

Izatys Homeowners Association Newsletter Winter 2003

Volume I, No. 2, Winter, 2003

Notes From the Editor

Greetings from sunny Arizona! We now spend our winters in Arizona but we have thoughts of Izatys always in our minds.

We had a lot of nice comments from Izatys homeowners about our first attempt at a homeowners' newsletter. Thank you for your remarks!

Due to the excellent help from Midwest Resorts, this newsletter is also available on the internet at IzatysHomeownersAssociation.com. Click on the newsletter link and the newsletter will be there!

We've included some history about Izatys again. Many of you enjoyed our photos in our first newsletter. Again these are post cards that were printed by Izatys and are now collectors' items.

Many of us homeowners are not aware of the special events at Izatys so I've tried to cover some of them here. Wedding planning at Izatys is something that some homeowners may be interested in, so that is included on page 4.

Upcoming winter events are also covered on page 4. Hopefully you can plan your stays at Izatys around some of these events.

Our next newsletter will come out before our April Annual Meeting. We are planning a homeowners dinner for that Saturday evening April 24. More details to follow but mark your calendars now.

So here goes again! Thoughts, ideas, suggestions, critiques, etc. may be made through our email:

joycelennykloncz@yahoo.com

Joyce Kloncz, Editor

Pick A Name for the Newsletter

No suggestions came from our first newsletter, so we'll try again! How about a little contest to provide a name for our homeowners association newsletter? Send your suggestions via email (joycelennykloncz@yahoo.com), phone (623-215-2397), or by mail (Joyce Kloncz, 20140 N. Portico Way, Surprise, AZ 85387).

The winning entry will be awarded a \$25 gift certificate from the Homeowners Association toward dinner at Club XIX.

Upcoming Events at Izatys

Check the Izatys.com web site for "hot deals". For those homeowners who are bringing lots of company up over New Years, there are some package specials for your guests which include lodging in the Links Lodge, breakfasts and dinners, tickets to Jeff Cesario's show, complimentary beer and wine, and access to the Hawaiian Luau party on January 3.

Izatys also has a golf special for next spring. Pay in full for your golf group by December 31 and receive 10% off your total package.

The marina is offering an end-of-season boat sale on their fishing boats and pontoons. Check the web site under Real Estate for more information.

Music and comedy continue throughout the holidays at Izatys. A DJ will be at a New Years Eve party on December 31. And don't miss Jeff Cesario who will be back at Izatys on January 2-3. Jeff was a big hit during his summer performances. Check the Izatys.com website for more up-to-date information on any of these events.

Winter rentals of ice houses, igloos, snowmobiles and clothing are available this year. Again check the web site for further information.
Executive General Resort Director

Izatys Offers Wedding Planning

Izatys is a beautiful venue at which to have a wedding! Izatys Resorts offers the ultimate setting for your wedding reception any time of the year.

A Letter From Midwest Resorts to Izatys Homeowners

Dear Izatys Townhouse Association Owners, This has been a very busy and challenging fall season, but one that has shown many exciting improvements in the services provided by Midwest Resorts. We have added a new position, Director of Resort Maintenance, in order to improve all levels of service. Rob Wilsey, one of your fellow owners and an Izatys Townhouse Association Board Member, accepted the position in September. As a past owner of his own business, his management and organizational skills and knowledge of the Association, Rob was the ideal person for the position. Rob has already made a major contribution to our Maintenance Department and is a welcome addition to our staff.

We have also promoted Dena Kohlgraf to Director of Housekeeping, overseeing all housekeeping efforts throughout the resort. Dena has former hospitality experience both at EconoLodge and the Grand Casino and most recently as the Director of Activities for the Village at Izatys. Dena assumed this position in the middle of September and has been instrumental in reorganizing the Housekeeping Department.

In addition, we are pleased to announce that Scott Melby has been hired in a fulltime position as Supervisor of Lawn Care and Snow Removal. In this capacity he will be responsible for all of our ongoing landscaping needs. Scott was previously the Assistant Grounds Keeper for Izatys Golf Courses and worked extensively on the underground watering system. He will be a welcomed addition to our maintenance and lawn care team.

Our Maintenance and Housekeeping Department offices have moved to the Village at Izatys former resort office; however, the contact phone number remains the same at 1-866-400-9576. Calling this number will get you in contact with the Village Front Desk, Maintenance and Housekeeping. If you are staying at the resort you can contact us locally at 532-5121.

2003 has been a year of change. The new owners and management of Izatys Resort have been a

Izatys has various locations for the ceremony, receptions, groom's dinners, lodging, and special activities. Testimonials from past weddings speak to the success of weddings at Izatys.

Homeowners looking to plan future weddings can contact planner Sherry Tollette at

1-800-533-1728 ext. 1117 or email sherry_tollette@izatys.com for further information. Check the web site at Izatys.com and click on Weddings for further information.



pleasure to work with and all of us at Midwest Resorts look forward to continued cooperation between our Associations and Companies. If you have internet accessibility check out your website and please send us any comments or concerns as we look forward to continued improvement here at Izatys.

www.izatystownhouseassociation.com

Once again, thank you for a wonderful 2003 and we look forward to serving you in 2004.

Tom Baltz



This old post card of the Izatys fishing fleet including its launch in the background was given to me by a friend who purchased it at our Mounds View High School 1959 graduation overnight party at Izatys. On the back it says, "Minnesota's Finest Family Resort: Relax in the northwoods - enjoy cool air and restful nights - attractive cottages - fishing on beautiful Mille Lacs Lake - heated swimming pools - excellent food - sports shuffle board - square dancing - cocktail lounge and entertainment."

A Little History of Izatys

The information below came from a March, 1984 interview with Mille Lacs Lake historian, Joe Felleg, and appeared in the December 2002 issue of the Mille Lacs Fishing Digest. Earl and Rachelle Betterdorf, both from Illinois, got to Izatys by way of Davenport, Des Moines, and Minneapolis,

where Mr. Bettendorf was a district manager for Remington Rand. They visited Camp Izatys as vacation guests in 1937, and after a couple of repeat trips wound up owning the place, whose name they tweaked to Izatys Lodge. The Bettendorfs ran Izatys until 1957. Their daughter and son-in-law, Dorothy and Jerry Dubbs, operated the resort for many years starting in 1961. Following are some of Mrs. Bettendorf's recollections of Izatys as it was when, and after, they took over from Grace Burns. Rachel Bettendorf: "We first heard about Izatys from the Weyerhauser lumber people. My husband Earl did business with them and we were friends. Once when we were out to dinner with them they told us about the place and how it was practically private, how you did as you wanted and how the food was excellent." They also said it was pretty primitive - you know, "roughing it!" There were no toilets and no electric lights. "So we went up there on vacation. There were maybe 20 guests there. The place could accommodate 35 people. There were housekeeping cottages and no rooms in the lodge.

The interiors were of rough lumber, with spiders crawling on the ceilings. I think three of the cottages had porches. One was screened in. Those cabins were heated with wood.

"While we were up there, on about our third trip to Izatys, my husband said to Mrs. Burns, "You know, I'd like to own this place!" And she said, "You know, I'd like to sell it!" So they called up Cronje Lindquist, the real estate man from Onamia, and we bought the place!"

Mrs. Burns charged people by the day. When we started there we had only two girls employed to take care of the dining room and the cabins. They waitressed. And we had one cook, a lady named Elsie, who had worked for Mrs. Burns. When we started out, guests ate dinner at the lodge, but they stayed in housekeeping cabins and were free to cook on their own. But we soon took out the housekeeping facilities and converted to straight American plan, where the guests stayed in the cabins and ate our meals. Everybody dined on the same things. It was chicken every Sunday, for sure, with homemade ice cream. One day it might be roast beef, another day roast pork, the next day fish or something else. No matter what it was, everyone there ate the same thing. And they never complained! Everybody raved! And as years went on, we had people from as far away as St. Cloud,

Minneapolis, and St. Paul drive up just for Sunday dinner!

Izatys had no electric refrigerators or freezers when we started there in 1938. We had a big ice house for storing ice that was cut by Paul Brandt on the lake the previous winter. The ice blocks were buried in the sawdust. Each cottage had an icebox, and a hired boy delivered the ice.

Mrs. Burns retained her cabin for years. It had three fireplaces. She'd come back in the summers."



“View from Picture Window Izatys Lodge Onamia Minn.” Jerry says that the white building on the right was the lodge itself. Dick and Marvy Tollette may recognize the stonework in the center of the photo which may be their flower pot holders now at their Stone Lodge home.