

CUTTY'S NEWSLETTER-SIXTEENTH EDITION-JANUARY 17, 2011

Dear Members,

Cutty's Des Moines Camping Club has begun fiscal year 2011. The question, "how well did the Club do in fiscal 2010?" needs to be answered.

Financially

The 2010 camping season was plagued by bad weather. It seemed like every weekend it either rained or rain was forecasted. Despite lower than normal park usage, the Club made a profit of \$58,000. All bills, including property taxes, were paid!

Cutty's Inc., Bankruptcy

The Club's involvement in Cutty's, Inc. bankruptcy is over. The Club purchased the 932 shares of the Club, held by the Trustee, for \$300,000. The purchase of the shares was financed by the Member Loan Program and was very successful. When the amount needed to purchase the 932 shares was reached, the club stopped accepting investments from the members.

50 Amp Loan

One payment on this loan is outstanding. The final payment will be made on or before March 1, 2011. The money used to pay this loan will now be set aside to repay the members who lent the Club money by taking part in the Member Loan Program. The first MLP repayments are due 9/30/13. It is expected that both principle and interest will be repaid at that time.

Communication with Members

Every member of the Club needs to know as much as possible about the operation of the Club. What is Cutty's going to do this year to better communications?

1. Continue the President's letters such as this one
2. A Members Only web-site has been established. Club activities, general information, changes in rules, etc. will be posed on the site.
3. A Club Hall Meeting procedure has been established. Every month a Club Hall Meeting will be scheduled. At this meeting, the members are free to ask any questions they want. The Board may give an answer at that time or the question may be discussed later by the Board. At the next Club Hall Meeting all questions raised at the previous meeting will be answered prior to new questions being asked. There is a specific procedure to follow if you have a question. Please go to the web-site for the procedure or pick up a copy at the office.

Project Work

1. Storage: 90+% of the storage reconfiguration has been completed. Site work has been completed, assignment of sites completed and moving onto individual sites is 95% finished. Members using storage sites have been contacted and have either moved their own units or have had Maintenance do it for them. If you have not moved your unit, please do it as soon as weather permits or give Cutty's permission to do it for you.

Abandoned units are an "in process" job. Owners have been notified and asked to move them or give the Club the title so it can be disposed of. Trash, old equipment stored or dumped will be junked or sold.

2. Buildings: The lower part of the buildings were in need of repair. That has been done and all buildings in the park have been painted. The Play Village has been repaired and the interior painted and the Fort has been repaired and painted as well.
3. Upper Restroom: Renovation work on this will be completed in early Spring
4. New street signs are being installed
5. Mini-Golf course: Replacing carpeting on the fairways and repair and paint fixtures as necessary.
6. Writing new or revised operational instructions for Store, Snack Bar and Guardhouse and setting up training sessions for workers prior to the park opening.

The projects and work accomplished by the Maintenance crew was almost unbelievable when you take into consideration the constant work required to repair all the damage caused by rain and flooding. The ditch on the west side of the main road has been dug out and dirt hauled away so that rain run-off should not run across the road to flood those sites and roads.

Activities

The activities scheduled for 2010 were well received. All members involved in the events should be proud of what they achieved and deserve a thank you from all the members. The Activity Committee has been meeting since September 2010 to provide the members with activities for all age groups. Review the activity schedule once it is posted on the web-site and plan to take part in the activities, even if you are a spectator!

Membership Transfers

There were 80 memberships transferred this past year. A second person will be working with Ron in 2011. This person will work part-time initially.

Cutty's staff is planning on a wonderful camping season in 2011. Make plans to enjoy the park and plan to use all the facilities your park offers.

Sincerely,



James Murtha, Club President

P.S. If you are interested in the Workcamper program, please call the office at 800.798.2267.