

FRIDAY, MAY 29, 1959

Search for Cottage Site Led to Resort Development

When Betty and Art Hagman, publishers of Inside Michigan magazine, were seeking a cottage site in the north country, some five years ago, little did they realize that their quest for a peaceful hideaway would lead them into a fabulous resort business. All they originally wanted was a spread of 40 to 50 acres on a semi-private lake. Their search, however, led to a heavily forested, 640-acre section of lakes nestled deep in the valleys.

Because of the high hills overlooking the lakes and streams in the valleys, the Hagmans realized that here was the perfect setting, not only for spring and summer fishing and vacationing, but also an ideal hunting and winter sports area.

When they realized that the property, being almost completely surrounded by the famed 70,000-acre Au Sable state forest, had an average snowfall of 129 inches — it became apparent that they might logically be on their way toward the development of one of Michigan's few all-season resort projects. This Lake Valley Resort was born just four years ago.

Their first undertaking included the construction of a ski lodge, complete with kitchen, 4-way fireplace, rustic tables and benches, with seating capacity for 120 guests. Access roads, ski slopes and towes were ready for a modest start during the 1955 ski season.

A ski shop and cottages were furnished during the latter part of the same year, but it was not until two years ago that the Hagmans started expansion projects in earnest. Since 1957, they have completed a modern Hilltop motel, chalet, cocktail lounge with dining room, three additional cottages, riding horse stables, administration office building with connecting apartments.

Recreational development, in addition to riding stables, trails, and ski slopes, include tennis court, shuffleboard, boats and beach facilities, playground equipment and most recently a 23x10 kidney-shaped swimming pool.

The new National swimming pool, sold and constructed by Modern Pool Builders of Lansing, is approved in accordance with regulations of the Michigan Department of Health. Provisions are made for pool water heating equipment at a later date.

The Lake Valley pool required a total of 14,000 feet of copper tubing up to 3 inch diameter, underwater light, automatic skimmers, two ladders, diving board and a 40 by 60 foot, fenced in patio deck. The pool is located adjoining the ski club lodge, where snack lunches and refreshments are served and where swimmers and spectators may relax in comfort.

The pool and adjoining lodge building overlook a 60 by 120 foot outdoor dancing and roller skating arena, where tennis and outdoor movies may also be enjoyed. Also adjacent are the shuffleboard and children's playground equipment facilities.

The Lake Valley Chalet is somewhat removed from housing and

other facilities, on an adjoining hill overlooking both lakes, fish ponds, deer yards, riding trails and general recreational areas. Cocktails, dining and dancing may be enjoyed by adults at the Chalet while the younger set are occupied with swimming, riding, outdoor dancing and other recreational pursuits now available to them.

Chf Kimball, former movie theatre operator and chef, has recently taken a brushup course in restaurant management and will be in charge of Lake Valley Chalet. Jim Root of Bay City Riding Stables will be in charge of horses, riding instructions and outings. James Faber, former swimming instructor at the Saginaw YMCA, will be responsible for swimming pool and recreational programs.

Reservations for dinner parties, housing accommodations, sales meetings, conventions or recreational facilities are under the direct supervision of Mrs. Hagman. Both Betty and Art Hagman express their appreciation for the fine cooperation of suppliers, institutions, contractors, associations, newspapers, neighbors and friends who have helped make Lake Valley developments possible.

Their original search for a cottage site is now turning out to be something substantially more than a private hideaway in the woods. The Hagman's Lake Valley Resort will be open for the season starting tomorrow, May 28.

Cedar Run 4-H Achievement Program

LAKE ANN — Boys and girls of the Cedar Run 4-H club were given awards at an achievement program Saturday evening at the Almira town hall.

Three of the local club members will exhibit their projects at the State 4-H Club Show at Lansing in August. They are Nels Ritola and Pongas Courad in handicraft and Elizabeth White in photography.

On the Benzie county honor roll in handicraft are Karen Giddis, Deon Dufur, Dan Giddis and Dale Giddis. County honor roll members in photography are Douglas Courad, Karen Giddis, and Shirley McClelland. Girls on the honor roll in clothing are Sharon Loomis, Pat Cox, Karen Giddis, Shirley McClelland, Nancy McClelland, Roberta Miller, Pat Ritola, Judy Laitner, Janet Showers, Ricki Ritola, Barbara Rosa, Elizabeth White and Pauline Ritola.

Plaques were given to the three members sending their projects to the state show and to the two junior leaders, Danny Giddis and Nancy McClelland.

Adult leaders for the winter projects were Mr. and Mrs. Dick Courad, Mrs. Ned McClelland, Mrs. Walter Schroeder, Earl Seiler, Mrs. Walter Ritola, and Mrs. Wilbert Laitner.

Gate signs were presented to members Walter Schroeder and Connie Bright and to leaders Mrs. Walter Schroeder and Mrs. Earl Seiler.

In Germany, during the 15th century, princes of the blood had another boy reared with them who received the spankings that were due to the prince for some misbehavior.

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