

Ladies of the Lake – August 2018
By Barbara Galvin

August began with the Ladies of the Lake meeting, after the month of July was without seeing one another, at least at the Pavilion. The day was beautiful without a cloud in the sky and the ladies were glad to greet one another after the July absence. Even better than the delightful weather outside was the lovely environment our hostesses, Judy Brown and Barb Potter, created inside!

Judy had brought lots of her exquisite lilies in lemon yellow to grace the tables. What a garden sight! Lemon yellow lilies were in white vases on royal blue table cloths. Thank you, our own master gardener, Judy Brown.

Barb Potter made sure everyone had something to drink—either lemonade or iced tea or coffee, plus bottles of water. Barb also officially greeted everyone as she came through the door. What a gracious hostess!

After Barb said grace, the ladies feasted their eyes on a delightful buffet of potluck specials. For the ladies to enjoy, there was: ham and chicken salad filled cups, BLT rollups, chicken salad, zucchini-carrot casserole, tossed salad, baby burritos, spaghetti casserole, and a summer salad plus cantaloupe.

Desserts were scrumptious too! Two lemon treats were lemon pie and lemon lush. Brownies are always a hit! Cherry pie bars, and a peanut butter pie rounded out the desserts.

Ladies of the Lake enjoying a scrumptious lunch were: Sharon Butler, Jane Stevens, Kay McKinley, Barb Dunlap, Barb Potter, Patty Anderson, Sandy Morrow, Lonnie Woodring, Laura Jennings, Elizabeth Hiel, Nona Kempton, Peggy McGrew, Judy Brown, Barbara Galvin.

Jane Stevens called for order, even without her famous bell, and the meeting began. Our guest of honor, Kali Postin, was introduced and Jane proceeded with official business.

Patty Andersen reminded the ladies of Nancy Hoppes re-scheduling the **Shubie's music group for Sunday September 2nd from 4-6PM**. The group was rained out on Memorial Day! Hope for better weather the second time around.

Nona Kempton presented a proposal from Tammy Spere who would like to make a special presentation in September at our meeting. Tammy calls her work, "What's your Story?" She shows how to digitalize treasured photos to create that unique story by using six steps. She asked the ladies to bring their photos from 2"x2" to 8"x10".

The Ladies of the Lake were definitely interested. Jane Stevens called for a vote, and Tammy will be demonstrating her skills on September 5.

Another item discussed was what the ladies wanted to eat at the September meeting, which will have the food catered. After several menus were discussed, pizza won the vote. Ladies will bring desserts, since Sandy Morrow graciously volunteered the Exercise Ladies to bake. Jane Stevens will be contacting ladies to get a number for pizza.

Next, our special guest, Kali Postin, spoke-- after introducing herself as "Judy Brown's favorite granddaughter." Kali has taken on a special mission in her life— to bring "hope, love, and joy to children and teens suffering with life-threatening diseases."

Kali explained how she and her friend, Hailey Sampsel, who lives in Utah, founded their organization, Bundles of Hope, in 2015. "Bundles of Hope" makes contacts across the USA on Facebook or Twitter, when a mother or father or some other family member asks for help to cheer their ill child or teen. Kali and Hailey use a spread sheet organized to create a unique gift for each individual. Bundles have items in a child's favorite color, or a favorite stuffed animal, or a T shirt of a best team. For teens, the bundle may focus on special

lotions, creams, or both items to pamper the individual. Questions about hobbies, personalities, and interests enable Kali and Hailey to make each bundle as special as each recipient.

In order to continue sending "Bundles of Hope" across the country, Kali and Hailey must raise funds. They do so by spreading the word about their mission to receive needed donations. They also sponsor fundraisers, like bake sales, to raise money. In addition, companies also donate items. Each bundle costs \$50 plus postage to mail. Already, Kali said 400 bundles have been delivered, as photos of happy children and teens were passed around. Big smiles gripped hearts to see what a "Bundle of Hope" can do.

Kali also keeps up with the children and teens by sending cards for holidays. Little things do mean a lot, especially when someone is sick.

Did I mention that both of the founders of "Bundles of Hope" are teens themselves who have their own personal challenges to face? Yet, they have chosen to help others in need. Can we do less? Contributions to "Bundles of Hope" should be sent to: "Bundles of Hope", 200 West Wood St, Avon IL 61415

Kali is a terrific role model for our young people and, come to think of it, our older people too, and everyone in between. Keep up the wonderful work you are doing, Kali. Questions may be directed to Kali at 309-368-0535.

Take time to enjoy the summer months we have left. The good times and good weather pass all too quickly. Mark the calendar for our September 5th meeting. No cooking necessary! Be a lady of leisure and join us. Don't forget your photos to create "What's Your Story?"