

SPRING NEWSLETTER, MAY 28, 2014

DUCK LAKE PENINSULAR SHORES ASSOCIATION (DLPSA)

P. O. Box 344, Grawn, Michigan 49637

Visit the DLPSA website at <http://webpages.charter.net/dlpsa/>

We encourage every resident to have an active voice in our Association. Please address questions, comments, concerns or ideas to any of the DLPSA Board members.

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DLPSA Board Members for 2013-14

Here is the latest contact information for all your current Board members:

President: Duane Lueck* (also Maintenance)
7914 North Shore Court
231-631-8700 cell (preferred)
231-276-6676 home, dlpmlck@gmail.com

Vice President: Paul Grunberger
(also Newsletter & Historian)
3781 East Shore Drive
231-276-3116 home (preferred)
301-602-2734 cell, ducklakepaul@gmail.com

Secretary: Dan Bodary
4392 Central Park Drive (seasonal)
231-276-6592 home, bbodary@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Charlotte Knoll*
3781 East Shore Drive
231-276-3116 home, char3781@gmail.com

Director: Oral Carper* (Liaison)
3815 East Shore Drive (seasonal)
618-977-0671 cell, owcarper@gmail.com

Director: Char(lene) Hoffman
3844 Peninsular Shores Drive (seasonal)
231-276-0021 home, charh2@gmail.com

Director: John Hubbard* (Hospitality w/John Stuart)
4280 East Shore Drive
231-276-3126 home, jhubbard45@charter.net

Next Board Election: All the Board members serve two-year terms. The four members whose last names are marked with the asterisk (*) have terms ending this year at our 2014 Annual Meeting in September. We still have an urgent need for a candidate who has skill in writing or accounting, and if we discover that you are that person, we'll remind you! We have learned from our experience that you will find this rewarding, especially if you are new here, and want to meet your neighbors. So please reveal your interest to any incumbent Board member by picnic time!

2014 Events

The following events occur in rain or shine. Contact a Board member if you need more information.

- **Peninsula Garage Sale: Saturday, June 7, 9 AM to 4:30 PM.** DLPSA provides newspaper ads (on June 5-6), an announcement sign at the culvert crossing, and direction signs from the main roads. You may choose to participate on your own property.
- **Annual Picnic: Saturday, July 19, 3 to 9 PM at the Park.** This is a free event. Meat is provided, but please bring a dish to share, and your own beverages.
- **Annual Meeting: Sunday, September 7, 3 to 5 PM (2-hour limit) in the DLPSA Park Pavilion.** Four Board members will be elected at this meeting. We strongly encourage new owners on the Board!
- **Remove Boat Ramp Dock: Nov. 1 ± 2 days**

2014 Spring General Meeting

We wish to acknowledge the following active DLPSA members (other than the Board) who attended this year's Spring General Meeting on Saturday, May 4:

Bev Bodary, Gary & Sue Carlsen, Sara Cockrell (welcome back!), Lauri Bouman & Brian McAllister, Matt & Patti Cooper, Rick Hilleary, Paul Seppala, and Cary Staples. Also, in a record 50% turnout of new members: Carrie Banks, Linda Pepper, and Ronald & Diane Ward.

Our meeting day was chilly and gray, but the meeting was mercifully short: 64 minutes, another modern record! You might credit the weather, but we prefer to think that it shows what happy campers we are.

We discussed the deep potholes on Ivan Drive (our private dirt road crossing the Peninsula at waist level), near the intersection with Central Park Drive. Residents bringing their boats to the ramp regularly use this road. Attendees agreed that this was a

DLPSA responsibility, and Duane Lueck volunteered to get at least two estimates for regrading the drive.

We also discussed a resident's request for dog owners to use the DLPSA Park for a once-a-week dog gathering. This would occur within a designated area that they would enclose with a temporary fence. This fence would be dismantled after each use. There was no serious objection to the idea, but the requesting resident was not present, so there was nothing done. According to our policy for projects (see below), an active DLPSA member would need to sponsor the activity and make sure that the gathering area is left clean.

DLPSA Finances

Our Fiscal Year (FY) ends on May 31. You can find the complete report of end-of-FY finances and the FY 2013/14 proposed budget at the DLPSA website.

The FY 2013/14 report was approved at the May 22 Board Meeting, and the proposed budget for FY 2014/15 was approved at the Spring General Meeting.

Cash Balance at start (6-1-2013)	\$ 2,104.84
Total Income	\$17,890.60
Total Expenditures	-\$13,659.68
Cash Balance at 5-22-2014	\$ 6,335.76

DLPSA Fund Balances:

Long Term Improvements	\$10,000.00
Park Improvement Fund	\$ 1,255.00

Income: Reflects dues payment on 197 parcels for the current years, 75 prior years, and 10 advance payments on coming year. We now have participation of 72% of lot owners.

Expenditures: Aside from recurring expenses for maintenance of park and accesses, this included new fencing, posts and signage for the park and all the accesses. It was a year for replacement of locks and keys. Major maintenance costs were for maintaining boat launch and power washing all the courts and playground equipment in the park. An additional \$2,000 was added to our long-term improvements & emergency fund.

Accepted Budget for FY 2014/15:

Income: \$16,145 (with expectation that 72% of lot owners will pay dues)

Expenditures: \$16,005 for recurring expenses and maintenance.

Peninsula Improvements

Completed Projects

New signs for the DLPSA Park and all the lakeside parks (accesses) were completed and installed.

Designs were by Duane Lueck with collaboration of the Board and other active members. Duane constructed the signposts and oversaw their installation.

Current Projects

Signs: We noticed after the "*Lakeside Park*" signs were made that they don't bear the traditional access numbers that have been helpful in the past for reference in discussion. Paul Seppala suggested at the Spring General Meeting that this can be corrected by mounting a "house" number (1 through 4) on the signpost, just under the sign, at each access. Paul Grunberger volunteered to do this.

Fencing: We are continuing to install new fencing at the DLPSA Park horseshoe pits and at selected lakeside parks. Duane Lueck is heading up this work.

Tennis Court: The court had to be power-washed this Spring to remove the slime that accumulated under the leaves and snow. This was a stop-gap measure to make the court playable until more permanent improvements can be made. See below for additional plans.

Boat Ramp: The slabs of the ramp have shifted sideways again, this time about 12-18 inches to the north. They do most winters, despite long vertical reinforcing rods driven through the slabs into the lakebed. The problem is that the lakebed is topped with several feet of muck. The slabs are 12 feet wide, which is definitely wider than a trailer wheelbase, but a wheel off to the side can cause a dramatic tilt. Please keep the lateral shift in mind, and **take care to keep your trailer wheels on the ramp.**

Planned Projects

Regrading: As discussed before, both Ivan Drive and the DLPSA Park entrance road require regrading with addition of gravel to the surface. After receipt of bids, the Board approved this work, and is expecting it to be completed before the Annual Picnic.

Tennis Court and Environs: The court requires repairs, especially at the Northwest corner, which has eroded enough to allow balls to escape under the fence. We need to resurface the court, regrade the slope outside the Northwest corner, and remove some trees at the south end to let in more sunlight.

Simultaneously, we have been exploring the possibility of a strolling/jogging path around the Park perimeter. This would run very close to both the tennis court and the property line, so we would want to coordinate it with the work above. Finally, we need approval of adjacent property owner(s) for either the tree work or the path. This effort is proceeding, and we hope to have an overall plan within a few weeks.

Possible Future Projects

Request for Proposals

We are continuing to look for ideas on how to apply the donated funds that we have set aside for DLPSA Park Improvements. We are especially interested in ideas you are willing to sponsor. (See the Policy for Projects below). As you consider ideas, please keep in mind that (1) ordinary maintenance does not qualify as an improvement, but (2) any improvement could add to ordinary maintenance expenses that would continue indefinitely. If you have a project idea, please notify a Board member, or bring it up at our next open meeting.

Policy for Projects

Members have given plenty of moral support for proposed improvements to the Park, but we need their participation for those that require ongoing efforts. Therefore, we have a policy that proposed projects will require an active DLPSA member to demonstrate that there is an adequate community interest, and chair an improvement committee.

DLPSA Park Reservations

If you are an active member, you may reserve the DLPSA Park for your private party for up to a full day. Since we started doing this a few years ago, several members have arranged parties, and have been happy with the outcome. Here is how it works:

The member contemplating a party may contact any Board member to request a reservation. The DLPSA President shall resolve any conflicts and grant the use of the Park. The grantee shall then make a refundable deposit of \$25 (either cash or check made out to DLPSA) to the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall then issue three hang-tags stating "Private Party Today" to be hung from the signs at each of the three Park entrances. When the party is over, the grantee shall return the hang-tags to the Treasurer. The deposit shall be returned to the grantee as soon as a Board member confirms that the Park is restored to its pre-party condition, which means that we would want to see no significant trace of the event.

Current Bookings

May 31, 2014: Randy & Julia Perrin, family & friends; to celebrate a graduation.

July 27, 2014: Sara Cockrell, family & friends; for Sara's 100-Day Recovery Celebration.

Reminder - Dues & Key Policy

Our official policy on payment of dues and issuance of Peninsula Keys was described comprehensively in the

Fall 2012 Newsletter. We urge you to become familiar with it. If you don't have that Newsletter, it is available on the DLPSA website:

http://webpages.charter.net/dlpsa/dlpsa_newsletters.htm

Trash Collection Update: Almost There!

[updated version for e-mail recipients]

Since 2010, *American Waste* (AW) has been the preferred provider of trash pickup for the Peninsula. AW, a locally-owned and environment-friendly company, has been providing Thursday pickups at \$12/month. (Details of other terms are listed on the DLPSA website.) AW has assured us that there will be no change in rates for the rest of 2014.

To minimize damage to our roads, we have been trying to reduce the number of garbage trucks that visit the Peninsula each week. We have made good progress, and we now understand that AW serves nearly all Peninsula residents. Even if you have had a contract with *Grand Traverse Disposal*, *Waste Management* or *Maple Disposal*, AW has taken over those contracts and is performing your pickups.

Shoreline and *Republic* no longer provide regular pickups here. Anyone who puts out their totes from previous years will generate truck visits, but that is a temporary situation.

AW handles the pickups with two trucks on Thursday, one for recyclables (early), and another for general trash in the large container (after noon). This will continue for the foreseeable future. AW had hoped to allow clients to combine trash for a single pickup, but recent tests at their trash processing facility have shown this to be impractical. The good news is that the facility can separate recyclables into their components (plastic, metals, paper and so on) at 98% efficiency. However, efficiency drops to 10% when recyclables are combined with general trash.

Those few who still contract with *Allied Waste* cause a third weekly truck visit, in this case on Fridays. If you are still using *Allied Waste*, you can have a big impact on our roads just by switching. To check out AW, your contact is the Account Manager, Mr. Patrick (Pat) Cline, whom you may call at 231-624-1550 (cell phone direct), or 231-943-8088 (office).

Peninsula History Search

Your DLPSA Historian is continuing to fill holes in our historical record. We thank Oral Carper for filling out what looks like a complete Newsletter record for 1971-79. The most critical remaining documents are:

- DLPSA Newsletters (a.k.a. *The Islander* or *The Island Informer*), 1966-70 and 1980-2002
- Meeting minutes, 1996-2002
- Treasurer's Reports, 1996-2003

Completion of these records is allowing us to reliably trace community issues back to their beginnings, even to the establishment of the DLPSA.

If you are a long-time resident here, please look in your old files for Peninsula documents that you can part with. As soon as you find something, please contact the DLPSA historian (see above) so that he can cart it away for you, and give it to a grateful home.

Newsletter Bulletin Board

We now have two actual physical Community Bulletin Boards available for your use (one at the Boat Launch entrance, and another at the Peninsula Entrance sign), but this section is still available for your announcements (major events or milestone dates) or for any comments that you want to see in the next edition of the Newsletter. Please send your items to any Board member.

DLPSA Property Damage Update

We are pleased to report that no vandalism has been noticed since Fall. The Board appreciates your continued watchfulness. If you happen to see (or know of) anyone who is doing something potentially destructive, please contact any Board member with the information, so that one of us can have a conversation with an interested parent.

Occasionally, a piece of recreational equipment at the DLPSA Park breaks in normal use. The Board is responsible for equipment maintenance, and asks that you inform a Board member as soon as you notice a failed item.

Special Thanks Corner

We have been delighted to encounter the decorative posters that magically appear at our new Peninsula entrance sign. We want to offer our thanks to **Clair Taglauer** and her TCAPS students, who gave us "Give Thanks" in the fall. The recent appearance "Finally Spring" expressed our sentiments exactly! That one came to us from **Valerie Himick** and her mom, **Joy Staples**, who wanted to express their relief after battling piles of snow well into May.

We also thank **Mrs. Joan Kimmel** for her generous donation of a picnic table for the Park.

New Peninsula Residents

[Do you know anyone who has recently bought a house or lot here, or a renter who has recently moved

in? If so, please notify a Board member. Our Hospitality Committee wants to acknowledge new owners, and welcome new residents.]

We have become aware of these new owners and renters since publication of the Fall Newsletter (11/6/13):

Carrie Banks
3897 White Birch Drive
Resident since December 2013

Tom & Ruth Fischer
3718 Peninsular Shores
Residents since May 2014

Linda B. Pepper
4306 Central Park Drive
Resident since May 2014

Ronald & Diane Ward
4138 Peninsular Shores Drive
Full-time residents since December 2013

In Memory

Sadly, we have a long list for this season. Each day of life is precious, as we are now reminded. We offer our condolences to the families and friends of the following current or former Peninsula residents who have passed away recently:

Osha Fountain
(Mother of Oral Carper)
3815 East Shore Drive
February 27, 2014 (age 100)

Phyllis Graebert
(Mother of Judy Hubbard)
4280 East Shore Drive
December 9, 2013 (age 86)

Mary Lou Henige
4274 East Shore Drive
Died March 1, 2014 (age 87)

Anna Marie Hovsepian
3784 Peninsular Shores Drive
December 2, 2013 (age 88)

Florine Agnes Mort
4024 Peninsular Shores Drive
November 17, 1913 (age 91)

Michael "Mike" Patterson
3875 East Shore Drive
May 1, 2014 (age 58)

Carl D. Reinking
3985 East Shore Drive
December 17, 2013 (age 69)

Shirley J. Rose
4081 Central Park Drive
March 14, 2014 (age 84)

Roy Speer
4103 White Birch Drive
October 27, 2013 (age 87)

Janice Zimmer
4104 East Shore Drive
November 26, 2013 (age 76)

Update: Active DLPSA Member Roster

Your newsletter staff is authorized to list our roster of active DLPSA members in the Newsletter. Our most recent roster was published last Fall, at the end of a season when the Peninsula Keys were changed. Your response over the last year has been awesome, with payers reaching 72% of members,

Bills for FY 2014/15 dues are going out with this Newsletter. The next roster, listing active members who are paid up for FY 2014/15, will go out in the newsletter around November 1. We hope to see you on it!

e-Newsletters Give You Advantages

For faster delivery and high-resolution color, we encourage you to request your Newsletters via e-mail. You will additionally get early notice on meeting agendas and special events.

To date, 95 Peninsula property owners (out of 253) have signed up for e-mail service. If you want your name added, please contact the Treasurer with your e-mail address.

By the way, if you are concerned about junk e-mail, please note that the Board does not share your e-mail address with anyone.

Bear Paws

It all started on the Peninsula's north shore when exposed ground began to appear through the snow. We have only a few tracks and other signs, but we can surmise that one of the several bears that inhabit the lake-edge woods north of Peninsula Shores Drive must have been hungry. He crossed the lake from the east and came ashore to check out a bird feeder at the Fabitz residence. He took it off its 8-foot-high perch on a 4x4 post. Oh, and the post was found on the ground, splintered at the base. Black bears especially favor Sunflower seeds.

Then, it was on to the Patrick Podolan residence. To corroborate our story, we have the following photo courtesy of Patrick from his yard:

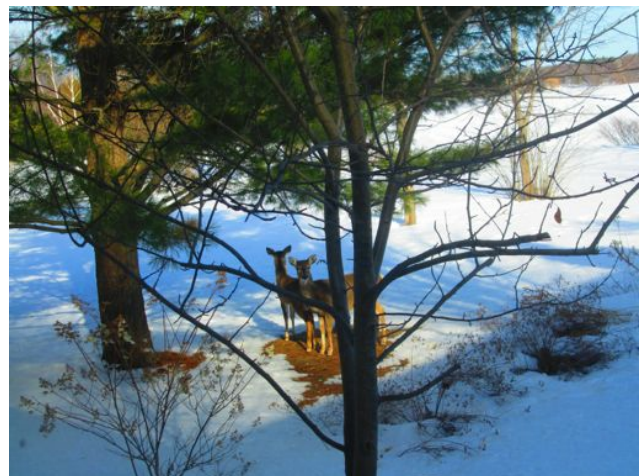
PG: ck, db, dl, ch



If your Newsletter Committee were a Michigander, he could verify that when the paw measures 3 Quarters wide by 4 Quarters long, it's not just a large raccoon.

After that, the bear crossed North Shore Court and walked across the still-frozen canal to the Wilma Elliot residence, where he sacked another bird feeder. Moving up the row, he stopped at the Bruggerman residence to try for a bird feeder that he thought he could get by climbing a tree, but managed only to scratch up the tree trunk. However, he finally found success at the Spence residence, where he took down bird feeder #3. Three good meals -- a successful outing.

Meanwhile, on the Peninsula's East Shore, we had visits from pair of deer over two days. Mostly, they scouted the bare spots for acorns, beechnuts, walnuts or whatever would hold them over.



Here, they are just staring at the photographer (Charlotte Knoll). Before that, the larger one was up on our deck stairs poking at a hanging suet cake. She was too determined to be turned away with mere window banging, so the Newsletter Committee had to go out to protest . . .



. . . but it was an *endeering* visit after such a harsh winter.

To all our friends and neighbors, have a great Summer!

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