



## Ice out April 3rd!



## Boulder Lake Resorts Past & Present

Our research indicates that there were at least five resorts on Boulder Lake. Two were on the North shore, and at least three on the South. Everyone knows of Knotty Pines and Pine Valley Resort, but did you know that there was another one in between those two called Dellwood Resort? In addition 1936 plat maps show a resort called Boulder Heights Shores somewhere on the south side of the lake possibly Pine Valley at an earlier time???



When this brochure was published in the early 50's Earl and Alice Mathieu operated Dellwood. The resort had both modern and semi-modern cabins, and the modern cabins featured flush toilets. Apparently the semi-modern cabins "featured" a central outhouse. A two bedroom semi-modern cabin was \$45 a week and an upgraded modern cabin (with a flush toilet) was \$50.



On the north side of the lake, right across from what's now the public access, was another resort called Lee's Point. It had at least four cabins, and was renamed "Stan's point" in the early 1950's. These pictures were taken in 1937 & 1949. There



was also another small resort on the northeast end of the lake called Gamblin's Resort or The Last Resort as it was later known.

# Knotty Pines Resort History



Today Knotty Pines Resort is the last remaining resort on Boulder Lake. The other four resorts closed over the years with Pine Valley Resort closing in approximately 2005. Resorts have been steadily closing since the late 60's but most rapidly after the mid 70's. At the peak of the Minnesota resort era in the 60's they numbered over 5,000 and have now declined to around 1,000. That number continues to decline at about 2-3% per year. Reasons are numerous; not enough cabins for steady income flow, increasing lakeshore property taxes, high property values, resorts sold to PUD (planned unit development – cabins sold off individually), etc. It is sad and unfortunate so many resorts have gone away.

Resorts have a major economic impact on the local economy. Knotty Pines Resort was established in 1944 and included three cabins, fish cleaning house, shared outdoor hand water pump and a shared one holed outhouse. Knotty Pines property was originally a logging camp around the 1910 period. The original logging camp cabin was built in 1910 and is still used as one of our rental cabins. It has been restored to reflect the 1910 cabin style.

Electricity was brought to the resort in spring/summer of 1946. The electric service was so unreliable the first year that kerosene lamps were still used most of the time. Fishing on Boulder in the 40's and 50's was really something to experience.

Fishing was fabulous – stringers and stringers of walleyes.

The information I have shared about the early years of the resort was told to us by Lois from Iowa over the years. She came to the resort from the 40's until 2010 when she could no longer travel by car. She passed last fall and was in her 90's. She first came with her husband up north to this very remote and desolate area from Iowa to fish. Over the years they came with their children and enjoyed over 60 years of resorting at Knotty Pines.



We have owned the resort since 2006 after relocating from Cannon Falls, MN. We have made numerous improvements over the years as have the previous owners – some more than others. Over the years there have been cabins added. The original three and now grown to a total of eight cabins and an owner's home. Two of the cabins are log and are still used for rental cabins, one dates to 1910 (Logger's Cabin) and the other was built in 1938 (Moose Lodge). They are very old and majestic and add a special historical significance to the resort. Resorts continue to offer families that don't own lakeshore of their own a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the beautiful north woods and many lakes, as well as our quaint communities. Many of our visitors fondly recall happy times spent at a resort as children and have continued enjoying them through the generations with their own children and grandchildren.

This gives you a brief history of Knotty Pines Resort. If you are interested we would like to give you a tour and a brief history of our historic log cabins. Stop in or call anytime.

We would also like to extend a special neighborly offer to all Boulder Lake residents by offering a 10% discount for stays at our resort for relatives and friends who come to visit.

**Sheldon and Mary Schiebe**

Knotty Pines Resort,

[www.knottypinesresort.com](http://www.knottypinesresort.com) or [stay@knottypinesresort.com](mailto:stay@knottypinesresort.com)

**218-732-5466**

**800-392-2410**

