



# CARBAUGH FAMILY NEWSLETTER 2021

41st Edition



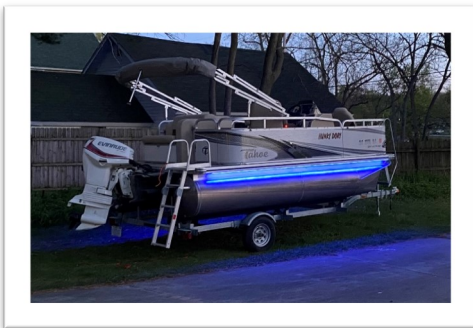
We are happy to wish our family and friends a very Merry Christmas as we close out another year. 2021 will always be remembered as the year after 2020 and for the Covid19 vaccine. We have been fortunate to have good health and our immediate family has pulled through the pandemic. Our best wishes and prayers are with you for the same. This letter will share our life's adventure. The mail box and email inbox are watched carefully so we can hear about your year's news too.

This year we thoroughly enjoyed spending time at the cottage on Bass Lake near Gowen Michigan. It's about a 40 minute drive from Grand Rapids. The "place on the lake" has been the family anchor. Lisa's family camped there since the 30s and then built the cottage. It's a fun recreation lake with plenty of wildlife including bald eagles (more about them later). Loons nest there and have the most melancholy calls. Herons visit and turtles pop up everywhere. This year we saw baby muskrats along the shore playing.

Usually we use a canoe or row boat to explore the lake. But this year we saw more of the lake in lots of rides in our new to-us pontoon boat. We were in the market for a small pontoon boat early in the year but stock was very limited because most of the manufacturers were shut down last year. Sam checked for used boats since he is handy enough to fix them. But even the used boats were sold when he called. At a local marina he arrived first thing on a Monday morning to inquire about a just listed boat only to find it had already been sold. As he was leaving, he saw a new pontoon on a trailer in the showroom without price tag and said it's a shame that was sold too. The salesman said it wasn't new but



only a few years old. He had just taken it on a trade and was about to list it. Well Sam looked it over very carefully and worked out a deal. The previous owner had named it the **Hunky Dory** and its colors matched the cottage. Sam added LED strip lights along each side and tow bar for pulling someone in a tube. Its not too large but seats five; two swivel seats up front for fishing, an L-shaped bench seat in the back for two more people and a live fish well. There's a small table and the captain's chair at a modern console with a GPS map, Bluetooth sound system, and controls for raising and lowering the motor. Just the right size for Bass Lake. And small enough to easily launch and recover on a trailer so we can take it to other lakes or rivers.



Our time at the cottage included hosting a Brailey cousin who hadn't visited the lake for some time. It was special to hear her stories and get her reaction to the current version of the cottage. Sam also had great success fishing off the dock catching a number of large mouth bass. One 16 inch bass is now resting in the freezer waiting to be mounted. We did have a very interesting new experience



at the lake. One morning, Lisa went out on the deck to get a better view of some swans swimming past the dock when a heavy thudding sound came down from the tall pine tree next to the deck. She quickly saw a large headless bass hit the ground at the foot of the tree then as she looked up she saw a bald eagle fly away in front of her. She had disturbed him having his sushi breakfast! Now we can say it rains bass at Bass Lake.



Sam continued to fly our Piper Warrior. He took Lisa on a nearly 2 hour flight to explore Harbor Springs in northern Michigan. It's a quaint Lake Michigan village near Petosky.



Besides local flights, Sam made frequent flights to Dayton to volunteer at the [Wright B Flyer organization](#). They finished a six year program building a new Wright B look-alike aircraft and began flight testing. It had its first flight in October. Cold

weather and some re-design work means the flight test program will be delayed until 2022 so more flights to Dayton are planned.

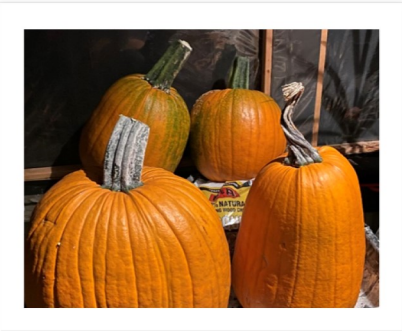
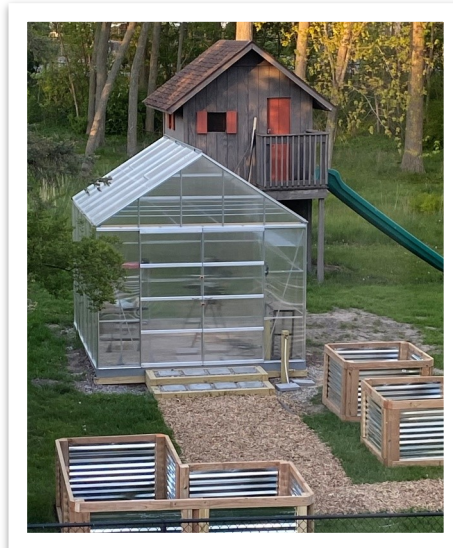


We celebrated our 41st Anniversary by spending four days in northwest Michigan near Frankfort. We stayed in a wonderful little Airbnb at a horse farm as we explored [Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore](#). Its an amazing natural area with lots to see and enjoy. Our first Airbnb experience will not be our last. It was awesome.



Our 1926 vintage home in Comstock Park, a suburb of Grand Rapids has had a few more improvements this year. The crammed full electrical panel was upgraded to 200 Amp and a standby whole-house generator was installed so we are ready for the next wind or ice storm.

A 10 ft x 12 ft greenhouse was built in place of an old large ugly sandbox. Three large and tall raised garden beds were also built. They produced plenty of tomatoes, green beans, peppers, radishes, onions, carrots and lettuce. We also had a huge patch out back that yielded a dozen pumpkins and some butter-nut squash. It would have been more pumpkins since the deer liked to eat them too. An electric wire fence helped save some for us. And to provide electric to the greenhouse for grow lights, solar panels were installed on the kids camp and a power line was strung to the greenhouse. Now the kids camp has power too. Lisa did a lot of canning & freezing from our garden as well as from local farmers markets.



Other activities included a few car shows. The 1965 Toyota Publica was shown at two [Antique Automobile Club of America \(AACA\)](#) shows. It won a Junior Award at Auburn Indiana and a Senior Award at Hershey



Pennsylvania. Lisa joined Sam for the drive to the Hershey show. It's a very large and prestigious event. We had a great time showing the very special car. We were also



able to visit family near South Mountain and Carlisle Barracks. While at South Mountain we explored the cemetery where many of Sam's relatives rest. One of the oldest grave-



stones is for Peter Louis Carbaugh (B: 1803 D: 1855). This year we found a genealogy study showing that Peter is Sam's 5th Great Grandfather. [The study](#) also traces the paternal lines to German immigrants who arrived in Philadelphia in 1740! The German family name was Korbach. That was amazing to learn.

Sam also rebuilt the cartop tent for the 1970 VW Beetle. It was seriously damaged over seven years ago. It was finished in time to go camping and show the bug at the summer car show at the [Gilmore Auto Museum](#) near Kalamazoo. The VW engine wasn't running cool enough so Sam pulled the engine with Samuel Joe's help. The problem was solved and the engine re-installed. That's a messy job that hadn't been done in over ten years. Sam took the bug to a Toledo VW car show then on to Put-In-Bay on South Bass Island, Lake Erie Ohio. There he camped out then spent three days participating



with vintage sportscars celebrating racing around the island. This was the first time the bug had been on a ferry and had it's own racing number (70). Unfortunately Sam didn't get to run the race course as a show car due to rain delays.



That's our news for this year. We didn't include too many details of our boys families since they have their own new traditions. We do enjoy being involved when and how ever we can. It has been our pleasure to watch our seven year old grandson Oliver at least once a week. Just long enough for us to spoil him rotten.



*Sam  
&  
Lisa*