



# RESORTER REPORTER

Congress of Minnesota Resorts

[www.Minnesota-Resorts.com](http://www.Minnesota-Resorts.com)

## Message from the President

### Still the CMR

Still the CMR, still the Same Mission, but we will have a New Name and New Logo. You spoke and we listened. We are in the final steps of our name change process. As we have communicated, our membership has voted and the new name is Community of Minnesota Resorts. We are also almost ready to reveal the new logo. Keep an eye out for that announcement!

There are always required steps that need to take place to complete the process.

Remember, we are still the CMR and our motto is still the same: Resorters Helping Resorters! We are an organization here to assist each other.

### Special Meeting:

We will be holding a special membership meeting at this year's CMR Spring Workshop to finalize some requirement. **All members are welcome to attend this meeting.** The Spring workshop is on April 12th at Boyd Lodge. There is no charge for the membership meeting. Since there is a small fee for the Spring Workshop. But, if you are only attending the membership meeting portion, there is not charge.

Being February, it is the slow (or closed) season for many of us. But, that is not true for the CMR board that you elected! There are many issues and projects being worked on. Below are a couple things for you to remember, put on your calendar or join!

- Day on the Hill: Scheduled for March 22 and March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Join us on the bus! The Legislative Committee and our Lobbyist are working on the important topics and our message to our legislators regarding these topics. Please know that simply being a member of the CMR you are being represented. However, being there representing your organization is also needed. So, if you can make it, please consider it.
- Spring Workshop: You will be receiving the invite soon. The final details are being made for the CMR Spring Workshop on Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Look for additional information in this Resorter Reporter! Optional pre-workshop classes are scheduled on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

Enjoy the winter..... We will see many of you at the CMR Spring Workshop.

Respectfully,

Karen Senger, Cedar Point Resort, Marcell, MN

## CMR New Logo

With our new name will come a new logo. We are using the art department at Arrow Printing, who prints our Minnesota Resorter Magazine, to help us come up with something new and fresh. With careful thought and a fair amount of tweaking, the logo is nearing the end of the drawing board. The new logo will likely be revealed at the spring workshop. Stay tuned!

## CMR Day on the Hill, March 22 & 23, 2016

All of the below sayings help describe the Congress of Minnesota Resorts “Day on the Hill”:

\*There is power in numbers.\* \*A government of the people, by the people, for the people.\* \*The more the merrier.\*

Each year during “Day on the Hill” members of the CMR travel to the Capitol to meet with legislators about issues that have a direct impact on our resort businesses.

**Who should attend?** Everyone who desires to operate their resort in the most favorable business environment possible. **Do you need to be a lobbyist to attend?** No. This is our chance to provide our input to legislator on proposed/existing legislation so that they can cast the most informed vote possible. The more input they receive from a broad representation of our industry on items that affect us, the better. That means we need as many CMR members, from all over the state, to attend as possible.

We are currently looking at the following issues that could affect our businesses or already are:

- Preserving Post Labor Day School Start
- Licensing of Vacation Home Rentals
- Supporting efforts and ongoing funding of Explore Minnesota Tourism
- Changing Minnow Retailers License-attempting to
- eliminate or combine the required transportation license
- Opposing DNR hospitality competition. (A representative from the DNR is tentatively scheduled to speak to us about Camper Cabins at the capitol, and allow for a questions and answers session.)

As in past years the CMR is providing free motor coach transportation to and from the Day on the Hill Event. The bus route on March 22nd is as follows:

- Park Rapids, Wal-Mart 7:00 am departure
- Walker, Northern Lights Casino parking lot, 7:30 am arrival, 7:40 am departure
- Baxter, Gander Mountain parking lot, 8:55 am arrival, 9:05 am departure
- St Cloud, Shopko parking lot, at intersection of Hwy 10 & Hwy 23, 9:55 am arrival, 10:05 am departure
- Lunch 11:30 am—12:30 pm
- Arrive at Capitol 1:00 pm

The CMR Attendees receive:

- Discounted hotel room
- Motor coach transportation
- Day on the Hill name badge & lanyard
- Crappie year pin for your lanyard
- Event packet with complete issue list, bills, and legislative meetings
- Snacks, coffee, juice and rolls on the bus
- Each morning break: juice, coffee and sweet rolls
- Box lunch at the capitol on March 23rd
- Plenty of time to talk with your fellow resorters

Day on the Hill Hotel information: Country Inn & Suites, St. Paul East, 6003 Hudson Road, Woodbury, MN 55125

If you are planning on attending the CMR Day on the Hill on March 22 and 23, you need to make your own hotel reservation. The CMR has reserved a block of rooms at a rate of \$89.00 plus tax for the night of March 22nd. The rooms are being held under the group name CMR to get this pricing! Call 651-739-7300 to reserve. (If you desire to upgrade to a junior suite cost is \$99.00 plus tax).

### What you need to do:

1. Call (218-758-2080) or email (info@sunsbay.com) Jim Wherley to reserve your spot, including all from your resort that will be attending, resort name, lake and town of residence, and the location at which you will be catching the bus.
2. Call (651-739-7300) and make your hotel reservations. Remember, mention CMR to get the group pricing.
3. To attend, your cost is the hotel room, a few meals and your precious time!

**Mark your calendars, and we hope to see all of you at “Day On The Hill”**

## **Spring Workshop will be Tuesday, April 12, 2016**

### **Boyd Lodge in Cross Lake**

We are so excited about this year's workshop! It won't disappoint. Some of the topics are:

- "Rebooting Your Marketing"
- DNR Forestry will be giving us some great information on plants and tree's
- Panel of Resorters will be addressing Communicating with your Customers; and Trip Advisor Reviews

Of course we will have time for crackerbarrels and time to catch up with other resorters.

Pre-Workshop Classes will be April 11th also at Boyd Lodge.

- 9am until 12 noon, Lake Service Provider Class. You can register through the DNR on-line now: [https://webapps11.dnr.state.mn.us/aquatic\\_invasive\\_species\\_training/authentication/login](https://webapps11.dnr.state.mn.us/aquatic_invasive_species_training/authentication/login) This class meets the requirements for those (most of us!!) that are required to maintain this certification through the state.
- 1pm to 5pm, Heartsaver CPR/AED Certification Class: This class is great for those looking for a refresher as well as someone who has never taken a course like this before.

**Flyers will be mailed at the end of this month with your Registration forms, so keep an eye on the mail! Information will also be on the CMR Membership page on the CMR website.**

## **The CMR Website - Your Minnesota Resort Directory Call or Email if You Need Help**

Our CMR website, [www.Minnesota-Resorts.com](http://www.Minnesota-Resorts.com), is where you can find and edit your resort listing. This is included free with your CMR membership! If you have never found your listing and want help updating it, please contact Sue Paradeis at 218-232-0255 or [sue@shingwako.com](mailto:sue@shingwako.com). Simply adding a photo and some basic information about your resort could result in booking cabins! This is why we have a website for our membership - to drive traffic to your resort. Literally and figuratively!

In 2016 we are starting work on a redesign of [www.Minnesota-Resorts.com](http://www.Minnesota-Resorts.com). The new website will not only have a new look, it will also be "responsive." This is the newest approach to web design aimed at making it easy to read and navigate across a wide range of devices; from desktop computer monitors to mobile phones and everything in between!

## **NEED \$500 FOR SCHOOL?**

**It is not too early for your child or grandchild to get the application started!**

**Application needs to be at the CMR Office March 15, 2016**

Each year the Congress of Minnesota Resorts offers four \$500 scholarships to a junior or senior in high school or a current undergraduate or technical school student. March 15, 2016 is the deadline for the scholarship application to be received at the Congress of Minnesota Resorts office. A scholarship application can be printed by going to the CMR website [www.Minnesota-Resorts.com](http://www.Minnesota-Resorts.com). Scroll to the bottom of the Home Page and click on Membership, then by using your Login and Password you will be able to go to Applications and click on Scholarship Application and print a copy. If you need further assistance please contact Vicky by emailing: [CMR@Minnesota-Resorts.com](mailto:CMR@Minnesota-Resorts.com) or call 320-212-5107.

## County AIS Task Forces: Email This to Your Guests

County Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Task Forces are looking to resort owners to educate their guests about AIS **before** they arrive on vacation. Here is a blurb that you can easily email to your guests 1—14 days before they arrive. Feel free to copy and paste this message and begin using it right away!

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Minnesota is working diligently to prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). As resorters, we are supporting these efforts, because clean lakes and a vital fish population are important to us and to our guests.

If you are bringing a boat on vacation, Minnesota state law says boaters must:

- 1) Clean visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels and other prohibited species from watercraft, trailers and equipment before transporting from any water access.
- 2) Drain water from bilge, live well, motor, ballast tanks and portable bait containers before leaving water accesses or shoreline property.
- 3) Keep drain plug out and water draining devices open while transporting watercraft.
- 4) Let your boat dry for at least 5 days before launching into another lake. If you KNOW your boat has recently been in a contaminated lake, we ask that you have it decontaminated (power washed with 140 degree water) before launching in (your lake Name). There is a decontamination station located in (list most convenient site). This service is free of charge. Other decontaminations sites can be found at [https://webapps15.dnr.stat.mn.us/ais\\_decon\\_sites](https://webapps15.dnr.stat.mn.us/ais_decon_sites)
- 5) Dispose of unwanted live bait in the trash. To keep minnows and leeches, drain bait containers and refill with tap or well water.

In Minnesota, it is illegal to transport aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and live fish (including minnows) on the roadways, and to travel with the boat plug in place.

We want to keep ALL invasive species OUT of (your lake name). These precautions are absolutely necessary. Thanks for your cooperation.

Please forward this information to everyone in your party who will be bringing a boat.

If you'd like to read more information about AIS, please visit this link:

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/preventspread.html>

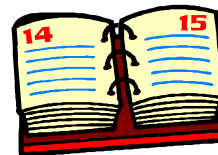
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## Save the Date

The 2016 CMR Fall Conference is scheduled to start on Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> and end on Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at Cragun's Resort in Brainerd. Note the "day" change. We are changing it up a little bit. Put it on your calendar IN INK!!

## CMR CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| March 15, 2016      | CMR Scholarship Packets due at office                                  |
| March 22 & 23, 2016 | Day on the Hill, St. Paul, watch for more details                      |
| April 11, 2016      | CMR Pre-Workshop Classes, Boyd Lodge Cross Lake                        |
| April 12, 2016      | CMR Spring Workshop, Boyd Lodge, Cross Lake                            |
| April 12, 2016      | Special Membership Meeting   |
| November 1-3, 2016  | CMR Fall conference, Cragun's Resort, Brainerd, watch for more details |



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Keep your listing current  
on the CMR website.

## CMR MISSION STATEMENT

The Congress of Minnesota Resorts exists to help family owned and operated resorts in Minnesota to continue as a viable segment of the Minnesota tourism industry.

## CMR MOTTO

The Congress of Minnesota Resort's motto is "Resorters Helping Resorters" We believe that none of us is as smart as all of us.

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