

# So long, summer



Cabin owners and guests packed the beach for the annual end-of-summer Regatta over the Labor Day Weekend.

(Dan Landiss photo)

## It's gone, but not

#### forgotten

It was one to remember, the 2014 summer season at Aspenhof. From the annual Fishing Derby in May to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in June, the fireworks display in July and the Regatta in August, cabin owners, families and friends made plenty of memories. Along the way, Aspenhof's front door underwent a major face

lift with the Highway 47 project. And then there were the more personal memories: That big bass we landed, the early-morning fog rising over the lake, a purple martin dive-bombing a mosquito, wild turkey gobbling in the distance, raccoons playing trick or treat on the deck, the kaleidoscope of fall colors emerging. Soon, winter will be in charge, and Aspenhof's changing charms will woo us in a different way. But for now, let's offer one last salute to the Summer of '14. Savor the memories. approached him about hauling water for the cisterns. Kluesner had the wells; all he needed was a way to deliver.

## Get to know your neighbors ...

## Hubie Kluesner



Hubie Kluesner: Handy man to have around.

When Hubie Kluesner bought his farm in 1977, area residents warned him that there could be conflicts ahead with the recreation community that bordered his property to the north.

"They said I wouldn't be able to get along with Aspenhof and raise pigs," Kluesner recalled.

Thirty-seven years later, Hubie Kluesner might just be Aspenhof's best friend. He's become cabin owners' goto guy for a variety of services, from refilling cisterns to removing fallen trees to building temporary gates.

"It's been a partnership," Kluesner said while enjoying the festivities at the 2014 Regatta. "I love living next to Aspenhof. The diversification (in the community) over the years has been wonderful."

Kluesner said his relationship with Aspenhof evolved gradually.

"At first, I'd pull people out when they got stuck; things of that nature," he said. Later, the Board of Trustees "I started with a plastic tank, but that didn't work," he said. His younger son Nicholas came up with a better idea. As part of a year-long project in welding class, Nicholas built a large metal box on the bed of a truck. Hubie equipped it with a pump and ... voila ... they were able to tote water up the hills.

Kluesner estimates that he hauls between 115-150 loads of water a year to cabins at Aspenhof. At 1,600 gallons a load, that's enough to qualify him the waterboys' hall of fame. Wife Alice often rides along and helps out.

Interestingly, it's year-round work. Some cabin owners aren't shutting down in the winter.

"It used to be from March through Halloween," Kluesner said of the water-hauling season. "But for the last three years, I've hauled water every month of the year."

Kluesner had had a hand in several major projects at Aspenhof, many of which required the use of his vast array of heavy machinery.

"I helped build the canal (at the big lake)," he said. "Putting up the flag pole was really a challenge. We started small, thinking it would be 20 feet high. But then it got up to 50 feet. I used every tractor I had to brace it."

Kluesner has managed to do the work at Aspenhof in between tending to his farms, which now include parcels he either rents or owns near Treloar and Marthasville. He raises corn, soybeans, hay and livestock.

And there's still another part-time job. Kluesner serves as the southern representative on the Warren County Board of Commissioners, which deals with such matters as roads and finances. He's in the second term at that post. All things considered, the hog farmer has turned out to be a good neighbor for Aspenhof. By the way, that barbecue served annually at the Regatta is compliments of Hubie Kluesner.



MAY: Eager anglers eye the prizes at the annual Fishing Derby.

What I díd on my summer vacation (or weekends) ...



JUNE: Aspenhof founder Ed Boyce receives a key to the gate from Trustee chairperson Teresa Wetzel at the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.



ALL SUMMER: The much dreaded Highway 47 project was completed with only modest inconvenience, and Aspenhof got a new entrance road (Johnny on the Spot not included).



# JULY: The Fourth of July fireworks display included a salute to Aspenhof's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



AUGUST: Their canoe capsized during a Regatta race and Michael Volding (left) and Danny Hommes had to wade back to shore with a boatload of water. But as we say at Aspenhof, if you had fun, you won. (Caitlin Stockmann photo)

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#### From the chairperson ...

Our fall newsletter reflects what a busy year this was at Aspenhof -- a wonderful 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, a brand new 20-foot wide entry road, new parking areas, new culverts, more and better fishing, another successful and fun Regatta, and the promise of a butterfly garden. 2014 will surely be remembered. Thanks to my colleagues on the Board and all the "behind the scenes" volunteers who made it so.

As I rotate off the Board (for the second and last time), I am grateful for the opportunity to have served, and for the people at Aspenhof who worked with me to keep it the special place that we all love.

Teresa Wetzel, chairperson

Reminder: Assessments are due Nov. 1.