

LakeFest 2018

We are thrilled to announce that we now have a signed contract for LakeFest 2018, to take place at Madden's on Gull Lake, Brainerd, MN, from Weds July 18th – Sat July 21st. Madden's has been the regular host for the annual Minnesota Seaplanes Pilots Association gathering, and we are confident that they will make LakeFest 2018 memorable for us.

We should point out that Madden's is not a hotel like the Hilton Garden Inn, but a resort that offers many other features and benefits. Included in the room rates are: breakfast buffet and dinner, use of most of their recreational facilities at no charge (details below), free WIFI, and all meeting/banquet rooms at no charge, which means the LakeFest registration fee will be substantially reduced. There are also a variety of room class choices, which will allow you to personalize your stay. Most of the rooms/suites have superb lake views. The Madden's reservations team will help you choose the room best suited to your needs.

A summary of the room rates is shown below:

Room Type	Nightly Rate per Person	
	Single Occupancy	Double Occupancy
Tier 1 Hotel / Cottage	\$253.00	\$158.50
Tier 2 Villa	\$293.00	\$198.50
Tier 3 Suite	\$333.00	\$238.50

The above prices are subject to an 18% service charge, plus 7.3% sales tax. No tipping is expected, but can be extended for exceptional service.

The Club has reserved a block of 50 rooms, which we believe is the minimum number required. We hope (and believe) that the actual requirement will be higher than that. Therefore, since the event is being held during their high season, it is important that anyone planning to attend make their reservation **as soon as possible**. The above room rates will be available for up to three nights either side of the event, and for rooms booked in excess of our block commitment – **subject to availability**. Reservations will require a \$200 deposit, which is refundable (less a \$25 admin fee) for cancellations received at least 61 days before arrival. For cancellations received 60 days or less before arrival, the deposit will be forfeited unless due to aircraft mechanical problems or significant weather effects, which Madden's will review/discuss on a case-by-case basis. Finally, at the 60-day cut-off date, we will lose our reservation block status. Any unreserved rooms will return to their inventory, and sold at rack rate prices (higher than ours), **so please, make your reservations as soon as possible!**

The committee is working on an exciting schedule for the event, and we are pleased to announce that we have already secured the attendance of noted aviation maintenance expert Mike Busch as a speaker; Dave Walter has promised to entertain us again; and Harry Shannon will again share his wisdom and experience, despite being 1,200 miles from Bartow. Most of the scheduled events will be based around the Wilson Bay Lodge on the western side of the resort. As usual, we will have an opening night (Wednesday) cocktail reception followed by a banquet. On Friday evening, we will enjoy a barbeque.

With the abundance of new and interesting fly-out opportunities/locations (the owner of Madden's is a seaplane pilot, and will share his recommendations), we will not be over-filling the schedule. But, anyone with a desire to share material with the group should contact Greg Bradford, Bill Greenwald or Adrian Wood to discuss. Depending on the level of interest, and the willingness of members to help organize, we also have permission to include "plane games" in the schedule. That decision will be made closer to the event, and will involve surveying registered attendees.

For Minnesota residents, or others visiting the area, who wish to attend LakeFest activities without staying at the resort, we have negotiated daily rates for the food and activities, which we will provide upon request.

For folks wishing to attend, but travelling by commercial transport, Delta offers twice-daily flights into Brainerd (BRD -10 miles away) at minimal cost above flights terminating in Minneapolis. MSP itself is less than three hours away, and in addition to rental cars there is regular bus service to Brainerd. Once at the resort, there is really no need for a car, but rental cars can be arranged.

For those flying their own plane in, the grass strip at East Gull Lake (9Y2) is magnificent with plenty of parking. Bring tie-downs. There is golf-cart transportation to the resort. There is also opportunity to leave your plane on the beach, possibly in front of your unit. If you are considering this, you should discuss with your reservation agent.

Finally, for all of you who have delayed making the pilgrimage to Oshkosh, don't forget that Airventure starts on July 23rd, so what better opportunity to make a real adventure out of the trip!!

What to do next?? If you haven't already, check out the Madden's website ... <https://www.maddens.com/> . While there, take the virtual tour to familiarize yourself with the resort, or click on this link ... <https://www.maddens.com/tour/html5/maddens.html> . Print out a copy of the resort map at <https://www.maddens.com/the-resort/resort-map/> so that you can follow along when discussing reservations.

Madden's Reservation Line: 1-800-642-5363 / 1-218-829-2811. Refer to Lake Amphibian Club.

The registration fee for the LakeFest 2018 conference will be \$50 for members, \$100 for non-members. Payment may be made by US drawn checks, sent to Treasurer / Lake Amphibian Club, PO Box 332, Marlborough, NH 03455 or PayPal, lakeclubtreasurer@gmail.com . Please note payment is for LakeFest. Please make your registration payment no less than 60 days before the event (i.e., May 18th, 2018). Walk-in attendance may not be possible due to catering restrictions at the resort.

Recreational Amenities (included with your room rate):

- Swimming pools (3), saunas, whirlpools, fitness center, tennis, croquet, lawn bowling, volleyball, basketball, horseshoes and shuffleboard
- Green fees on Pine Beach East, Pine Beach West and Social 9 courses (cart and club rental extra)
- Discounted green fees on The Classic (\$82/round, including cart)
- Non-motorized water sports (kayaks, canoes, paddle boards)

Additional Amenities (rates apply):

- Water-skiing and wakeboarding
- Fishing charter

There is no guarantee that rooms will be available after the 60-day cutoff, or after the 50-room block has been reserved. However, Madden's has said they will honor reservations in either situation, subject to availability. So, MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY!!

LakeFest Committee		
Greg Bradford hapjet51@gmail.com	Bill Greenwald wgreenwald3@ne.twcbc.com	Adrian Wood adrianjwood@gmail.com