



# Pentwater Lake Association

## July 2016

### *New President's Message* by Lynne Cavazos

For over fifty years, Pentwater was my “home away from home.” Every summer from the time I was 7, my family moved from Hart to Pentwater to our cottage by Charles Mears State Park. In 1979, my parents sold the cottage by the State Park and purchased property on Pentwater Lake. Like many of us who spent summers in Pentwater, I had dreams of coming back to Pentwater when I retired. In 2006, I made my dream a reality and built a new home on Pentwater Lake and became a year-round resident. Now my “love of the lake” extends to all four seasons – what a joy for me every day of the year!

In 2008, I was elected as a Board Member on the Pentwater Lake Association (PLA) and served on the PLA Board for six years. During those six years, I was the Social Chairperson helping to organize the Annual Dinner Meeting and the Strawberry Social and also served as the Vice President. I thoroughly enjoyed being on the Board and working with an amazing group who are dedicated and concerned about the welfare of the lake. In 2015, when the opportunity arose, I came back on the PLA Board for another three-year term to continue on as the Social Chairperson and the Vice President. After seven years on the PLA Board, it is my pleasure to be the new President of the Lake Association for the 2016-2017 year and I still get to keep the Social Chairperson position.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank three of our board members who have completed their terms at this year's annual meeting. Bill Bainton served as the President for the 2015-16 year and was outstanding in his role as spokes person for the Association. Valerie did an extraordinary job as secretary for the board taking on this role for all three years of her term. Rhonda Shotwell handled all of the publicity for the Board and held that position for her three-year term. I would also like to welcome our three new board members: Candi Goldman, Pat Hooyman, and Joe Primozych who were elected at the June Annual Membership Meeting.

Continued on page 2

### Inside this issue:

New President's Message	1-2
Thank You, Ken	2
Annual Dinner Meeting	3
Homecoming Events	6
News Around Town	10-11
Boater Safety Rules	12
Lake Fishery	13

*“A lake is the  
landscape's  
most beautiful  
and  
expressive feature.  
It is earth's eye,  
looking  
into which  
the beholder  
measures the depth  
of his own nature.”*

*Written in 1854  
by  
Henry David Thoreau*

## *New President's Message* by Lynne Cavazos

Continued from page 1

As members of the Pentwater Lake Association, there are a variety of ways for you to get involved and demonstrate not only your love of Pentwater Lake but also the branches of the Pentwater River, the watershed, and the "Big Lake." Please feel free to contact me or one of the board members to find out what volunteer opportunities are available throughout the year.

Please encourage your friends and neighbors to join the Pentwater Lake Association. You do not have to live on the lake to be actively involved in maintaining and improving the quality of the lake and the surrounding habitats. We encourage everyone who loves Pentwater to adopt our motto and demonstrate her/his "Love of the Lake."



## **New PLA Officers Elected**

Congratulations to the newly elected Pentwater Lake Association board for the 2016-2017 year!

***President, Lynne Cavazos***

Vice-President, Joe Primozych

Secretary, Candi Goldman

Treasurer, George Richey

Terms of Office for the Board of Directors:

*Until June 2017* – Bob Forester, Ellen Lightle, Mac McCaleb

*Until June 2018* – Lynne Cavazos, Tom Osborn, George Richey

*Until June 2019* – Candi Goldman, Patrick Hooyman, Joe Primozych

## *"Thank You Ken Lindstrom"*

Ken Lindstrom, one of the original founders of the Pentwater Lake Association, is handing over the reins of his many duties to others this year. Since the inception of the Association twenty-one years ago, Ken has maintained the principle office of the PLA at his home and maintained the complete books and records of account there. During the past two decades, he has also served as treasurer, has assisted many membership chairs, and served many years on the Water Quality Committee.

At the annual dinner meeting, outgoing President Bill Bainton stated that "it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to fill Ken's shoes." The board has chosen to honor him with a \$75 gift certificate to Scotty's Restaurant in Ludington (one of his favorites) as a small token of appreciation for all he has accomplished and given to the PLA.

Ken's legacy is a strong and vibrant organization that serves over 200 families each year, and is dedicated to leaving Pentwater Lake and its environs a better place for future generations. We are all indebted to this humble man for his generous gifts of time and talent in working so hard "for the love of the lake" these many years!

THANK YOU

## Annual Dinner Meeting and Celebration by Ellen Lightle

On Friday, June 17, 2016, over seventy people attended the Pentwater Lake Association annual meeting and dinner held at St. Vincent's Church. People were treated to a delicious array of appetizers, entrees, salads, and desserts prepared by Suzanne Hutchings. Bill Bainton, president of PLA, welcomed guests to the twenty-first annual dinner. Anna Mae Bush gave the invocation, sharing her appreciation of our natural surroundings with lyrics from an Isaac Watts song and a blessing before the meal.



After the dinner, Bill Bainton called the formal business meeting to order. He introduced past PLA presidents and the current board of directors. Bill noted that Rhonda Shotwell, publicity chairman, and Valerie Church-McHugh, secretary, would both be finishing their terms on the board. He thanked them for their service. Last year's annual meeting minutes and the treasurer's report were both approved. Committee reports for the newsletter, water quality, natural resources, social, and website were given. The slate of new nominees for the board was presented: Candi Goldman, Pat Hooyman, and Joe Primozich will replace outgoing members. Bill Bainton then announced that the PLA was giving a Scotty's Restaurant gift certificate to Ken Lindstrom in honor of his many years preparing financial reports for the board.

Next, Lynne Cavazos introduced and welcomed the guest speaker Valerie van Heest, underwater explorer, historian, and author from Holland, Michigan. Valerie presented "Caught in the Vortex," her story of the Armistice Day Storm of 1940. She gave background on the weather conditions of that historic day and the tragic events that unfolded, causing three ships to sink near Pentwater, resulting in the deaths of sixty-four people. She then detailed her search for the *Anna C. Minch*, *Novadoc*, and *Davock*. During the summer of 2015, as the 75th anniversary of the storm approached, her team of explorers was able to locate all three ship wrecks; in particular to bring closure to the families of two of the victims.



At the conclusion of the evening's events, Lynne Cavazos recognized Caroline Denlar's hard work for the PLA with some special notecards created by Barb Siok, of Pentwater scenes. Tickets were then drawn for door prizes and the fresh-flower centerpieces, created by Caroline Denlar. The evening concluded with well wishes for a great summer on our lake.



## **Fish Stories: How Much Schooling Should You Have? By Joe Primozich**

Schooling was a natural part of our progression into life's role. For fish it is the same. Some fish school all their lives such as perch, smelt, and alewives. Yes, the prey species are more likely to school for safety. The predators are not so likely to school up after the fry stage and so the pike and muskie are classic examples of that. Is schooling inherent? What habitat is critical to survival of the young or fry? Do parents help the schooling process? The following example of a Pentwater large-mouth bass will give you the answers.

A Pentwater riparian gave me a call on June 17<sup>th</sup> to tell me that the bedding bass pair had just had a volleyball size school of fry emerge from the sandy bed they had developed and guarded (against suckers and carp foraging for any bottom food supplies such as eggs). The black ball of fry were still around the bed in the open, in three feet of water, and I should come over.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> day of age the pattern had changed. One parent was circling the nearby cattails and weeds. We noticed the fish pattern was the same and so by looking closely, we could see the fry. Now they were in loose groups of 50 or more, and maybe 150 by our estimate. The panfish nearby were not chased away by the parent bass. But she seemed diligent about corralling the fry and keeping them in the aquatic vegetation. (A parent's instinct I'm sure.) The assumption was that the other bass parents moved their fry into the lily pads or deeper vegetation, as we could not spot them.

The schools of bass fry will continue for a while until they become predators themselves and feed off the sand shiners, gobies, or minnows of the shoreline. So, congratulations to both large-mouth bass parents: you were a big success this spring and you added another piece to the Pentwater Lake fishery.

Pentwater Lake is listed in newspapers and magazines as a destination  
for crappie and bass fishing in Michigan!

## **Fishin' & Catchin' Around Pentwater: by Joe Primozich**

### **Best Catches in or around Pentwater:**

The following, by species, are the best catches over the last three months. The listing includes information from the Pentwater Sportfishing Association.



King Salmon -	17.05 #
Coho Salmon-	3 #
Steelhead Trout-	12 #
Lake Trout-	12 # (caught by Ben Gabbard near Little Point Sauble)
Small Mouth Bass-	16 " (caught off Longbridge)

### **DNR Net Sampling:**

The DNR Fisheries Division has been net sampling on Pentwater Lake for a fish survey from June 6 to June 10. Following are the top catches in each category:

Brown Trout-	8 pounds
Northern Pike-	39 inches
Walleye-	14 inches
Gar Pike-	12 inches
Perch-	12 inches



**Pentwater Sportfishing Association**  
**32<sup>st</sup> Annual Memorial Weekend Derby**  
**May 28 – 30, 2016**

<u><b>King Salmon</b></u>	<u><b>Lake Trout</b></u>	<u><b>Brown Trout</b></u>	<u><b>Steelhead Trout</b></u>
Just Fishin' – 16.35# Royal Green -	Topless Tailcatcher – 11.00# Eric Golembiewski – Ludington	Palm Beach – 2.20# Ron Bacon – Williamston	Fish Lion – 12.10# Don Davidson - Pentwater
Topless Tailcatcher — 16.25# Eric Golembiewski— Ludington	Grey Fin – 8.50# Gary Hickman – Pentwater	Topless Tailcatcher – 5.70# Eric Golembiewski— Ludington	Zephyr – 9.90# Rodney Keith - Muskegon
Compromise —15.90# James Wallace	Dean's Dream – 8.00# Dean Jessup - Pentwater		Beatitude – 9.55# Jerry Chesness - Hart
Fish Story – 15.80# Fred Duncan – Shelby	Fish Story – 6.85# Fred Duncan - Shelby		Sculpin – 8.65# Al Belson – Howard City
Bushman – 14.50# Tim Bowmeyer	Beatitude – 5.75# Jerry Chesness - Hart		No Slack – 8.35# Chris Cummings - Jackson
Fish Eagle – 14.50# Steve Sauser - Pentwater	Zephyr – 5.40# Rodney Keith – Muskegon		Topless Tailcatcher – 7.60# Eric Golembiewski - Ludington

The 2016 Memorial Weekend Derby results are in, and the 42 boats entered enjoyed a great weekend of fishing, with the above winners (1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Places) dividing up over \$4700 in awards value, along with consolation prizes for all others.

(Information provided by Dean Jessup, PSA Treasurer)



**Grand Prize: 17.05 # King Salmon – ‘Dipsey Dew ‘– David Organ, Ludington**

# **PENTWATER'S 87th HOMECOMING EVENTS\***

## **August 11—14**

**This year's theme is "Pentwater Outdoors." Come back home and enjoy the 2016 Homecoming Celebration!**

**Many activities and events  
are planned for your enjoyment  
again this year:**

### **Thursday, August 11:**

**Pentwater Township Cemetery Tours, Township Cemetery, 1-4 PM**  
**Pentwater Lake Association Strawberry Shortcake Social, Village Green, 6-8 PM**  
**Les Bailey Memorial Band Concert, Village Green, 7:30 PM**  
**Teen Dance, Tent behind the Village Café, 9:00 PM—12 AM**

### **Friday, August 12:**

**Sand Sculpture Contest at Charles Mears State Park, 8:00 AM to Noon**  
**MSU Alumni Golf Scramble, Lakeside Links Golf Club, 1:00 PM shotgun start**  
**Cancer & Critical Care Fund Beach Volleyball Tournament, Mears State Park, 10:00 AM**  
**Live Concert, Tent behind the Village Café, 7-9 PM**

### **Saturday, August 13:**

**Horseshoe Tournaments, Art Audrey Memorial Horseshoe Pits, Fire Barn**  
**Registration 9:00 AM, tournaments, 10 AM**  
**Pentwater Yacht Club Ensign's Race, PYC 11:00 AM**  
**Big Ten Pre-season Tailgate Party, tent behind the Village Pub, after the Parade**  
**Homecoming Grand Parade on Hancock Street, 4:00 PM**  
**Scottville Clown Band Mini Concert, behind the Village Café & Pub, Noon—8PM**  
**Jazz North, on the Village Green after the Parade**  
**Fireworks, Charles Mears State Park at Dusk over Lake Michigan**

### **Sunday, August 14:**

**Marine Corps League Pancake Breakfast, Pentwater VFW Hall, 8:00 AM—Noon**

**\*For additional details or information, see the Pentwater Chamber of Commerce Website:**

**[www.pentwater.org](http://www.pentwater.org)**

**Or check your 2016 PLA Events Calendar.**

## Free Drinking Well Water Nitrate Screening



The Oceana Conservation District (OCD) and the MAEAP Water Stewardship Program are sponsoring free nitrate screening for private drinking wells again this summer. The free program will take place on Wednesday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at the OCD Office, 1064 Industrial Park Drive in Shelby. Forms and sample bottles can be picked up at the office from Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM although special water bottles are not required. (Any clean, small jar may be used, and only one ounce of water is needed. Complete instructions and forms are available on the OCD website at [www.oceanaconservation.org](http://www.oceanaconservation.org) or email [Lynda.herremans@mi.nacdn.net](mailto:Lynda.herremans@mi.nacdn.net).

You can also call during regular office hours at (231)-861-5600 with questions.



## *Small Town Has Big Summer Fun*

Did you see the June article featuring Pentwater on WZZM Channel 13 or in the *Lansing State Journal* or in the *Free Press*? Kathleen Lavey wrote a wonderful three-page article filled with photos by Julia Nagy about our town, the beach, etc., and you will definitely recognize many names, faces and places in the article including Barbara Siok's comments. To view and/or read more of this wonderful piece about Pentwater in the summer, go to:

[www.freep.com/story/travel/2016/06/01/Pentwater](http://www.freep.com/story/travel/2016/06/01/Pentwater)



## Late Summer Activities



**Don't forget about these late summer activities:**

**August 24-27** Oceana Count Fair at the Hart Fairgrounds

**August 26** Pentwater Arts Council Last Friday Gallery Stroll 5-8 p.m.

**August 26-27** Wooded Boat Show & Parade at the Pentwater Yacht Club

**September 16-17** Glow in the Park Luminous Trail at the State Park -7-10 PM

**September 24-25** Fall Fest Arts & Crafts Fair on the Village Green

### **Join us for the Annual Strawberry Shortcake Social**

The PLA annual Strawberry Shortcake Social will take place on Thursday, August 11 during the weekend of Homecoming in Pentwater. This delicious treat will be sold at the Village Green on Thursday evening beginning at 6:00 PM. Come and enjoy the concert and support the Pentwater Lake Association as we kick off the annual Homecoming Weekend festivities.

The cost for the most delicious strawberry shortcake is only \$4.00.



### **Channel Depth Mapping**

Patterson-Marine now has the capability to map underwater channel depths. See the stunning and most recent underwater map of the channel, mouth and Lake Michigan at [www.pentwaterchannel.org](http://www.pentwaterchannel.org) or visit [www.Paterson-Marine.org](http://www.Paterson-Marine.org).

### **BACK FROM THE MAC PARTY SET FOR JULY 29<sup>th</sup>**



Dozens of Chicago to Mackinac racing sailboats and crews will again overnight in Pentwater on Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> of July. This is the 20<sup>th</sup> year of the 'Back From the Mac' party held at the Pentwater Yacht Club on Dover Street. The community is invited to join in the fun beginning at 5:00 p.m. with a cash bar and dinner buffet until 9:00 PM. Musical entertainment will also be featured until 11:00 p.m. For ticket prices and information, visit [www.Pentwateryacht.com](http://www.Pentwateryacht.com).

### **Walk or Run for the COVE Beach Benefit**



On Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, Communities Overcoming Violent Encounters will again host their annual benefit beach walk/run event at Charles Mears State Park. This is a great opportunity for walkers and runners to get in their morning exercise and enjoy the beautiful shoreline scenery along Lake Michigan. Registration begins at 7:30 AM, with the 5K/10K run starting at 8:30 AM and the 5K walk at 8:40 AM.

For additional details email C.O.V.E. President, Lynne Cavazos: [lcavazos5939@charter.net](mailto:lcavazos5939@charter.net).

### **Oceana County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day**

Annually held on the third Saturday of August, the hazardous household waste collection day will take place on August 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Hart Department of Public Works, 1010 State Street in Hart. Participation is free, but donations are greatly appreciated. Unused, unwanted, outdated cleaners, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, electronics and more can be disposed of during those hours. For a detailed listing of what is acceptable, visit [www.co.oceana.mi.us](http://www.co.oceana.mi.us).

## **Accessing the Pleasures and Treasures of the Lake . . . by Anna Mae Bush**

The aphorism, “A rising tide lifts all boats” was quoted by John F. Kennedy in 1963 regarding the benefits of a dam project, but more often it refers to economic policies that benefit all parties. While rising Lake Michigan levels have obviously lifted boats of all sizes, and impacted docks, shore stations and beaches on Pentwater Lake, I perceive the leveling quality of the lake from another perspective as well.

Every time I drive into town or return to my home on the south side of Pentwater Lake, I cross the bridge on Longbridge Road where an accessible space has been installed that enables persons of all abilities to enjoy the sport of fishing. A wide variety of folks is stationed with their poles along the road, interspersed with photographers angling their cameras for the best shot of the swans with their newest progeny. At this time of year when I walk the south pier, I see persons of all ages walking on both sides of the channel or walking the beach along the water’s edge. They are enjoying the pleasure of the water, the beauty of a sunset, or the expansive view of Lake Michigan... a view that often helps one put problems in perspective. At Mears State Park, there is a path providing wheelchair access to the beach where anyone is welcome to swim, build sand castles, or fly a kite. Families of all ethnic and economic backgrounds are welcome to use the picnic tables, grills, bath houses and play equipment. Those who don’t have a state park sticker on their license plate can walk into the park or sit along the channel.

One day in May the Pentwater High School senior class frolicked on the south pier, climbing and posing on the lighthouse for a group photo and taking fun shots in the seating area at the mouth of the channel. Regardless of whether they actually live in the village or Pentwater Township, for that hour they “owned” the location they enjoyed.

It may be true that the cost of real estate and property taxes creates a challenge to home ownership in Pentwater. But neither Lake Michigan nor Pentwater Lake is a *respector of persons*. Recreation in the clear water of the BIG lake and the warmer water of Pentwater Lake is free to ALL. Boat ramps, public beaches, fishing docks, the thrill of watching sailboat races, marina picnic spaces, and a downtown Village Green that provides free weekly concerts are available to everyone who wishes to enjoy them. Without regard to race, religion, gender, financial status, politics, or any other identity, anyone can access the pleasures and treasures of Pentwater.



*Aerial Drone photo courtesy PSA.*

# NEWS AROUND TOWN...

## Historical Society Museum Has New Video

150 Years of Pentwater can now be viewed in 18 Minutes! The new Historical Society Museum is celebrating its 3<sup>rd</sup> year with an 18 minute video tour of what's on display. The video provides an overview of exhibit areas, takes a closer look at some items, and tells a few stories that even those who consider themselves Pentwater veterans might not know. Visitors are urged to bring their smart phones to 85 S. Rutledge St. Log onto the [www.pentwaterhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.pentwaterhistoricalsociety.org) website to access the museum YouTube link at the bottom of the home page.



### **Museum Hours:**

July & August- Tuesday through Saturday, from 1- 4 p.m.  
September & October – Thursday through Saturday, from 1-4 p.m.

## Free Wi-Fi on Hancock Street

If you wish to stay connected with your smart phones or iPads downtown this summer, free Wi-Fi will be available along Hancock Street, from Second to Fifth Streets. This also includes the Village Marina. However, the Wi-Fi is not expected to work **inside** of the Hancock Street businesses.



## Dollar General to Open Soon

Directly across from what locals call the PCC (Pentwater Convenience Center) on Monroe Road, there is a new building being constructed. The Dollar General Store is expected to open sometime in July 2016.

## Former “Dari Creme” now “Old Baldy Food & Fun”

Jeff Wisley, new owner of the former Dari Creme on Hancock Street, has renamed the ice cream store “Old Baldy Food & Fun.” Being so close to the Old Baldy Dune, the name is apropos. Vintage arcade games will be housed in the former store, and he plans new food offerings and new changes to the mini-golf course.



### **PENTWATER BOARD OF ED HIRES NEW SUPERINTENDENT**

Scott Karaptian, Ed.S., is scheduled to become the new school superintendent this fall. He will replace retiring Superintendent Dr. Mary Marshall. Scott has served as principal of Parchment High School, near Kalamazoo, since 2004.



### **NEW VILLAGE ATTORNEY NAMED**

In May, the Village Council appointed Brian Monton, from the firm of Prince and Monton PLC of Hart, to succeed Gary Nicholson as Village Attorney. Brian is the son of PLA members, Tony & Kareen Monton. Brian and his wife also make their home in Pentwater.

### **TOWNSHIP LIBRARY TO BEGIN REFRESHER PROJECT**

The township library board will begin revamping and modifying the current building on Park Street with changes to the interior and technology upgrades. Plans will be finalized, and new colors and furnishings will be selected this summer, with renovations beginning in the fall. The refresher project is scheduled to be completed in early 2017.

### **CHANNEL DREDGING A POSSIBILITY**

MCM Marine has been approved to dredge nine feet below low water data at the mouth of the channel and within the channel this month. The work is expected to take about three weeks at a cost of \$55,775. Monies have been raised from the DDA, the PLIB, the DNR and other sources. Dr. Dave Roseman chairs the Harbor Research Committee, and dredging issues have been an on-going concern for the past several years.

### **MARINE DIVISION/POLICE DEPARTMENT INCLUDES NEW FACES THIS SUMMER**

The Oceana County Sheriff's Marine Law Officer, Tim Simon, will have some help patrolling Pentwater Lake and keeping boaters safe this summer. The head of the O.C. Marine Division will be assisted by seasonal Marine Officers Brandon Knoll of Pentwater and Seth Pranger of New Era. Both officers are currently receiving hands-on training. For questions or concerns about boating rules, regulations, or safety, contact Deputy Simon at (231)873-6771.

Pentwater Police Chief Laude Hartrum will be assisted by part-timer Jeff Belinski, a retired detective sergeant from the Muskegon Police Department. Police cadet, Luis Deblas, was hired to work the front desk.

### **MARINA SEAWALL REPAIRS**

The Village Council approved a DNR Waterways Grant to aid in the repair of the seawall that was washed out when firefighters battled the Dockside Restaurant fire last fall. Adams Marine Construction Company is making the repairs and plans to be finished in early July.



## IMPORTANT BOATER SAFETY RULES by Anna Mae Bush

“Hey, do you know which side of the buoys I need to be on?” a boater shouted across the water at my husband.

“I don’t think it matters,” my husband replied, though he was not sure.

“That’s right when it comes to no-wake zone buoys,” Tim Simon from the Oceana County Sheriff’s Office said when I interviewed him. Because we are headed into the busiest time in the boating season, Tim agreed it was a good time to review the most important boater safety rules:

- #1. Boats should always move around the lake COUNTER-clockwise. This is especially important when there are people on skis or tubes being pulled behind a boat.
- #2. The 150 foot rule: No boat or personal water craft can cross behind a boat that is motoring unless It is a minimum of 150 feet behind the boat. Jet skiers sometimes ignore this rule for the excitement of jumping a wake.
- #3. A sail boat under sail (not with the motor dropped) has the right of way over all motor boats UNLESS the sail boat is moving faster than the motor boat.
- #4. The 100 foot safety rule: every boat and personal water craft must stay a minimum of 100 feet away from any stationary object – the shore line, a dock, a swimmer in the water, an anchored boat, a shore station, etc. – unless the boat or water craft is moving at a slow, no-wake speed. This means boats leaving their dock or shore station must taxi 100 feet before taking off.
- #5. ALL boats and water craft must stay completely out of ANY swimming area marked by buoys for safety of the swimmers. NO EXCEPTIONS to this rule.

We do have some liveries in Pentwater where visitors can rent pontoon boats and personal water craft. Unfortunately, persons can rent water craft without having taken boater safety classes---they only need to meet the age requirement. Officer Simon teaches free boater safety classes twice this summer in Pentwater and reports that fifteen to forty persons aged twelve and up, take boater safety each year.

My grandson Seth, aged 12, and his grandfather registered to take the class together in August. “A great idea!” Tim said. He urges more adults and young people to participate.



### **DON VANZILE MEMORIAL BOATER SAFETY CLASSES - SUMMER 2016**

These two-day sessions will be held on **July 14-15** and again on **August 4-5** at the Pentwater Yacht Club on Dover Street. To register contact:  
Bruce Koorndyk, President Pentwater Sportfishing Association at (517)202-7213 or  
Tim Simon, Oceana County Marine Officer at (231) 873-6771.

### *What's Our Lake Fishery Makeup?* By Tom Walters and Joe Primozich

Fishermen are asking where are the panfish? How is the fishery changing? Can we find out if we can improve the fishery? It is one recreational use that a lot of families come to expect when they get to Pentwater in the summer for vacation. As the late Milt Pugsley said, "The grandkids catching panfish off our dock was a great activity and expected until 6 years ago." Netting of the lake this year, as listed below, will give you an insight to the lake's fish makeup. This is the first step in understanding our fishery.

Grand Valley State University has taken on the research question of whether or not the perch of Lake Michigan and the perch of drowned river mouth lakes, such as Pentwater, are genetically different. If they are two different stand-alone populations, then our lake's perch limit should be adjusted for that. Lake Michigan is set at 35 below the 45 degree parallel and the inland lakes are set at 50. On April 4, GVSU worked at gathering perch by gill netting with four, 300 foot gill nets in the basin, from the Village Marina to the point of the Little Bayou. From 11AM to 5PM they electroshocked the shallows of the east end of the lake and the two bayous.

The results were as follows: *In shocking the shallows they failed to get any perch but they found post spawn pike by the river mouth and several steelhead in the big bayou shallows. When the nets were lifted that day they had 1 small pike, 2 rock bass, and 38 perch between 10-12 inches. Their target was 40 perch for their genetic testing project.*

The DNR Fisheries Department plan, to assess the lake's fishery, began on June 6 and lasted for three days. A combination of netting and electrofishing was used. Two variable sized gill nets, two small mesh fyke nets, and three large mesh fyke nets were used. MDNR personnel involved came from the Cadillac Field Office, Harrietta Hatchery, Plainwell Field Office, and the Muskegon and Pentwater Creel Clerk. Nets were checked every day and moved to new locations on a random picked or chosen basis. The two days of netting results were shared with us and are as follows: *One 33 inch and one 39 inch pike, 24 inch bowfin, 12 inch gar pike, and an 8# brown were caught. Three gill nets each showed a handful of undersized walleyes which was a pleasant surprise. The river also showed its success with shallow water netting of 6 to 8 inch steelhead and 2 to 3 inch king salmon as they were migrating from the river. In a gill net off Calico Bay many 6 inch perch, alewives, and three white perch were taken with a handful of small walleyes.*

The final report will be out next March. Hopefully this gives the DNR the insight as to what is here; then they can see what might be the best management fishery strategies for our lake.



## PLA OFFICERS

**President**, Lynne Cavazos  
**Vice-President**, Joe Primozich  
**Secretary**, Candi Goldman  
**Treasurer**, George Richey

## Board of Directors

Bob Forester  
 Patrick Hooyman  
 Ellen Lightle  
 Mac McCaleb  
 Tom Osborn



### Officers and Board Members for the 2016-2017 year (from left to right)

Directors Patrick Hooyman, Ellen Lightle, Tom Osborn,  
 Treasurer George Richey, President Lynne Cavazos,  
 Vice President Joe Primozich and Director Candi Goldman.  
 Absent: Directors Bob Forester and Mac McCaleb

## Committees

<b>Natural Resources</b>	Joe Primozich
<b>Water Quality</b>	Bill Bainton
<b>Social</b>	Lynne Cavazos
<b>Membership</b>	Norma Oly
<b>Publicity</b>	Ellen Lightle
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Barb Siok
<b>Website</b>	George Richey

For more information about a committee or to get involved  
 contact Lynne Cavazos at 231-869-5939 or  
 lcavazos5939@charter.net

Website: [www.pentwaterlakeassociation.org](http://www.pentwaterlakeassociation.org)

## Pentwater Village Council

Juanita Pierman, President  
 Jared Griffis  
 Daniel Hoekstra  
 Don Palmer  
 Norm Shotwell  
 April Watkins  
 Bill Maxwell  
 Rob Allard, Village Manager  
 Dick Hutchings, Marina Manager  
 Colleen Moser, Clerk/Treasurer  
 Barb Siok, Deputy Clerk Treasurer

## Pentwater Township Board

Chuck Smith, Township Supervisor  
 Dean Holub, Clerk  
 Janice Siska, Treasurer  
 Mike Flynn, Trustee  
 Pat Ruggles, Trustee

## Oceana County Sheriff's Department

Marine Deputy Tim Simon

**PENTWATER LAKE ASSOCIATION**

*"For the love of the Lake"*  
P.O. Box 825  
Pentwater, Michigan 49449

***Membership Application***

***Membership Application***

\_\_\_\_\_ Renewal

\_\_\_\_\_ New Member

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address:  
Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s): Local \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing/Home \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

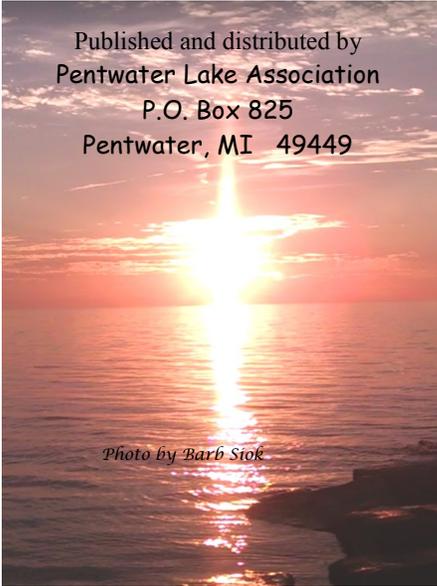
Email Newsletter (In Color) \_\_\_\_\_ or Mail Hard Copy Newsletter via P.O. (Black & White) \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: Yearly Family Membership (one vote), from July 1 through June 30 . . . . . **\$ 30.00**

Subscription to *Michigan Riparian Magazine*, published quarterly (optional) \$12.00 . \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total (Make check payable to: *Pentwater Lake Association, Inc.*) . . . . . \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Published and distributed by  
Pentwater Lake Association  
P.O. Box 825  
Pentwater, MI 49449



*Photo by Barb Stok*

Permission is granted to reprint material in this newsletter.  
Please give written credit to the "Pentwater Lake Association Newsletter."

