

Beaver Lake – 40 Years Ago:

Saul Feder

It's difficult to reconcile the current magnificent year round vacation wonderland, surrounded by our 300+ acres of majestic rustic woodlands, that our Shareholders have developed through their extensive volunteer efforts and cooperative attitudes over the past 40 years,- with the abandoned camp with 18 dilapidated 70 year old bunks; a collapsing Main House and crumbling Camp House; with old deteriorated pools that leaked,- that we found 40 years ago.

It was certainly the beautiful captivating lake that enchanted all who saw it that motivated us to proceed with the project.

Mazel Tov to all our current and previous Shareholders- who've all made large and small contributions to our success!

Forty years ago- three Shareholder couples, the Karfunkels, the Schoenfelds and the Feders, spent the Summer in the newly acquired Beaver Lake property- to serve as on-the-ground "salesmen" to show prospective new partners around the property, while we regaled them with our dreams for the future.

Those with vision and foresight became our partners- while those without sufficient foresight went to Vacation Village.

I remember the very first Meeting of the first 36 Shareholders, - when each placed \$8,000.00 into Escrow towards the prospective development. While there were a few checks received,- there were also many frozen packages of Dollar Bills- freshly removed from storage in freezers. I had to wait several days for them to thaw before I could deposit them!

I also remember the second Shareholders Meeting, again in the Karfunkel Den, when issues of methodology, hashkafah, selection of locations, sports facilities, protection of the lake, etc were loudly discussed and debated. At one point, one of the foreign-born original Shareholders pushed his jacket back to show that he was armed- resulting in a face-to-face confrontation with another foreign born original Shareholder who reminded everyone that- he showed no fear of the Nazis- and he would certainly not back down from any threats in America. Although the confrontation quickly resolved itself- it resulted in the immediate fleeing from the meeting of at least three prospective new shareholders- who ran to their cars, never to be heard from again.

As we all know, the amount of good will and mutual appreciation that abounds in Beaver Lake has resulted in our four-decade long success story- with decades more awaiting us as we move forward.

I look forward to continuing to enjoy the fruits of our labor of love.