

SPRING NEWSLETTER, 28 MAY 2015

DUCK LAKE PENINSULAR SHORES ASSOCIATION (DLPSA)

P. O. Box 344, Grawn, Michigan 49637

(PAUL GRUNBERGER, EDITOR)

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 2014-15

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: 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

Director: Linda Pepper (Liaison)
4306 Central Park Drive
269-254-1603 cell, lbpepper@gmail.com

Next Board Election: All the Board members serve two-year terms. The three members whose last names are marked with the asterisk (*) have terms ending this year at our 2015 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 experience that you will find this rewarding, especially if you are new here, and want to enjoy the benefits of being acquainted

with your neighbors. So, please reveal your interest to any incumbent Board member by picnic time!

2015 Events

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

- **Peninsula Garage Sale:** Saturday, June 6 from 9 AM to 4:30 PM. DLPSA provides newspaper ads (on June 5-6 in the Record-Eagle), 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 18 from 3 to 9 PM (tentative). This is a community event open to all Peninsula residents and their guests. It has traditionally featured free meat (pork and burgers), games and entertainment, with side dishes offered by attendees. It is usually held on the third Saturday in July, as listed above, but be prepared for an update on a sign or circular.
- **Annual Meeting:** Sunday, September 13 from 3 to 5 PM (2-hour limit) in the DLPSA Park Pavilion. Three Board members will be elected at this meeting. If you are a new owner here, we strongly encourage you to join the Board and get acquainted with your community.
- **Remove Boat Ramp Dock:** November 1 ± 2 days

2015 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, Donato Daddario, Lowell Spence, Paulette Lueck, Tom Podolan, Victor Stoeffler, and Jan Zerbelt

This was a lightly-attended and exceedingly amiable meeting that could be taken as a symptom for lack of interest, but we prefer to view it as an indication of how smoothly things are going here!

Our President distributed a substantial list of proposed maintenance and improvement projects, this time with some hard cost estimates. (Please see the meeting agenda and Planned Projects below.) These were discussed along with other development ideas.

A few of the development ideas were enlightening for those of us (like your editor) who have been oblivious to modern trends:

Idea #1 was to add "Pickle Ball" boundary lines on the tennis court. This had been discussed previously, and was approved, pending a specific cost estimate. According to *Wikipedia*, this is a racquet game using solid paddles and whiffle balls. The layout and serving style are similar to badminton, while the game rules and net are similar to tennis. This game didn't even exist until 1965, and now is allegedly "sweeping the country". As a comfort to those who may not want to be "swept away" by all this, we are assured that our tennis court can be marked with boundaries to double as a pickle ball court.

Idea #2 (not finally decided) was to install a "soccer goal" in the Park, situated to perhaps use the north fence of the tennis court as a backstop. This is fascinating! There was a baseball/softball backstop near there until 2009, by which time it had fallen into disuse by residents. Now we have demands from the 2nd generation of their descendants to accommodate a previously-minor sport called soccer in the USA, but known as "football" in every country of the world outside of North America, where it is overwhelmingly popular. Anyway, this is another idea worth considering.

Discussion ended with consensus that the Board should consider and prioritize proposed projects as funds become available.

DLPSA Finances

Our FY ends on May 31. You can find the complete report of end-of-the-year finances and the FY 2015/16 proposed budget at the DLPSA website.

Our financial report as of 5/22/2015 is as follows, with a note on expenses still to be paid for this FY:

Cash Balance at Start (6-1-14)\$6,452.26
Total Income *\$13,913.77
Total Expenses**-\$10,788.41
Cash on Hand (5-23-15)\$9,565.51
Expenses due by end of month ***-\$4,430.00
Anticipated Cash Balance at end of FY\$5,135.51

DLPSA Fund Balances:

Fund for Long Term Improvements:...	\$11,000.00
Park Improvement Fund.....	\$1,255.00

* INCOME: Dues payments on 177 lots, plus 48 dues payments for previous years, 5 lot payments due to changing ownership, and 5 lot payments for the next FY.

** EXPENSES: Since Fall, aside from recurring expenses, we paid \$150 for realignment of the Boat Ramp slabs, \$50 for mosquito treatment at the Park Pavilion and tennis court.

*** EXPENSES DUE:

- \$2,350 to Landscape Mgmt. for spring cleanup
- \$1,320 to Brooks Tree Service for Park tree trimming and \$350 estimated for tree removal from channel and access #2,
- \$58 for well water testing in Park
- \$210 for newsletter and invoice printing and postage
- \$124 for Park portable toilet
- \$18 for Cherryland Electric

Peninsula Improvements

Completed Projects

Park Pruning: In a quick response to a resolution approved at this year's Spring General meeting, the Brooks Tree Service completed the pruning of low-hanging branches around the entire periphery of DLPSA Park, and also along the access road from East Shore Drive.

Boat Ramp: Slabs were re-aligned. They had shifted again, as they do most winters due to the tremendous force of shifting ice, despite long vertical reinforcing rods driven through the slabs into the lakebed. This time, the rods protruded above the slab surface to create a hazard for launchers. The problem is that the lakebed is topped with several feet of muck.

There is no permanent cure for this problem at a reasonable cost, so be aware of the possible shifts, especially in the early spring season. **Please be alert that trailer wheels stay on the ramp, and that the wheels (and your feet) are clear of any protruding rod.**

Planned Projects

Signs: We still need to install numbers on the signposts, just under the signs, at Lakeside Parks 1 through 4, formerly known as "accesses".

Fencing: We are still planning to install new fencing at the DLPSA Park horseshoe pits and volleyball area.

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 plan to resurface the court with both tennis and pickle ball boundary lines, add a retaining wall at the south end, re-grade the slope outside the Northwest corner, install dry-wells for run-off control, and fill sinkholes as they develop from the rotting or corroding of underground construction debris left by the Peninsula developers.

Park Pavilion: We plan to install a ceiling to hide the unsightly roof trusses with their unpaintable gusset plates, and to deny the opportunity for insects and spiders to make a mess there. We have options for material and color that were not finally decided. At the time of this work, we will upgrade the lighting with fixtures designed to give better light, and operate over the year-long outdoor temperature range.

Minor Items for the Park: Power-wash the Pavilion interior, re-grade uneven grass areas, and remove piles of sod we don't need.

Possible Future Projects

Ideas Welcomed

We now have sufficient projects to exhaust the remaining \$1,225 in the Park Improvement Fund. However, we are still interested in your improvement ideas, especially for projects you are willing to sponsor. (See the Policy for Projects below). As you consider ideas, keep in mind that any improvement could add to ordinary maintenance expenses that would continue indefinitely, and that must be included in the cost.

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.

Improved Process for 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. However, the reservation process was found this winter to be a bit clunky, because approval responsibility was split between the President and the Treasurer. Accordingly, the following procedure is adopted:

An active member may contact any DLPSA director to request a Park reservation, but for quickest action should directly contact the Treasurer, who can verify

the member's active status and grant the use of the Park, provided that there are no conflicts with prior arrangements for Park use. 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

June 6, 2015: Dan & Dagny Monette

July 25, 2015: Charlotte Knoll and Paul Grunberger, for a family & friends gathering.

Sept. 5, 2015: Nick & Stephanie Tallidis, for a family event

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

Reminder to Dog Owners

[What newsletter would be complete without a reference to something annoying (or worse) perpetrated by dogs and their owners? Nevertheless, this is an issue about which many of our residents are justifiably sensitive, and for which they plead for your continued attention.]

This is the time of year when our members finally get out to spruce up their yards, to remove debris from their lawns and to spread all kinds of stuff they want there: fertilizer, flowers, pesticide and weed eradicators. The last thing they want to see (or step on) there would be a pile of excrement, especially from a dog that is well fed with the kind of high-protein food that their owners lovingly provide.

So first of all, congratulations to those owners who never allow this to become an issue. It has been suggested that this sets a good example to owners who want to do the right thing. We hope so.

Now to the rest of you: We are sure that you love your dog, and also suspect that you would be upset if someone else's well-fed dog defecated on your street-

side lawn. But just in case you don't mind stepping in it, be assured that most of our members don't like it at all. If you can't direct your dog to an out-of-the-way spot, we ask that you follow up his deed with a scoop and a bag, so that you can yourself appreciate what you are sparing your neighbors.

Special Note: You may not have noticed that the entrance to almost every lakeside access around the Peninsula has a dispenser that invites you to "**Please Take a Doggie Bag**". These bags are supplied by a dog-loving friend of the community who wishes to remain anonymous, and asks only that you take one at a time. What could be more convenient?

How Cold Was It?

We have to share this report with all of our snowbirds, some of whom even contact our year-rounders to be assured that they will encounter no snow or ice on their return. Yes, Winter 2014-15 was the coldest in awhile! It wasn't nearly as snowy as the previous one, but the low temperatures made it exceptional enough to burst pipes that have been intact for decades.

Take a look below at the daily high/low temperature log for February-March 2015 at Munson Hospital, the closest location for which NOAA has a complete record for our winter. We had to clip the table to fit, so please note that "Temperature" is recorded in Fahrenheit degrees.

The table text is small, so here are a few highlights from the data:

- 1) Daily highs dropped below freezing on February 9, not to rise above freezing until 27 days later, on March 8!
- 2) The lowest daily low during this 27-day period was -18F on February 20, although the high on that day was a balmy 1F. For the lowest high for the winter, we have to go to 0.0F on February 16.
- 3) Take a look at the low temperatures for this below-freezing period. The average low was -1.6F.
- 4) Finally, there were seven days with double-digit lows (below -10F). That is exactly seven more than the total since 2009-10!

Sadly, there was no snow or wind on that bright Friday morning when it hit -18F, right at dawn. That would have made it even more fun to be a year-rounder.

DL, JH, CK, LP, CH -pg

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service
Elev: 635 ft. Lat: 44.761° N Lon: 85.644° W
Station: TRAVERSE CITY MUNSON, MI US GHCND:USC00208249

P r e l i m i n a r y	Y e a r	M o n t h	D a y	Temperature	
				24 hrs. ending at observation time	
				Max.	Min.
	2015	2	1	27	11
	2015	2	2	27	4
	2015	2	3	18	3
	2015	2	4	21	12
	2015	2	5	20	7
	2015	2	6	21	8
	2015	2	7	29	18
	2015	2	8	34	24
	2015	2	9	24	13
	2015	2	10	18	10
	2015	2	11	30	11
	2015	2	12	29	5
	2015	2	13	11	0
	2015	2	14	21	7
	2015	2	15	10	-9
	2015	2	16	0	-11
	2015	2	17	17	-3
	2015	2	18	15	-2
	2015	2	19	10	-4
	2015	2	20	1	-18
	2015	2	21	15	-10
	2015	2	22	24	4
	2015	2	23	13	-12
	2015	2	24	16	-12
	2015	2	25	26	4
	2015	2	26	9	-11
	2015	2	27	6	-12
	2015	2	28	18	-9
Summary				18.2	1.0

	2015	3	1	26	-3
	2015	3	2	27	15
	2015	3	3	26	8
	2015	3	4	28	19
	2015	3	5	28	-6
	2015	3	6	28	-6
	2015	3	7	30	6
	2015	3	8	35	13
	2015	3	9	43	12
	2015	3	10	49	29
	2015	3	11	51	30
	2015	3	12	49	26
	2015	3	13	49	30
	2015	3	14	58	35
	2015	3	15	39	32
	2015	3	16	50	31
	2015	3	17	59	28
	2015	3	18	36	24
	2015	3	19	38	20
	2015	3	20	42	20
	2015	3	21	49	32
	2015	3	22	34	13
	2015	3	23	31	14
	2015	3	24	30	16
	2015	3	25	40	16
	2015	3	26	39	32
	2015	3	27	35	13
	2015	3	28	19	8
	2015	3	29	31	7
	2015	3	30	42	26
	2015	3	31	46	28
Summary				38.3	18.3

Alert to Local Ordinances

Privately Posted Signs

The proliferation of advertising signs, especially at the intersection of Peninsular Shores Drive with East Duke Lake Road, has dismayed many of our residents. Their concerns are well justified on an aesthetic basis, but beyond that, the Green Lake Township (GLT) Ordinances address this issue in their Article 6.

For all of us as residents, the only signs permitted on our premises (say, on our street-side lawns) are:

- Political Signs within the 45 days prior to election.
- Real Estate Signs to advertise a sale.

Also, for a resident, the only sign permitted off premises (say, at the intersection mentioned above) is a real estate sign to advertise an open house connected with a sale.

That brings us to the question: What kind of sign is legal to a private party for any purpose other than the above, on or off premises? The answer is NONE! If you are bothered a temporary sign advertising something like insect treatment or snow plowing, what can you do about it? Apparently, you can't legally remove it yourself, but you can call our Zoning Administrator, Kristi Baker, at (231) 276-9329. She is "authorized to cause removal" under Article 6.4C.

Noise Disturbances

With the busy time of the year under way on Duck Lake, you may wonder what you can do if you are disturbed by unreasonable noise-making. The GLT Noise Ordinance #03-01-05 (established in 2005) provides you with some specific relief, and also some protection against retaliation for a complaint. Check it out at the GLT website: <http://greenlaketownship.org>

Peninsula History

Did you know that the *Wah-be-ka-ness (Duck Lake) Improvement Association* was founded in 1959? Details from those days are sketchy, and the DLPSA Historian (on behalf of us all) would appreciate any information you have. The one (undated) Association letter we have is from its President, John Tresize (a current Peninsula resident), announcing a meeting where control of swimmers itch and Canadian geese were to be discussed.

More on-topic, we now have sufficient documents to enlighten us about the early years of the Duck lake Peninsula. Here are some early DLPSA Newsletter announcements:

49 Years Ago

DLPSA Newsletter, July 1966. [Earliest one we have -ed] LAKE EASEMENT in Section 3 [now the William Happ Boat Ramp - ed]: At a meeting of the Board of Directors last fall, it was decided that an organized effort be made to improve this easement for launching boats, and that the cost be borne by those using it."

44 Years ago

DLPSA Newsletter, 1971. "The first news item is an Old Fashioned Picnic to be held on the peninsula on Saturday, July 10. Everyone is invited; this is a family affair!! Bring your own table service and something good to pass. ... Picnics are fun!"

40 Years Ago

December 1975 - Your President's Letter: "We finally succeeded in becoming a non-profit corporation. The DLPSA articles of incorporation were filed officially on the 21st day of October, 1975. Total cost to the Association was \$20.00 - the fee for filing. The work was done by your board without a lawyer's service ...

"Central Park [the area we now call DLPSA Park] has been cleared and rough graded. ... Special thanks to Ivan Schworm who gave so generously of his time and heavy equipment. ... Next year we plan to begin the final phase of development of [DLPSA Park] into the Associations recreational area and playground. Plans and layouts will be made this spring. ... Sincerely, William P. Happ, President, DLPSA"

Recurring Themes

The "Complaint Era" for Newsletter content began in May 1977 with -- you guessed it -- "Dogs: All dogs on the Island should be contained unless accompanied by owner." That was a mild one. Since then, a nearly continuous stream of complaints has popped up in nearly every issue to this day. Most are not original: overnight roadside parking of trailers, many of the things that dogs do, and some of the things that kids do. Here's a unique one from 1983: "The throwing of various items such as eggs at personal property. Please have a discussion with your children ... "

Let's stop here, and not revive any more traditional ideas for pranks. We'll cover some of the more-recent history in a future issue.

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 remains available for your announcements. Please send your items to the newsletter editor.

Mah Jongg in the Park: We will play Mah Jongg in the Park Pavilion every Wednesday at 6-9 pm. All are welcome. Bring your 2015 card and game if you have it. If you are new, come! Extra cards available till you decide to order one.

Shuffleboard Lessons: Offered on Tuesday mornings in June. Arrange through John Stewart at 941-400-6480.

New Peninsula Owners & Residents

[We are usually notified of ownership changes by local title companies or by the Township. However, if you know of a renter who has recently moved in, please notify a Board member. Our Hospitality Committee wants to welcome new residents.]

Joseph & Patricia Calabrese
4159 East Shore Drive
Owners as of 3/27/15, from Ina Michigan

Dennis & Mary Chappel
3962 Peninsular Shores Drive
Owners since April 2015

Katherine R. Hoffman
3842 White Birch Drive
Resident since 12/18/2014

David & Joey Turner
3656 Central Park Drive
Owners since 4/29/2015, from Bloomfield Hills, MI

Roger Send
3969 White Birch Drive
Owner since 9/17/14, from Traverse City

In Memory

[We occasionally miss death notices, so please notify the Newsletter editor if you become aware of a resident who has recently passed away.]

We offer our condolences to the families and friends of the following current or former Peninsula residents who have passed away recently:

- Thomas William Fisher, 75, Husband of Ruth at 3718 Peninsular Shores Drive, on 10/19/2014
- Katheryn M. Hammer, 98, of 3683 Central Park Drive, on 3/26/2015
- Janet Spence, 72, wife of Lowell at 3742 Peninsular Shores Dr. on 12/18/2014
- Vera Margery Steffler, 87, wife of Bill Steffler of 3786 East Shore Drive, on 1/31/2015

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 which time we promised that we would additionally list those active members who, for a variety of reasons, did not appear there. Here, with appreciation of your support for our work, is our supplemental list of active members through FY 2014-15:

Carnes, Thomas	4259	Central Park Dr.
Ponzio, Diane	4127	East Shore Dr.
Monette, Dan & Dagney	3767	Peninsular Shores Dr.
Allendorph, Lewis & Anna	3814	Peninsular Shores Dr.
McCormick, Colleen & Brian	3836	Peninsular Shores Dr.
Chamberlain, Kenneth	4007	Peninsular Shores Dr.
Chamberlain, Kenneth	4015	Peninsular Shores Dr.
Dyke, Gary & Susan	4068	Peninsular Shores Dr.
Zerbel, Jan	3855	White Birch Dr.

Bills for FY 2015/16 dues are going out with this Newsletter. The next roster, listing active members who are paid up for FY 2015/16, will go out in the Fall Newsletter on about November 5, 2015. We hope to see you on it!

Special Notes About Newsletters

An Appreciation

Our President, Duane Lueck, has donated his labor, materials, and the use of his printer to the production of our semi-annual newsletter for the last many years. Now that we are transitioning to a commercial printing service (in part due to the demands of photographic rendition), we have become aware the value of Duane's contribution over those years. We now expect our commercial printing bills to go from \$0 to around \$300 per year, enough to equal or exceed our costs for stamps and envelopes. We think it is appropriate to acknowledge this donation by Duane before it becomes forgotten. Thank you, Duane, for your continuing work on our behalf!

Advantages for e-Newsletter Receivers

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

To date, 95 Peninsula property owners (out of 252) have signed up for e-mail service. If you want your name added, please contact the Treasurer or Newsletter editor 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.

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