



INFORMATION FROM CAUSEWAY RESORT FRONT OFFICE

A. Bonus Week Rentals for the remainder of 2013

The \$400 per week rentals to Causeway owners continues in the fall starting in week 40 and running through week 50. What a great time and place to unwind after the summer.

INTERESTED? Call the Causeway office at 1-218-963-3675 for information and availability. Hurry!! The good weeks will go fast.

B. The Causeway Rental Program

Our rental program continues to work well for owners that either want to rent their unit or are looking to rent a unit. We understand some of our owners advertise in various publications to rent their unit. Our rental service is another option. Again, call the office if you are interested in renting your week or are looking to rent a week.

Remember, this program contains Causeway Owner's weeks and are not part of the Bonus Week rentals. Anyone, owner or not can rent through this site.

C. The Outdoor Pool and Hot Tub have been retiled and both look great.



D. The unit 5 and 6 building has a new roof.
Our roof project continues based on need.

E. Home furnishings are being upgraded or replaced based on need and available funding.

Our Facebook Page has many pictures and great information for all to view. Please take time to check it out. There are some great pictures of our Maintenance, Front desk and Housekeeping Staffs along with before and after pool upgrade snapshots as well as a number of pictures of resort activities and folks just enjoying themselves at the resort. Share your resort good time photos on our Facebook site. Our Front Desk Staff is doing a great job of working with Facebook.

OUR ASSOCIATION'S WEB SITE IS WWW.CAUSEWAYONGULL.ORG.

The WEB site has a link to our FACEBOOK Page

Or go to <https://www.facebook.com/CausewayOnGull>

MN COMMERCE DEPARTMENT EXPOSES FRAUDULENT TIMESHARE SCHEMES

SAINT PAUL, MN – The Minnesota Department of Commerce has uncovered eleven unlicensed scam companies targeting timeshare owners falsely claiming to be able to sell or rent their properties and scamming them into paying thousands of dollars in transaction costs that never result in a sale or rental of their properties. In every case, the company used a fake street address on their website and in the materials they provided to timeshare owners. The addresses either did not exist or were for buildings in which the scam company was not a tenant. In one instance, a company used fake Minnesota business registration and license documents to convince a timeshare owner of its legitimacy. The Commerce Department ordered the eleven scam companies to immediately halt their alleged illegal activity in Minnesota. The investigation comes on the heels of a Minnesota Department of Commerce enforcement action in late 2012 against Renaissance Marketing for running an alleged “bait and switch” timeshare scheme that targeted consumers across the country. The initial investigation triggered further complaints about companies offering to sell or rent Minnesotans’ timeshares often using fake Minnesota addresses.

“The Department took swift and decisive action against these alleged schemes duping timeshares owners,” said Commerce Commissioner Mike Rothman. “These scam companies are preying on people desperate to sell their timeshares with the intent to scam and defraud them out of thousands of dollars.”

The scam companies went by the names of: Global Properties Specialists, Integrated Escrow Services, Platinum Resort Services, ABS Consulting Company, World Transfer Title, Premium Properties Management, Net Management Group, Concord International Title, Continental Property Solutions, Twin Cities Property Advisors, and World Event Management. Concord International Title, Platinum Resort Services, ABS Consulting Services, and World Transfer Title all used fake Minnesota addresses, while Net Management Group claimed to be based in Michigan and World Event Management claimed to be based in Colorado. Global Properties Specialists claimed an Arizona address but maintained it was affiliated with and used Integrated Escrow Services, which it represented had a Minnesota address. The Department’s repeated efforts to contact and obtain information from these companies by email, U.S. mail, and telephone calls went unanswered.

The Department's investigation also found that the title company, Integrated Escrow Services, with which Global Properties Specialists represented it work with to complete the sale, used a fake Minnesota address and had supplied an Oregon resident with a fake Minnesota real estate and driver's license, and a fake Minnesota business tax registration to bolster its credibility.

The Department worked with the Better Business Bureau of Minnesota and North Dakota in the investigation of these companies.

"Minnesotans need to exercise due diligence when selling their timeshares," said Commissioner Rothman. "These scams are becoming increasingly prevalent and sophisticated, and Minnesotans should check with the Department of Commerce to confirm the licenses of purported timeshare resellers. Further, those who are considering the initial purchase of timeshares need to educate themselves on the potential benefits and disadvantages of timeshare ownership."

The Commerce Department also offers some good advice on selling and purchasing timeshares. To read this article in its entirety on the Commerce Department's website, go to

<http://mn.gov/commerce/media/newsdetail.jsp?id=206-61092>

The Federal Trade Commission also has some good information regarding buying and selling timeshares. Their web address is www.consumer.ftc.gov.

In our last Causeway Newsletter, Vacation Ownership for Less (VOFL) was featured with the same summary as written below. In light of the information from the Minnesota Department of Commerce, we feel it is important to again publish the information of Vacation Ownership for Less. It is important for all Causeway Owners to know there is a place owners can go that is fair, honest and will work for you whether you are selling or buying a timeshare property.

NEW RESALE EFFORT KEY TO CAUSEWAY ON GULL TIMESHARES'S LONG TERM SUCCESS

With just over a year of full operation, Vacation Ownership for Less (VOFL) has already become a big hit with Minnesota timeshare families. Not just here at Causeway on Gull, but in other properties around Minnesota, timeshare owners are finally finding a solution for their timeshare buying and selling needs.

VOFL is a timeshare real estate firm developed specifically at the request of timeshare associations. It assists both buyers and sellers with their timeshare real estate needs, and provides their services in accordance with all Minnesota Real Estate Statutes, and with absolutely no upfront or hidden costs. It is simply a real estate company specifically dedicated to timeshare resale efforts, handling these transactions exactly the same as if you were selling your own home.

The development of VOFL was specific to battling the illegal existence of the hundreds of "scam resale firms", and its presence in the Minnesota real estate market is specifically designed to provide a safe and easy to use alternative to these deceptive resale companies. VOFL's physical offices are centrally located in the heart of Minnesota's vacation country, in beautiful downtown Breezy point. However, its agents operate onsite in multiple resort locations, as well as by telephone and by internet for the convenience of our timeshare owners.

Owner testimonials from those who have used VOFL's services can be found on the VOFL website at www.vacationownershipforless.com, along with all the current listings from the various timeshare properties available. Recent buyers have found great deals on properties never before made available with these existing original and most conveniently located associations.

Sellers have finally found a solution for safely listing their properties without illegal upfront fees or the worry of being "scammed" by someone that they really know nothing about.

VOFL has also been a good solution for owners who may have fallen behind in paying maintenance fees, as VOFL's real estate professionals have worked closely with the association's management staff in working out payment plans, so that an owner's property can then be listed and sold. A service that has long since been needed to assist owners who can no longer afford their properties because financial situations have changed or for owners who can no longer use their properties because personal situations have changed. All of these things being important factors in continuing to build healthier and stronger owner associations for our Causeway on Gull Timeshare families in the years to come.

So if you are in need of assistance with either VOFL's selling services, or if you are in the market for some fantastic deals on timeshare inventory that has not been recently been made available in this easy to shop fashion, check out VOFL on the web at www.vacationownershipforless.com, or contact them at (218)562-6450.

VACATION OWNERSHIP FOR LESS

"In May of this year, my wife and I sold week 23 through Vacation Ownership for Less. The sale went very well, all transactions were completed by mail, the new owners were able to use week 23 immediately and my payment came very quickly. The staff at VOFL was very helpful and informative. Overall the sale was a very good experience."

New Management



Jim Sullivan has been working for Narveson Management at Causeway in the Maintenance Department since May 2011. He was promoted to Maintenance Manager this past March. Jim is originally from Delaware. He moved to Minnesota in September 2010 to be closer to his wife's family.

Before moving to Minnesota, Jim worked in field irrigation and was a Contractor Sales Manager for a lumber company; that along with working at Causeway for almost two years made him a good candidate for the Manager's position. It usually is not easy to have management changes in any department, but Jim had the support of entire maintenance department and other managers at Causeway. It was probably one of the smoothest management transitions Narveson Management has had.

When asked what Jim liked best, or found the most satisfying about being manager, he replied that the staff is genuinely happy. They care about the resort and he likes to share ideas and work with them to make the resort better. His response to what he found the most difficult about being manager was getting comfortable with making some of the bigger decisions when it came to fixing something vs. replacing it. He is aware of the financial constraints and wants to spend money wisely.

Jim enjoys fishing, spending time with his family, and working on his house and yard, when he's not at Causeway.



HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER