

Statements of Purpose:

The “Comedy” is a true story told in broad context of historical documentation, education, and entertainment:

to popularize the account of an unique historical event;

to respect the watershed environment;

to promote reasoned uses of its resources;

to develop a sense of community;

to develop a spirit of place.

The story is exemplified by conveying its focus upon a principal historical figure, Archibald Jones, President of the Benzie Co. River Improvement Co. The celebration of Archibald Jones Day, and the creation of an Historical Site Marker are also intended to support this purpose.

The Author’s philosophy of life in a watershed are reflected within several introductory sections of the “Comedy”: Acknowledgments, Foreword, Author Notes, “The Benzie Book”, Publication History, and Readers’ Perspective.

Our myriad personal watersheds possess elements that are sometimes mystical and esoteric, and at other times real and familiar. They are balanced between the “images” of our perception and the “splashes” of our reality. What does this connote to the casual observer communing about a lake and its watershed as a fisherman, swimmer, boater, or saunterer? Our watersheds are truly dividing lines. They physically shed water from high points downgradient in separate directions.

Hopefully, the readers of this tome, as littoral owners, as watershed inhabitants, or as transient visitors, will consider the creation, transformation, and destiny of the myriad environments of the Crystal Lake Watershed, and ponder its collective significance as their own myriad viewpoints are mentally “shed”.

Purpose of the Crystal Lake & Watershed Association

“The Crystal Lake & Watershed Association (CLWA) is a nonprofit (501c3) organization of concerned local citizens and environmental professionals committed to protecting the integrity of Crystal Lake, Benzie County, Michigan, for the enjoyment of future generations.” Its four-part purpose: (1) Protect and promote the natural qualities of Crystal Lake and its surrounding Watershed; (2) Preserve for future generations the beauty and recreational resources of Crystal Lake and its Watershed; (3) Engage in water-quality monitoring, educational programs, promotion of harmonious land development and promotion of the safe use of Crystal Lake; and (4) Advocate and ensure the continued aesthetic beauty and environmental integrity of the Lake and its Watershed. www.CLWA.us

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