

Holiday Out News

January 2022 Editor: Lesa Esh



Snow has graced our park 2 times in January, with an even bigger one on the way!

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'd rather be camping!

Legacy Owner-Maxine Simpson

Good times with family were the big draw for Maxine Simpson and family when they purchased their lot in Holiday Out RV Park back in 1968. They had friends from New York who owned a lot here, and they decided to purchase in the park after visiting these friends. Back in those days, the park was strictly for small campers and tent camping, only. Lots were very small, and no trailers over 19 feet were allowed! (Larger campers were not allowed until the late 1970's and 1980's, when lots were combined to accommodate them). The park was open only from March to November, and your lot had to be cleared by November-no campers could remain. Each lot had a water line supplied by a common well, and the same was true for electricity. Maxine lamented that when electric skillets were invented the breakers would be thrown and everyone on that common electric box would lose their power when too many people were cooking! Later, each lot was able to get their own electricity. Finally, they could enjoy some air conditioning!

Maxine remembered that the office, pavilion, and bath houses were all here from those earliest days. The C-section was actually common property. Our Park was run by the same management company that ran the Lake Tansi Resort, and fees were \$20/month. Later, this management company said they would need \$140,000 annually to operate the park, so a group of owners got together and did a lot of figuring and determined that they could run the park for \$84,000 annually. So they divided up duties amongst themselves, (recreation, beautification, secretary, etc.) and the Board of Directors was born! They agreed to pay the Lake Tansi Resort a small monthly fee to use their boat launch and other amenities.

In the infancy of our park, D-section was undeveloped, and then was sold to Gulf oil, and later to a developer from Mississippi who planned to put in a swimming pool. He eventually sold the land and started an RV park in Florida. The woods behind D-section were owned by the University of Tennessee Farm, and cows foraged there.

Maxine remembers that they had no budget for activities in the early years, and no money for beautification. So they raised money by collecting Pop cans. Recreation only had 3 weekends that they organized events for: Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day. Time with family and friends was most important, and they didn't look for recreation to provide any other events. The beach was essentially the same as it is now, for them all to enjoy. And, as now, the Church in the Pavilion paid for their own expenses.

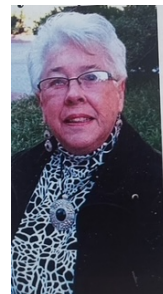
The family that owned Vietti Chili owned property in the park, and bought a Jukebox for Holiday Out, and families enjoyed dancing to the music in the Pavilion for several years before the Management Company took it away to use on the other side of the lake at the Lake Tansi Resort. This seemed very unfair, as the Vietti family purchased it for Holiday Out.

I wished I could continue talking to Maxine about her good times here in Holiday Out, but her Grandson arrived and she had to cut our conversation short. She was unable to share any photos with me at this time, but Maxine looks forward to being back here in the Spring, creating more fun memories at Holiday Out RV Park!



Friends Gone...

Tonia Zaremski and Faye Taube passed away in January, and Jim Hinch passed away in October. Friends on our Holiday Out Private Forum Facebook group shared their love and condolences, especially for friends, and family. We are praying for Mike, Debbie, Jackie and Donna.





History of Lake Tansi

Our beautiful Lake Tansi used to be heavily forested land until a developer, Cosby Harrison, had a vision to build a lake resort here. He felt sure that Cumberland County would be a great resort area, drawing people from all over. In the early 1950's he bought land here, and began work on developing a lake in 1956. The land was cleared and the dam was finally completed in 1959. The lake was fed by a small mountain stream, and rain water.

Lake Harrison Resort was finally opened on April 28, 1961. Mr. Harrison, however, had no interest in running a resort, so he sold it to an Alabama developer, Fred Swaney, in December 1963. He intended to change the name to Lake Tanasi, the Cherokee word for Tennessee, but it was transcribed as Lake Tansi instead. In Spring of 1964 the resort opened as Lake Tansi Village.

(These facts were gleaned from an article I found online in the Crossville Chronicle, called "The Building of Lake Tansi." Author unknown. The article was found in some old files at Star Realty.)



Roving Reporter



"How did you find out about Holiday Out RV Park?"

1. Betty Sherrod Murphy from Knoxville

Luck--We were driving around and followed the newspaper ad for a camper!

2. Debbie Rhodus from Kentucky

Our daughter's in-laws have a place there and we came down for a girl's trip and fell in love. We sold the first place and bought another one this past October.

3. Jill and Steve McKinney from Texas

On the internet- looking for a lot in TN to permanently park our 5th Wheel.

4. Harold and Connie Simcox from Tennessee

Harold's Aunt and Uncle had a place here and always talked about how much fun it was, so we decided to try it for ourselves. We live in Cookeville full-time and visit Tansi on the weekends when weather is warmer. We have owned three different places, and love it!

5. Linda Chauncey from Chattanooga.

I started coming as a teenager with my parents, probably in 1969. Maxine's daughter and I were good friends.

6. Jessie McNier from Nashville

We heard from a friend that you could purchase campsites at Deer Run park in Crossville. We like to camp, so we drove to Deer Run to have a look. The roads were gravel, the playground was disheveled, and the lake was small. On our way out, Donald found Holiday Out online and we drove over to see it and loved it at first sight. Perfect place for our family of seven to spend weekends in the spring and summer.

7. Susan Krueger from Michigan

My sister and brother-in-law bought a home in Tansi years ago. We liked visiting them, but never really considered moving from Michigan. After her husband passed, my sister, Leah Seaman, downsized to Holiday Out. We fell in love with the park when we visited her and decided to buy a place and retire there. I can't wait to be there full time!

8. Marsh and Barb Wilson from Tennessee

Marsh found it on the internet as he was looking for RV lots for sale. Just looking for a place to park our camper. Look at us now, living here full time, happily ever after!

9. Anita and Ed Smith from Chattanooga

We had some really good friends, Ronnie and Jo Bailey, that lived up here and we would come up and visit them, and that's how we heard about it.

10. Teri Pullum from Michigan

I found Holiday Out RV Park by going on Google and looking up year-round RV parks in Tennessee. Saw some lots for sale and drove down to check them out.

