Greetings

& Happy New Year

From a chilly snowy

Batchawana Bay!

As I sit at my desk typing this newsletter, I can’t help but look outside at the blowing snow and waist high snowdrifts. Batchawana Island is hidden behind a white cloak of falling snow – it almost looks like the Arctic tundra and about as formidable with temperatures in the -30 degrees C/-20 F range.

Although I love snow, it is piling up around the house and I am sick and tired of snow blowing, only to look behind me and the ground is already covered in an inch of snow. My bird feeders empty within a couple of hours as flocks of ravenous House Finches, Chickadees, American Gold Finch and Blue Jays fight with each other over the Sunflower seed. The trees are beautiful I have to say. They are all flocked in snow – it truly is a white winter wonderland!

But, I ache for sunshine and warmer weather! I can’t wait to see the Trilliums and Mayflowers, and the return of Robins on the front lawn heralding spring. The waterfalls will be just roaring this spring because of the abundant snowfall that winter has dumped up in the hills. Of course, nothing beats the brilliant blue of Lake Superior after the ice has finally melted and once again we hear the splashing of the waves on the beach.

The spring of 2013 started in the Salzburger Hof Dining Lounge as always, on Mother’s Day. Normally, a sunny May event with lime green leaves just starting to pop on the trees and daffodils blooming everywhere. Not this day! A power outage until 4:30 pm and a snow storm had us wondering if we would have any guests (we do have generators). Thankfully, our guests arrived and we were busy. Thank-you to all who braved the elements and to all of the lovely ladies who dined here!

Last summer was not the warmest we have had but at least we didn’t have the humidity. We had another gorgeous autumn with colours peaking around the end of September and into the first week of October. It was perfect hiking weather! Because of higher than normal rainfall this summer, the waterfalls were spectacular for the whole season.
It was a busy season for us with many new guests experiencing Batchawana Bay for the first time. And, as always, we look forward to those friends that keep coming back, bringing their friends and family members to enjoy the wonderful outdoor adventures that the Algoma region offers. A special shout out to the very large Borkowski family, who fly/drive from across the United States to come together here to the resort for a yearly get-together.

Then of course, there is the mysterious ‘Fishing Princess’ who posts on TripAdvisor of her exploits with her family (every year, spring and fall) here at the resort and her rainbow fishing prowess – don’t have to be a ‘guy’ to get the biggest fish!

Congratulations again, to the recently wedded Mr. and Mrs. Dillolo who chose our resort to host their wedding reception and to wish them a lifetime of joy! Thank you for making us a part of your special day!

There are so many great friends who come back year after year and make operating this resort an enjoyable experience. It is that feeling of renewing friendships that makes us look forward to each and every year.

For the 2013 season, some of our units received new furniture, updating the overall look. We will continue with furniture upgrades through 2014.

Lake Superior Shoreline

Snow-capped evergreens on Resort driveway.

Also, new hot water tanks have been installed in some units. We started to replace the vertical blinds on the patio windows with curtains and will continue to do so until all have been changed (this year – 2014 - I believe). The chalets have received new and larger fridges. We added two fire bowls up on the lawn facing the Lake for those customers who wanted to stay closer to their unit because of children, health reasons or just the intimacy of a smaller fire. This has been a very popular alternative as the view from the top of the bluff overlooking Lake Superior is spectacular.

Spring 2014, will be the start of our multi-year renovation plan at the resort. We will start with the kitchen in the three bedroom cottage, doing at least a partial remodeling. The St. Moritz will be getting yearly renovations. Log cottages require more work than most buildings. Three of the units will have the washrooms completely redone with new fixtures, flooring, etc. The remaining washrooms will all be completed within the next three years. The kitchenettes in some of the units are also getting larger fridges and/or new stoves or stovetops. We have some other projects in mind that if we have the time, we will initiate.

We anticipate the U.S. dollar to be at a 10% premium this summer.
The Salzburger Hof Dining Lounge won the award for *Best Upscale Dining 2013* from the readership of the *Lake Superior Magazine*. That was exciting for all of us here! As a result, we have been busier than ever before with new guests visiting our establishment and enjoying our hospitality and cuisine.

**We have set the rates for the 2014 season at a 2% increase from 2013.**

Our family is all here again. Ann Elsigan, the owner and matriarch of the Elsigan family, does not know the word retired! So, like last year, she will spend a large part of the summer greeting friends and guests. She tried staying away, but misses the interaction and the business. We miss her too! Sylvia and Army (Tempesta) will be back welcoming everyone to the Club Gazebo and Salzburger Hof Dining Lounge. Army is retired from the Sault Police Force so we have him full time. He is a pretty good carpenter to boot! Ben (Van Der Swan), my husband, will be at the bar during our ‘All You Can Eat Fish Fry and Buffet’ besides making sure that all the operational aspects of the resort are functioning properly.

Nieces and nephews, grandsons and grand-daughters all spend time working here, saving for college and university. And I, Karen, chef and the person responsible for the Internet correspondence and this newsletter......

Opening Mother’s Day Weekend

May 10\textsuperscript{th} 2014

See you then!

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*I hope your winter has been as exhilarating as ours and that you contemplate vacation experiences for the spring, summer and fall of 2014 that you think of Batchawana Bay and Lake Shore Salzburger Hof Resort. The Elsigan family would like to welcome our old friends back and invite new comers to the Algoma region to experience a “slice of Austria” on Lake Superior’s fabulous Heritage Coast.*
This is our first newsletter! We anticipate having at least 3 issues per year with updated information on events and the resort.

Check back in March as we send out our next issue with dates for 2014 events and photos of springtime in Batchawana Bay Ontario.

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Ice Formations on cliffs at the side
Highway 17 North

Spring Discount Rate of 20%
From
May 10th
Until
June 20th
On all Accommodations