

SPRING 2024 NEWSLETTER

D.L.P.S.A



WANT TO SEE OR SHARE POSITIVE INFORMATION?

Join and monitor the Facebook Site "The Daily Duck." The Daily Duck was established to connect with Duck Lake Peninsula community members in a positive manner.

KEEP UP ON WHAT'S HAPPENING

News and events will be posted on our website at DLPSA.net. We also send valuable information via e mail. If you'd like to be included, please provide Kathy Bickel, katbic55@gmail.com, with your email.

WOULD YOU LIKE A COPY OF OUR TREASURER'S REPORT

Contact Kathy Bickel, katbic55@gmail.com

2024 UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

- **April 13, 2024 (On or Around) | Install Tennis/Pickle Ball Net**
- **April 13, 2024 (On or Around) | Install Boat Ramp Dock**
- **May 18, 2024 | Spring General Meeting | 5:00 PM**
Schworm Park Pavilion (followed by a bonfire, if there's interest)
- **May 31, 2024 | Annual Membership Payments Due**
- **June 1, 2024 | Peninsula Garage Sale | 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM**
DLPSA Provides Record-Eagle Ads May 30 & 31
- **June 15, 2024 | Whiffle Ball Game (Adults vs. Youths)**
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Schworm Park
- **June 20, 2024 | Summer Solstice Celebration | 8:00 PM**
Sunset Beach Park
- **July 4, 2024 | Peninsula Parade | 10:00 AM Start**
Schworm Park
- **July 20, 2024 | Annual DLPSA Picnic | 3:00 PM – 10:00 PM**
Schworm Park | This is a community event open to all Peninsula residents, their families and quests. Special thanks to Jeff Beaton, Tom Fabatz & Scott Hocking.
- **July 27, 2024 | Whiffle Ball Game (Adults vs. Youths)**
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Schworm Park
- **August 17, 2024 | Whiffle Ball Game (Adults vs. Youths)**
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Schworm Park
- **September 7, 2024 | Annual Meeting | 5:00 PM**
Schworm Park Pavilion
- **September 22, 2024 | Autumnal Equinox Meet & Greet | 7:00 PM**
Sunset Beach Park
- **October 26, 2024 | Trunk-or-Treat | 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**
Schworm Park
- **November 4, 2024 | Removal of Tennis/Pickle Ball Net**
- **November 9, 2024 | Removal of Boat Ramp Dock**

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Duck Lake Peninsula Residents. We're looking forward to warmer weather to see our neighbors, friends and community members out enjoying this wonderful community. I'm hopeful many of you are taking advantage of the numerous facilities available throughout the Peninsula and Schworm Park.

Please refer to the Upcoming Events Calendar for details on our planned 2024 events. The annual Spring General Meeting is scheduled for May 18. The Peninsula Garage Sale is set for Saturday, June 1. We'll look forward to our annual July 4th Peninsula Parade. We have added dates for some fun Whiffle Ball games in Schworm Park. It will be the adults against our much younger residents. We had fun at our first game last Summer and hope for greater participation from the adults this year. For future updates on events, please visit our website DLPSA.net periodically.

Invoices for our annual Association Dues for 2024-2025 from Treasurer, Kathy Bickel, will be going out soon. Please provide payment by May 31, 2024. PayPal is now available as an option for payment. Please reach out to Kathy with any questions in this regard. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

One of the keys to building a strong community is to assure all current and especially new members feel welcomed. If you have a new neighbor or know of anyone new to the Peninsula, please make sure that I or another Board Member are aware of them. We monitor the sale and purchase of property here, but it doesn't hurt to have other means to assure no one is overlooked. New residents receive a welcome packet and are made aware of all the wonderful amenities available on the Peninsula.

We continue to receive complaints or frustration from our community members with speeding, dogs

not on leashes, dog waste not properly handled or disposed of, kids on golf cars, misuse of Park facilities, etc. Please do your best to assure you're not contributing to these concerns. If you have an issue with a chronic speeder, call the Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Office, attention Sheriff Mark Nofke, at (231) 995-5000. With dog or animal issues please contact Traverse City Animal Control at (231) 995-6080. For those pet owners walking your dog(s) please don't make others responsible to clean-up after your pet.

Thank you for your time in reviewing our Spring Newsletter. On behalf of myself and your Board Members, our primary goal is to make your time on the Peninsula special and enjoyable. If you have any thoughts or ideas that you feel would improve life on the Peninsula, please do not hesitate to get with any of your Board Members.

Let's have a great summer on Duck Lake and the Peninsula!

SUPPORT LOCAL INTERLOCHEN BUSINESSES

The Interlochen State Park is planned to be closed this Summer. It will be important that area residents consider supporting local businesses that will be impacted by the lack of Park tourists. Places like Bud's, Hoffbrau, Cicero's Pizza, Interlochen Party Store, etc., will need your support. And, if you're not aware, there is a Farmer's Market, across from Tom's Market, every Sunday. Please check it out if you have a chance. We're confident Interlochen businesses will appreciate your patronage.

YOUR BOARD MEMBERS



President: Ken Schonhoff
3956 Peninsular Shores Drive
(313) 300-2132 | schonhoffken@gmail.com



Vice President: Paul Johnson
4076 Peninsular Shores Drive
(269) 767-1826 | pljohnson4723@comcast.net



Treasurer: Kathy Bickel
4019 White Birch Drive
(231) 645-6476 | katbic55@gmail.com



Secretary: Cynthia Howard
3961 Central Park Drive
(231) 342-9764 | cynton@gmail.com



Maintenance Chair: David Marsh
3754 Peninsular Shores Drive
(810) 444-1400 | dmarsh1@chartermi.net



Liaison/Website: 'Ken'neth Chamberlain
3970 Peninsular Shores Drive
(517) 881-5594 | kenc@fnwusers.com



Newsletter: Jeff Beaton
7858 North Shore Court
(231) 492-5449 (home) | jbeaton@wmsdist.com

RESIDENT DIRECTORIES

Please refer to our website DLPSA.net

WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS!

Joshua & Taylor Wheaton
3870 East Shore Drive

REMEMBRANCE

Gina Windnagle
7804 North Shore Court
January 8, 2024

Cookie McCullough (former resident)
January, 2024

SCHWORM PARK FACILITIES

The Tennis, Pickle Ball and Shuffleboard Courts are some of our premier assets on the Peninsula and need to be treated as such. These courts are for the explicit use of tennis, pickle ball or shuffleboard only. We've had instances where there have been children playing on the courts with bicycles, skateboards or other wheeled toys, which must be prohibited for their safety and protection of these valued properties. Everyone's assistance to assure there is no misuse of these courts is greatly appreciated.

WANT TO RESERVE THE PARK PAVILION?

Schworm Park & the Pavilion are available to community members for special occasions. To reserve these assets look at the "General Information" page on DLPSA.net for open dates. Contact Ken Chamberlain at (517) 881-5594 or email kenc@fnwusers.com to reserve your date & time.



IMPORTANT: WATCH YOUR SPEED!

The posted speed limit on all Peninsula roads, past the narrows, is 25 MPH. Our streets are our sidewalks. It's one of the many pleasures of living on the Peninsula enjoyed by walkers, runners, cyclists, golf cars, pets on leashes, etc. Speeding and disobeying the stop signs on Central Park Drive, especially the intersection of Ivan Drive, which are private roads, is a major concern. There are many children along Central Park. HELP KEEP OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS SAFE! Please do your part by watching your speed. Report any habitual speeders to the Grand Traverse Sheriff's Department.

BOAT LAUNCH USAGE

The State Park will be closed the majority of this upcoming summer season. This means the State Park Boat Launch will not be available for use to local residents, tourists, or other Duck Lake homeowners. Subsequently, we'll have other lakefront owners and visiting boaters looking to use the only other launch on Duck Lake, which is our Peninsula Launch. We'll need everyone to be vigilant in securing the chain and lock at the launch accordingly. As will be the case for your Board Members, if you pass by the launch and notice the chain & lock is not secured, please take the time to lock it up.

If you have an outside source delivering your boat or needing access to the launch to install your dock or hoist(s), you should meet them at the launch to unlock it. And, assure the lock is secured when they leave. You're welcome to have friends and other family members use our launch but, it is expected residents will accompany anyone in doing so. Space for parking is very limited. If you could consider taking your vehicle and trailer back to your residence it would be very helpful. In those situations where that is not possible, please be respectful of the property owners near the launch and never block access to any of our roads, especially Ivan Drive.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

To assist needed ambulance, fire department and/or emergency response to your home, especially in the overnight hours, please place reflective house numbers near the road or near your mailbox post. Green & white reflective house number signs can be obtained from the Green Lake Township Fire & Rescue in Interlochen. There is a \$20 fee.

DONATE BLOOD & SAVE LIVES

The Jeff Tweedie Memorial 3rd Annual Blood Drive, son of Henri & Tom Fabatz, will be held Monday, May 13, from 11:00 am – 6:15 pm, at the Landscape Management Offices, 3143 Mason Road, Grawn, MI. The Drive Goal is 33 blood products. This drive is coordinated through Versiti Blood Center of Michigan. Be a part of the amazingly ONLY 5% of the population that donates blood. Versiti supplies much-needed blood to local hospitals in the community where it is donated. On behalf of Henri Fabatz, thank you for your support!

MISPLACED YOUR BOAT LAUNCH OR PARK FACILITIES KEY?

Contact Paul Johnson, (269) 767-1826 or pljohnson14723@comcast.net. Paul's address is 4076 Peninsular Shores Drive. If you can't get in touch with Paul his wife Cathy would be glad to assist at (269) 639-7999.



KNOW THE BASICS

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

1. Always walk facing traffic and try to be as far away from the traffic as possible.
2. Be as visible as possible, especially during sunrise and sunset where glare can be problematic for drivers. Wear bright clothing during the day and reflective materials or lights/flashlight at night.
3. Keep alert at all times. Don't be distracted by electronic devices/cell phones that take your eyes or ears off the road or your surroundings.
4. Watch for vehicles in all directions including those turning left or right at our intersections.
5. Never assume a driver sees you as there's a good chance they're not paying full attention. Try to make eye contact with drivers to assure you are being seen.
6. Watch for vehicles entering or exiting driveways.
7. Be mindful of the many golf cars traveling our streets.
8. Avoid anything that might impair your abilities or judgment when enjoying our streets.
9. If you see habitual speeders bring them to the attention of the Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Office by calling (231) 995-5000.



SHORT-TERM RENTALS ARE PROHIBITED

One of the greatest concerns or potential annoyances to our community members is living next to a property that might be used as a short-term rental. Short-term rentals, less than 30 days, is in violation of both Section A & C of our Protective Covenants. Section A states "lots shall be used exclusively for residential purposes." Section C says "no commercial enterprise or business of any nature shall be carried on upon any lot nor shall anything be done thereon which may be or become an annoyance or nuisance to the neighborhood."

JOINING THE GREEN LAKE AND DUCK LAKE ASSOCIATION

We are very fortunate to have the Green Lake and Duck Lake Association (GLADLA) protecting our lake. And, equally fortunate to have three residents on the Peninsula on the Board of Directors of this Association, including their new President, Paul Johnson. The GLADLA regularly tests water quality, monitors and treats the lakes for invasive weed species and provides community outreach & environmental education on water quality. Of course, funding is always an important aspect of maintaining a successful association. Please consider becoming a GLADLA Member with an annual donation of \$25. To become a member, visit their website at www.GLADLA.org. As a member you'll receive periodic newsletters on important related watershed information.

JULY 4TH PENINSULA PARADE

We're looking forward to our annual 4th of July parade around the Peninsula. This event just keeps getting better every year. We'll have continued support from the Green Lake Fire & Rescue Team, as well as the Grand Traverse Sheriff's Department. Everyone is welcome to participate whether on foot, bicycles, golf cars, classic automobiles, tractors, etc., proudly decorated in red, white and blue! We're always grateful to celebrate and recognize the many veterans in our community. Please join us at the Pavilion in Schworm Park no later than 9:45 am. The parade will start at 10:00 am. There will be refreshments and candy for the kids to toss out along the route. If you're not able to join the parade, please come out on your street-side yard or driveway to cheer on those participating and salute our veterans.



PARK BENCHES MEMORIAL OPPORTUNITY

We have a number of benches at our various parks and along the canal that are available to have a Memorial Plaque placed on them. The cost is \$400 for each memorial and will be used to acquire additional benches, if deemed necessary. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Kathy Bickel or Ken Schonhoff. If you would like to see some examples of this, there are benches at Sandy Shores Park, North Beach Park, South Beach Park and near the Tennis Court that contain memorial plaques.

MANAGING PETS ON THE PENINSULA

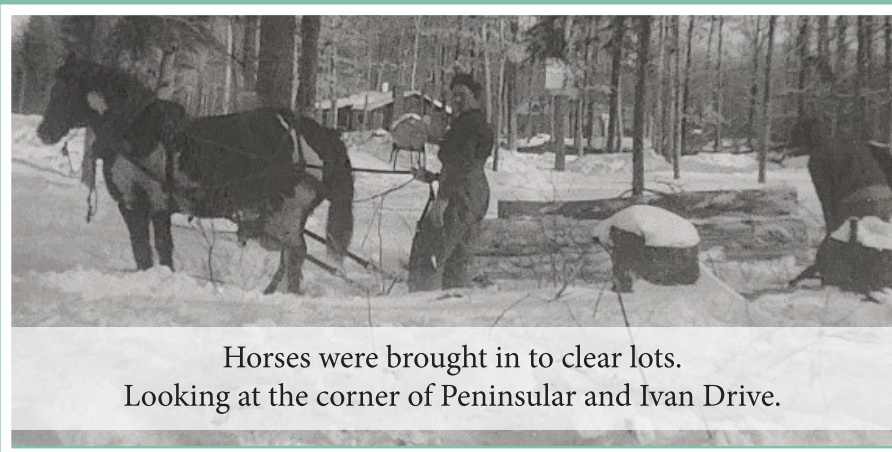
We've had complaints regarding dogs not on leashes and freely roaming Peninsula properties. The State of Michigan has a Leash Law that requires all dogs to be on a leash, which means the dog owner is required to enforce this law by keeping their animal securely on a leash and under control in public areas. Dog owners should also be reasonably responsible to clean up after their pets. There are dog clean-up bags available at all the Parks. These bags should be used and deposited in the owners trash, NOT LEFT ON PUBLIC PROPERTY ON THE PENINSULA! It should not be the responsibility of others to remove these filled bags from areas along the canal, at the boat launch or other access areas. C'mon dog owners, this should not need be an issue!

BLAST FROM THE PAST HISTORY OF DUCK LAKE PENINSULA

Long before Duck Lake Peninsula became a residential community, the surrounding land between Green and Duck Lakes was covered by white and Norway pines and inhabited by two Indian tribes. Duck Lake was called Wahbekaness, meaning “Water Linger”, and Green Lake was called Wahbekanetta, meaning “Water Lingers again”.

Duck Lake consists of 1,930 acres of water, 837.3’ above sea level. The lake bottom is sand, soft clay and spots of gravel. The deepest point in the lake is 98’ deep near the south-central part of the lake. During the early lumber days, timber would be transported across the lake to the sawmill owned by Wylie Cooperate Mill. There are many stories of teams of wagons, horses, lumber and men going through the ice while lumbering the island. People still find relics from the olden days, including logging chains and old washed-out planks.

Duck Lake Peninsula was originally owned by Louise Sands, Inc., a lumber company. It was an island, inaccessible except by boat. When the lumber and sawmill closed down in 1917, Lyle Brigham eventually bought the Peninsula for \$ 3,000. In 1944, due to default of payment, Duck Lake Peninsula was purchased from the Detroit Bank by Russell & Grace Erwin, Edgar & Louise Kight and Ivan and Mildred Schworm for development. The Peninsula was wild, and the beginning roads were constructed of logs being laid down next to each other. In 1946, Ivan Schworm filled the road with dirt and gravel and connected the Peninsula to the mainland. This is now the culvert we drive over every day. This road washed out many times due to the unregulated water level, so a trench was dug, and a tube installed to prevent the water flow disruption. In 1950, Ivan filled in the land on the Peninsula so it wouldn’t be swampy, using the bottom of the lake along the east shore of the Peninsula as fill. In 1957, the Grand Traverse Road Commission took over Peninsular Shores Drive as a public road when the Peninsula was platted into lots for sale. As demand increased, more of the Peninsula was platted, roads were paved, improvements made, and today there are 290 platted lots.



Horses were brought in to clear lots.
Looking at the corner of Peninsular and Ivan Drive.



Bickel boys with Paul Johnson.
Imagine running barefoot and carefree
back in the day. (circa 1960)

The Schworm family was the first year-round residents on the Peninsula. A few small cottages were built for vacationing and in 1948, Melvin (Tiny) and Betty Bickel became the 2nd permanent residents. Living in the original cabin while they built their house, Melvin went to work for Ivan Schworm until his retirement. There was only the two-track road leading in, no mail delivery or phone service. Betty always said it was the best place to live and raise a family. In the winter of 1962, Mr. Bickel worked the crane that dug the canal on the north side of the Peninsula to open up lots on the canal and the north side. The sludge and fill from the digging was hauled and dumped along the canal on the north side of the Peninsula.

We thank the dedicated and resourceful men who envisioned a beautiful place to live we now call home.