Jacobs 1952

Louis & Olive Walter 1946

Fred & Anna Fischer 1926



Cottage #25 ❖ 120 Beach Road “Schajawonge”

Lynn & Stan Grimm, Eleanor Hutchens, Lisa Grimm 2013

Builder: Earl Tygert, 1928

Previous Owners

Ruth Ziedonis 1999

David & Joyce Wartluft 1983

Anna Schuler 1959

William Voit 1944

Berta Heid 1925

Cottage #26 ❖ 5617 Paradise Valley Road “Hilverne”

Steven & Ann Foster, Elizabeth Marshall 2019

Builder: Earl Tygert, 1927

Previous Owners

John & Ann Lindholm 2002

John & Freda Christ 1986

Albert & Johanna Gaupp 1978

Marie Schwab Musgrove 1974

W. Paul & Doris Elson 1969

Henry Elson, Delma Elson 1927



Cottage #27 ❖ 5611 Paradise Valley Road “Lakeview”

Ester Greig, Nicole Vella, Kelly Wood 2014

Builder: Harold Heydt, 1939

Previous Owners

Edith Hertz, Helen Hendricks 1959

Erwin Moyer 1931

Margaret Burns, Dorothy Burns 1927

Cottage #28 ❖ 136 Beach Road “The Birches”

Donald & Regina Clifford 2004, David & Melissa Clifford 2021

Built in 1926

Previous Owners

Kathleen Gilbert, Jeffery Gilbert
William & Judith Diehl 1986

Grant & Carolyn Eisenberg 1952
George & Anna Fischer



Cottage #29 ❖ 148 Beach Road

Kristy Knabe, Anna, Rachel & Steven Knabe 2019

Builder: Earl Tygert, 1928

Previous Owners

Ed & Dayle Malantonio 2008

John & Ruth Schaffner, Sarah Berry 1955

Frank & Elsie Hersch 1952

H.P.C. Cressman 1928

Cottage #30 ❖ 158 Beach Road “Hummingbird Way”

Russell & Stephanie Horn, Julia Horn 1999

Builder: Harold Heydt, 1961

Previous Owners

Edward & Eleanor Horn 1986
Eleanor Wunder, Jenny Galunic 1976
Dwight & Florence Johnson 1961

William & Eleanor Wunder 1955
Caroline Trump 1926





Cottage #32 ❖ 163 Beach Road “Grace on the Lake”

Robert & Marcia Bell, Courtney Bell, Ashley Han 2014

Builder: Harold Heydt, 1939

Previous Owners

Ramon & Sonia Naus 1965

Albert & Bertha Crawford 1939

Cottage #33 ❖ 168 Beach Road “Berrybush”

Ruslana Elman & Steven Yalovitzer,
Eloise, Logan Yalovitzer 2020

James Heydt barn, remodeled by William Vernoy, 1932

Previous Owners

Claude & Shirley Dierolf,
Steven Dierolf 1987
Frank Schmidt 1942

W. H. Stutts, Maude Feldman 1936
Katherine Kidd 1926



Cottage #34 ❖ 5631 Paradise Valley Road

Carl & Beth Reindl, Christine Beck 2000

Builder: William Shiffer, 1928

Previous Owners

Samuel & Nancy Carmichael 1982

Samual & Elizabeth Kidd 1974

Isaac Meng 1939

John Wiedmann, Elizabeth Lutz 1928

Cottage #35 ❖ 142 Primrose Drive “Hill Eden”

Richard & Kathryn Narramore 2020

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1929

Previous Owners

JoAnne Pohl, David Pohl 2007

Richard & JoAnne Fisher 1991

Richard & Marion Taylor 1986

Walter & Helen Seemiller 1965

William & Helen Voit 1952

Harrison & Mary Taylor 1948

Oscar & Margaret Heyen 1927

Lois & Dorothea Hampfler 1926



Cottage #36 ❖ 134 Primrose Lane

Alfred Stiller & JoAnne Pohl 2020

Builder: William Vernoy, 1929

Previous Owners

Alfred Stiller 2002

Ruth Smalley, Alfred Stiller 1998

Ruth Smalley 1966

Adolf & Ruth Haase 1953

Emma Haase 1928

Katharine Schaner 1926

Cottage #37 ❖ 1508 Deer Lane

William & Lori Di Gaetano 2021

Builder: Floyd Cortright, 1933

Previous Owners

Judith Munoz 2016

Leon & Barbara Zinkler 1994

Jeffrey Gilbert 1988

Albert & Johanna Gaupp 1971

Hilda Downing 1967

Frederick & Arlene Sauerwein 1960

Harvey & Carrie Ulrich 1954

V.W. Meng, Emily & Esther Hughes

Harvey Knall, William Recher 1926

Ivan Heft, Charles Keller,

Katharine Shaner 1925





Cottage #38 ❖ 123 Primrose Drive “Rest Assured”

Bill & Nancy Tkacs, Jessica Way, Barbara Sharpe 2019

Builder: John Mutz, 1950

Previous Owners

Bill Fredrick & Jane Sullivan 2000

Ramon, Sonia, Allyson, Stacy Naus 1980

Alvin & Elizabeth Pederson 1976

Ernst & Marguerite Schmidt 1950

Elizabeth Mammon 1926

Cottage #39 ❖ 1523 Deer Lane

Paul Teter 2005

Builder: Clinton Keller, 1928

Previous Owners

George & Irma Teter 1958

Jacob Flegler 1927



Cottage #40 ❖ 1519 Deer Lane “Long Pines”

Dan & Mary Long, Allyson Long 2019

Builder: Earl Tygert, 1930

Previous Owners

Alfred & Marie Long 1960

Alice Lucas, Lillian Hemrichs 1953

Florence Tienken 1925

Cottage #41 ❖ 1404 Bunny Hop Lane “Tranquil Timbers”

Thomas Fry, David Fry 2005

Builder: Harold Heydt, 1946

Previous Owners

Catherine Fry & Frederic Shultz 1993

Harold & Martha Fry 1950

Etty Engel 1926



Cottage #42 ❖ 1413 Bunny Hop Lane “Woodsedge”

Katherine Speers, Kenneth Speers, Karen Lautzenheiser 2010

Builder: The Ackerman family, 1930

Previous Owners

Herbert & Katherine Speers 1976

David & Wilma Ramsden 1972

Edward & Elizabeth Lukens 1961

Percy Fell 1941

Clarence Ackerman 1927

Cottage #43 ❖ 1407 Bunny Hop Lane “Rualpa”

Michael Macksoud 2021

Builder: Harold Heydt, 1935

Previous Owners

Bela & Louis Shetlock 1930

Anna Buehner 1929

Emma Hallman 1927

Amy & Thomas Evans 2020

David & Tonya Reinbold 2002

Alice Reinbold, Ruth Ruening,

Pauline Werkheiser 1988





Cottage #44 ❖ 1324 Cedar Road “Woodland Echoes”

David Magill, Patricia (Magill) Gauger 2008

Builder: Floyd Cortright, 1933

Previous Owners

David Magill & Patricia (Stevens) Magill 2001

Patricia Stevens & Charlotte Thompson 1986

Linford & Alice Stevens 1950

Elwood & Mary Stover 1934

Cottage #45 ❖ 1330 Cedar Road “Riverstone”

Rev. David, Paul & Marylou Searing 2012

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1926

Previous Owners

John & Beulah Segraves 1968

James & Hilda Van Natten 1964

Charles Kern

Walter & Fannie Gordon 1929

John Lemmert 1925



Cottage #46 ❖ 225 Sycamore Drive

Carole Stumpf, William Fredrick, Janet Ray 2020

Built in 1958

Previous Owners

Fred & Carole Stumpf 2002

Donald & Dorothy Miller 1990

Adolph & Mae Klein 1958

Cottage #47 ❖ 217 Sycamore Drive “Sabbath Cottage”

Frederick B. Stumpf 2016

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1925

Previous Owners

John H.Y. Miller 1941

William Buckner 1925

Alfred & Shari Ruggiero 2000

John & Helen Kirk 1980

John & Eva Phillips 1950



Cottage #48 ❖ 213 Sycamore Drive “Primrose”

Charles Neff, Martha Neff, David Neff, David Neff, Jr.,

Matthew Neff, Lauren Dormanen 2017

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1925

Previous Owners

Charles & Noreen Neff 1961

S. Marie Huppert 1958

Nora Ohl, Paul Ohl, Wesley Ohl 1925

Cottage #49 ❖ 207 Sycamore Drive “Bear Edge”

Michael & Donna Myers, Christopher Myers 2011

Builder: Harvey Hoffman, 1926

Previous Owners

Martin & Esther Koons 1948

Walter & Fannie Gordon 1928

Albert Griggs

George & Pearl Payne 1976

Joyce Moser 1963

George & Esther Ney 1950





Cottage #50 ❖ 202 Sycamore Drive “Kiddnap”

Jacqueline Bond, Kenneth Bond 2021
 Lasher Farmhouse, remodeled in 1925

Previous Owners

Jacqueline Bond, David Bond 2014
 Lester & Joan Hallman 2009
 David & Ellen Bond,
 Arthur & Jacqueline Bond 1991

David & Ellen Bond 1986
 John & Ann Lindholm 1967
 Rev. Harvey & Anna Kidd 1925

Cottage #51 ❖ 208 Sycamore Drive

Carlo Malantonio & Maryann McGrath 2021

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1925

Previous Owners

Carlo Malantonio 2010
 Robert & Elsie Koenig 1967
 Rudolf Hiller 1955

Max Moessner 1948
 Harry & Marion Nofer 1931
 Florence Logan 1925



Cottage #52 ❖ 210 Sycamore Drive

Keith & Deborah Malantonio 2008

Builder: Charles Haines, 1931

Previous Owners

Edward & Dayle Malantonio 1999
 Carl & Dorothy Spacht 1951
 Rufus Kern 1941

Charles & Elsie Haines 1931
 Emma Kennedy 1926

Cottage #53 ❖ 1327 Cedar Road

Sarah Favinger & Adam Burns 2021

Builder: Floyd Cortright, 1932

Previous Owners

Oscar & Alva Bernd 1941

Pauline Allebach 1928

Robert Ehrig 1990

John & Ida Ehrig 1970



Cottage #54 ❖ 1309 Cedar Road “Angler’s Paradise”

Jun Choi & John Choi 2019

Builder: H.S. Hulbert, 1927

Previous Owners

Paul, David, Ellen Bond 2009

C. Robert Monson 1983

Robert & Anna DePaul 1966

David & Florence Burnite 1959

John & Gertrude Kuehner 1945

Marie Roeth 1927

Cottage #55 ❖ 1307 Cedar Road “Deer Woods”

Kevin & Tania Oro-Hahn 2021

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1927-28

Previous Owners

Anna Kretschmar 1941

William Jenkins 1925

Martin & Irene Acker 1964

Harold & Hilda Heydt 1960

Paul & Julia Holloway 1942





Cottage #56 ❖ 106 Primrose Drive

Andrew & Deborah Porter, Hope Porter 2020

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1927

Previous Owners

Ernst & Helen Miller 1956

Elmer & Claire Hermansdoerfer 1946

Paul & Julia Holloway 1942

Fredericka Pfander 1926

Natalie Rossman, Philip Spaeth 1925

Cottage #57 ❖ 114 Primrose Drive

Joan Scarpa, Megan Skumin, Amanda McGrady 2019

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1927

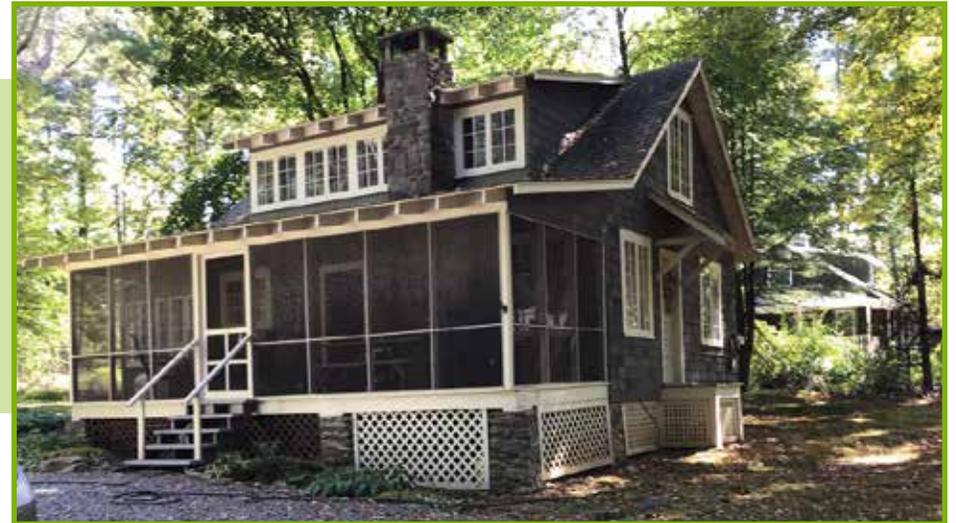
Previous Owners

Christopher & Vicky Winter 2015

Scott & Barbara Hindemann 2007

Herbert & Dorothy Gibney 1955

David & Christine Jaxheimer 1926



Cottage #58 ❖ 5493 Paradise Valley Road “Abend Ruhe”

Douglas Rudan 2018

Abend Ruhe Farm

Previous Owners

James & Maxine Christ 1964

PFLA, Clyde Cramer 1947-1953

Mary J. Drexel Home

William Braun

A. Raymond Raff

Cottage #60 ❖ 5524 Paradise Valley Road “Koons Hollow”

Robin & Roxanne Gally 2004

Builder: Harvey Hoffman, 1925

Previous Owners

Henry & Martha Gally 1987

Martin Koons, M. Alberta Ardell 1925



Cottage #62 ❖ 122 Laurel Lane

David Zimmerman & John Lineberger 2007

Builder: Frank Stanisci, 1951

Previous Owners

Elizabeth & Travis Bailey III, David
Zimmerman 1992

John Mangum 1982

David & Louise Vikner 1970

Joseph & Elizabeth Clifford 1968

Elsie & Florence Hines 1951

Cottage #63 ❖ 109 Laurel Lane “Eureka”

William Stoyko & Lena Bachman, Fedor Panov, Stanislava Erickson 2018

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1925; rebuilt in 1934 after fire

Previous Owners

Curtis & Jean Hoyt 1961

John & Sara Sprecher 1988

Clara, Frank, John, Sara Mueller 1925





Cottage #65 ❖ 120 Nestledown Road “Nawakwa”

Fred & Elizabeth Masenheimer, Mark Massenheimer,
Scott Massenheimer, David Massenheimer 1993

Builder: Milton Storm, 1928

Previous Owners

Bernard & Jeanne Thorpe 1973
Joseph & Elizabeth Clifford 1970
James & Hilda Van Natten 1967

Lillian Van Houten 1924, Sarah Etris 1925,
Augusta Buckner 1925, Hilda Kuntz 1926
Clifford Hays 1925 – Membership
certificate #1

**Cottage #66 ❖ 204 Rosewood Circle
“Schneeglöckchen”**

Sandra Fritz, William Fritz 2007
Builder: Clinton Keller, 1937

Previous Owners

Otto William & Sandra Fritz 1971
Alvin & Elizabeth Peterson 1969
Vernon & Cleta Stover 1957
J. Constantine & M. Frances Goeckel 1930



Cottage #67 ❖ 208 Rosewood Circle

John & Patricia Meier 2001
Builder: Harold Heydt, 1935

Previous Owners

Martin & Margaret Shroeder 1967
August & Rhoda Reis 1947
Bessie Kleibacher 1931

Cottage #68 ❖ 198 Nestledown Road “Wald-Eck”

Mark & Marion Knaus, Bryon Knaus 2005

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1927

Previous Owners

Elsie Knaus 1976

Charles & Ruth Breischacht Grobe 1940

Wilhelm & Elsa Breischacht Knaus 1942

Carl Breischacht 1927



Cottage #69 ❖ 187 Nestledown Road

Albert & Nancy Pedulla 2020

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1927

Previous Owners

Kenneth & Ruth Ditmars 1980

Samuel Henry 1926,

Charles & Evelyn Mathias 1964

Carrie Creckman 1927

David & Helen Miller 1947

Cottage #70 ❖ 104 Dietrich Lane “The Carriage House”

Robert & Carol Ashton-Hergenhan 2015

Built in 1926; renovated in 1961/62

Previous Owners

Brenda Lange 2004

Gregory Cole 2001

John & Margaret Mangum 1961





Cottage #71 ❖ 107 Dietrich Lane “Hill House”

Miriam Bauers & Kurt Zeisler, Christina Bauers, John Bauers 1977
 Dimmick Detrick Farmhouse c. 1860-1870

Previous Owners

Robert & Dorothy Bauers 1954
 William Schneider 1926

Cottage #72 ❖ 105 Dietrich Lane “Nestledown”

Chris P. Matthy, Andrew Matthy, Joanna Matthy 2001
 Dimmick Detrick Barn c. 1860-1870

Previous Owners

Napoleon & Marguerite Bradley 1968
 Burton & Ruth Mitchell 1959
 PFLA Nestledown Inn 1922



Cottage #73 ❖ 207 Rabbit Road “White Cottage”

Paul & Linda Beck 2011
 Builder: William Vernoy, 1929

Previous Owners

Robert & Evelyn Neilssen 1990
 George & Nellie Barrett 1983
 Leon & Julia Gilbert 1976

William & Kathleen Gilbert 1967
 Eleanor Marshall 1927
 PFLA White Cottage

Cottage #74 ❖ 211 Rabbit Road

Nanette Wigginton, Craig Wigginton, Laura Wigginton 2018

Builder: William Vernoy, 1929

Previous Owners

Robert & Margaret Dorn 1968

Margaret Strauss, Paul Morentz 1926

PFLA Brown Cottage

Phyllis Macksoud, Robert Jr.,

Nanette Wigginton 1986

Wendell & Elizabeth Ehinger 1971



Cottage #75 ❖ 315 Spruce Drive “Ingedell”

Christopher Dittmer, Ingeborg Dittmer,
Emery Dittmer, Luther Dittmer 2016

Builder: Clinton Keller, 1931

Previous Owners

Luther & Ingeborg Dittmer 1968

Clarence & Marie Dittmer 1929

Miller Ammon 1925

Anna Berman 1926

William Dreyer 1927

August Haukmn 1936

Adam Ammon 1936

John Messner 1942



Cottage #76 ❖ 319 Spruce Drive

Kathleen Gilbert, Jeffrey Gilbert, Jennifer Gilbert 1974

Builder: Clinton Keller, 1931

Previous Owners

Mrs. John Jacobsen 1961

Rev. Alford Naus 1944

Katherine Rademacher 1927





Cottage #78 ❖ 224 Rabbit Road

Carlton & Cass Kwan, Anna Marie Copperwaite, Peder Halvorsen 2019

Builder: Clinton Keller, 1937

Previous Owners

Paul & Catherine Reisch 1970

Clara Klee 1925

**Cottage #80 ❖ 135 Cranberry Creek Road
"BearyCozy"**

Lisa & Paul Fancher 2006

Builder: William Shiffer, 1928

Previous Owners

Ralph & Mertie Hartzell 1952

H.W. Fitting 1925

Stephen & Susan Bugenhagen 2000

Jack & Betty Harkins 1978

Helen Stein 1971



Cottage #81 ❖ 129 Cranberry Creek Road "Fernwald"

Jennifer Knight 2021

Builder: Harold Heydt, 1934

Previous Owners

Bruce Agney 2012

Donald & Joan Titus 1951

Marion Titus 1947

Emma Van Gileuwe 1934

Erwin Moyer 1928

Cottage #82 ❖ 529 Linden Place

Ruth Ziedonis, Eric Ziedonis 2017
Built in 1932; rebuilt in 1985 after fire

Previous Owners

Herman & Susan Haag 1943
Allen Fisher, Hattie Fisher 1932
Emma Daubman 1927,
Margaret Neidig 1927

Arvids & Zigrida Ziedonis, Douglas
Ziedonis, Ruth Ziedonis, Eric Ziedonis 1970
Klaus & Irene Molzahn 1963
Harry & Elsie Klauswitz 1951



Cottage #83 ❖ 519 Linden Place

Diane Flisser, Frank Flisser 2001
Built in 1932

Previous Owners

Frank & Martha Flisser 1955
Asa & Kathryn Wohlsen 1942
Charles Bowman 1930

Cottage #84 ❖ 609 Tulip Tree Lane

Robert & Joanna MacDonal 2015
Builder: Harold Heydt, 1946

Previous Owners

Jennifer MacGuire 2008
Carlton & Catherine Kwan 2001
Richard & Marguerite Acker 1960
Rosa Acker 1926





Cottage #85 ❖ 615 Tulip Tree Lane

Robert & Deborah Linders, Brooke Blair 1997

Builder: Harry Hulbert, 1930

Previous Owners

Arthur & Mildred Hergenhan 1963

Anna Mahler, Eda Mahler 1927

Cottage #86 ❖ 622 Tulip Tree Lane

Robert MacDonald, R.J. MacDonald 2016

Builder: Harold Heydt, 1951

Previous Owners

Marie Paul 2000

Jay & Beatrice Moyer 1946



Cottage #87 ❖ 705 Alder Lane “Thistle Dew”

Donna & Peter W. Wolk, Peter A. Wolk, Kimberly Kopman,
Nicholas Wolk, Alexander Wolk 2009

Builder: Clinton Keller, 1930

Previous Owners

William & Alice Westerman, Mabel Friedrich, Elizabeth Friedrich 1957

Anna Spachman 1927

Cottage #88 ❖ 713 Alder Lane

Craig Miller & Nancy Morgan, CarolAnn Miller 2010

Builder: Earl Tygert, 1928

Previous Owners

Lillian Bittner, Bertha Bittner 1949

Elizabeth Hoen 1929

Frank Boeshare 1926

Lidy Pohl, Hildegard Miklau, Ingrid Titus,
Stephen Titus 1991

Herbert & Mildred Meyer 1956



Cottage #89 ❖ 717 Alder Lane “Brigadoon”

Patrick & Jean Connor 2007

Builder: Clinton Keller, 1931

Previous Owners

Fritz and Irene Danga 1988

Sister Catherine Neuhardt 1970

Adolf & Elizabeth Hoehn 1945

Elwood Schwenck 1929

Fred Elmiger 1928

Cottage #90 ❖ 725 Alder Lane

Thomas Woodward 2022

Builder: Harold Heydt from James Heydt chicken coop in 1935-36

Previous Owners

Arthur Leberknight 1939

Erwin Moyer 1926

Richard & Carolyn Miller, Craig Miller 1996

Edwin & Doris Kucerik 1961





Cottage #91 ❖ 642 Tulip Tree Lane “Flynn Farm”

Kathleen Flynn 2016

James Heydt Farmhouse

Previous Owners

Royal & Grace Olson 1972

Gennaro & Elaine Ruggiero 1963

Cottage #92 ❖ 635 Tulip Tree Lane

Michael Mitchell 2009

Builder: William Vernoy, 1935

Previous Owners

Burton & Ruth Mitchell 1988

James & Doris Morentz

Paul Morentz 1928



Cottage #103 ❖ 5499 Paradise Valley Road “Dream Come True”

Bill & Nancy Simolike, David Simolike,

William Simolike, Laura Smith 2017

Builder: Harold Smith, 1967

Previous Owners

Bill Simolike 2005

Mildred Crane 1976

William & Trina Jeffrey 1972

Frederick & Arlene Saurwein 1966

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Aerial photo of PFLA taken in 2021 by Vincent Franchino



Paradise Falls 1922-2022

Paradise Falls Lutheran Association
146 Primrose Drive
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www.pfla.org

