

Travel Scene



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Garland — a wooded wonderland

By Nicki Chudnoff
and Harold Chudnoff
special writers

You barely know it's there. Woods and fields open just enough to accept Garland Resort's rustic main lodge and surrounding buildings. The 3,500-acre resort fits into the woods near Gaylord like a hand fits into a glove.

Rustic is only half the story. The other half is elegance. The main lodge, said to be the largest log lodge east of the Mississippi, has hand-crafted stained-glass windows, soaring pine ceilings, Italian marble floors and massive cut-stone fireplaces.

All this grandeur didn't just happen, it evolved. It started with Detroit businessman Herman Otto, who in 1931 wanted a retreat for friends, family and employees of his company, Garland Manufacturing. The first step was a nine-hole golf course.

In the early 60s, Garland opened to the public. As word spread and more golfers came, more golf holes were added with the total now at 63.

A gas explosion in 1985 resulted in an inferno that destroyed the original clubhouse. Otto's son and daughter-in-law, Ron and Joan, saw the destruction as an opportunity to create a luxurious all-season resort and corporate retreat. The Ottos were well-traveled and wanted to incorporate the five-star touches they enjoyed at world-class hotels.

The resort is rated as one of America's 10 best cross-country ski areas by "Cross Country Skier" magazine. Garland's 50 kilometers of groomed and woodland trails offer a terrain for every skill level from never-tried novice to strong snowplow skier.

The 1 1/2 kilometer easy-rated "Carrousel" trail is lighted until 9 p.m. weeknights and 10 p.m. weekends. Trails wind through woods and rolling hills, past strategically placed wildlife feeding stations.

On site are a lighted outdoor ice rink, ice fishing, sleigh rides, parlor games and movies. Garland guests also have once privileges at Lewis and Clark, one of three curling rinks in Michigan.

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With 3,500 acres on the premises at Garland Resort near Gaylord, there's plenty of elbow room for cross-

country skiers. Also available are sleigh rides, gourmet lunch ski tour, ice fishing, ice skating,

sunrise activities, movie night, northern lights night, skiing tours and curling.

Area secretaries send bosses to resort

Some secretaries would like to send their bosses to the moon, but I sent them to Garland Resort instead, as part of a promotion by WJR Radio.

Joe Attard of Livonia, building official for the city of Northville, didn't have the faintest idea what his staff was doing when his name went into the pot.

Ed Carlson of Troy was also com-

pletely in the dark. He was at work when he heard that he and his wife had won a weekend at the 3,500-acre resort near Gaylord.

Part of the deal was that the secretary of the winner would get a day off. Ed offered his secretary Christ-

ine. She's waiting for summer. Dan Maybee of Maybee Associates Inc. in Brighton was completely in the dark until the call came saying he had won.



crossroads
Iris Jones

The excitement started at Maybee Associates when secretary Donna Funk of Brighton heard the promo-

tion on the radio. Send your boss name in and if we pick that name in our lottery we'll give your boss and his or her spouse a weekend trip and you will get a day off.

"We decided that Don and Jill Maybee needed a break," Donna said. "See and Larry Hanas joined in the conspiracy, and we each sent in three or four cards."

When the conspirators heard that their boss had won, they had to call

frantically around town to find him. "The weekend was a tremendous gift," Don Maybee said. "We took a sleigh ride, pulled by two horses. We saw deer. We went cross-country skiing on the trails."

The facilities are first class. The buildings are a log-cabin design. The main lodge has guest rooms and conference rooms. There are single-bed-room villas in the pine trees, with ice

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Crystal Lake hotels specialize in couples

By Iris Sanderson Jones
special writer

Valentine's Day always makes me think about hotels at either end of Crystal Lake, and of two Plymouth families, Lorenz and Powell. It's probably the couples rooms that do it.

Kirk Lorenz, of the Mayflower Hotel, and Pam Powell, who once worked at the Mayflower, have been happily encountered as owners and direction-finders at the Brookside Inn for several years now.

The Brookside is at one end of Crystal Lake in the town of Benah, just southwest of Traverse City. Kirk's brother, Scott Powell, manages the Hotel Frankfort at the other end of Crystal Lake in the town of Frankfort. Both hotels specialize in couples rooms, each one individually designed and decorated and containing a Polynesian theme.

The Hotel Frankfort is a two-story Victorian place with pointed towers and balcony. It's been in the middle of town for a long time.

The Brookside is a roadside motel built on the site of an ice cream parlor that the Lorenz family visited regularly when Kirk was a child. Kirk and Pam have added rooms, a bar, and a bar, so it keeps getting bigger.

They are both romantics at heart. They toured the world looking at hotels for the right ideas. They honeymooned in the Pacific. They decided that every hotel room should have a hot set place for guests to sit and soak together, and that no hotel guest should be forced to wear an ugly dinky towel around a wet middle.

The result is couples rooms. Each room is different but they all have big comfortable beds, a large hot pool and a variety of funky decorating themes ranging from stuffed bears to medieval knights.

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Pam believes that couples should have time to get to know one another, to sit and dine and breakfast. So their rates, starting at \$120 a night per couple, cover accommodations, dinner and breakfast.

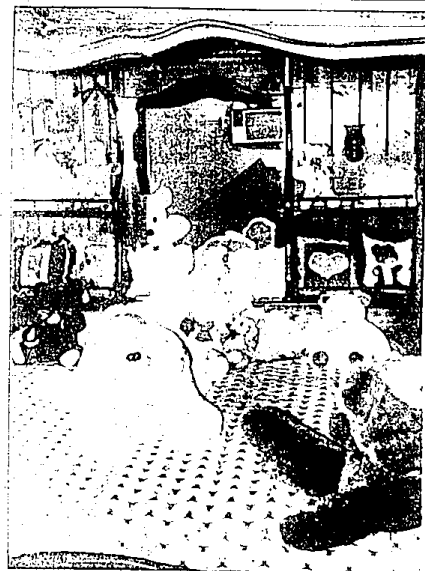
For information, contact your travel agent for Kirk and Pam Lorenz, of the Brookside Inn, 626 882-2421. That's 268 miles from Detroit in northwest Michigan.

Other places that you might consider for getaways.

BIG HAY LIGHTHOUSE is in the upper peninsula on Lake Superior. It's about 474 miles from Detroit. It's said to be one of only two working lighthouse bed-and-breakfast in the nation. Call Rick and Marlene Gieshall in Big Bay for rates, (906) 345-9957.

NORTHERN HILL in Gaylord is about 225 miles from Detroit. Cross-country skiing available at nearby Sylvan and Garland resorts. Call Mike Hays, (517) 732-6794.

KIMBERLY COUNTRY ESTATE in Harbor Springs, is one of Michigan's newer bed-and-breakfast inns. About 226 miles from Detroit. It's a hill and cross-country skiing available at nearby Nubs and Boyne Mountain resorts. Call Ron or Billie Kimberly, (616) 526-7646.



All the Hotel Frankfort's couples rooms have themes. This one is checked out in stuffed animals and cushions. But don't take the animals home. They do not come with the room.

CHICKADEE INN in Cadillac is a renovated, turn-of-the-century colonial mansion decorated with Victorian era antiques about 100 miles from Detroit. Call Robert Gaskin, (517) 279-8744.

GARFIELD INN in Port Austin at the tip of Michigan's thumb, is a state and national historic site due to the connection with former president James A. Garfield. Built in 1900, the inn has been restored to its original state with oak pub and other

amenities. Call (517) 278-2054.

TWIN GABLES COUNTRY INN is in Sault Ste. Marie across the street from Lake Kalamazoo. Nearby cross-country skiing is available. Package deals with local restaurants and entertainment can be arranged. Call (616) 857-1346.

SPRING BROOK INN in Pruden is a historic inn with a great view. Themed rooms and room packages that include breakfast and dinner are available. Call Russ Hoover, (517) 366-6347.

King Momo marches through Puerto Rico

AP — The parade that Puerto Ricans have been waiting for since 1976 is finally here.

Elaborate costumes, giant puppets, floats, and bands will parade through the streets of San Juan, Puerto Rico, on Saturday.

The parade is the highlight of the annual Carnival festival, which runs from Saturday through Monday.

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