

Pentwater Lake Association Newsletter

August 2023

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President's Message: Patrick Hooyman

Pentwater Lake – a complex system.

We all agree that Pentwater Lake is a beautiful resource that we want to enjoy and protect. It is also a complex system which your Pentwater Lake Association (PLA) has tried to both monitor and also promote actions that benefit the lake. These actions have included extensive water quality testing in the lake and in the waters that feed the lake. To address funding the management of lake issues such as weed control, the PLA was involved in the establishment of the Lake Improvement Board and has advised it since its creation in 1999.

Lake health is a complex system that includes the watershed that feeds the lake, the channel that was created over 100 years ago allowing access to and from Lake Michigan, the main body of water we call Pentwater Lake and the shore surrounding it. The PLA is evolving to address this complexity. We have recently completed a study of our shoreline with the "Score the Shore" process and we have formed a new committee to study and monitor the watershed and formulate plans for the future. The channel is also part of the lake and we are trying to understand what our future role should be regarding it.

We are actively looking for volunteers to be part of our efforts and welcome members to get involved. Feel free to contact me if you want to help or have advice on what our future actions should be. Speaking of help, I want to thank George Richey for his role as president of the association this past year and all of the other volunteers that make the PLA an effective organization.

NATIONAL ENSIGN REGATTA Reminder: Come out to cheer for the regatta competitors. Spectators can line the channel near Channel Lane Park on Monday morning August 13 about 10am for the introduction and parade of boats out to the racecourses on Lake Michigan.



Sculpture Walk Entry #6 "Red Feather" See News Bytes page 11

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP REPORT by Rich Pugsley

We have started our new membership year (July). We currently stand at 172 renewed members, 6 new members, and 49 not yet renewed members. As you renew your membership and friendships this summer, talk about the PLA and encourage others to join and volunteer “for the love of the lake.”

We are especially interested in new younger members. Maybe invite someone to walk in the homecoming parade with you. New membership applications can be downloaded from the PLA website. <https://www.pentwaterlakeassociation.com/membership-application>

We would like to welcome the following new members since May 2023:

Jim & Julie DeGroot

Steve & Kathy Hamilton

Brandon Macher

Mitchel & Caroline Schwass

Michael & Holly Wallace



PENTWATER RIVER WATERSHED UPDATES by Rich Pugsley

The Watershed Committee has been engaged in several activities this spring.

A Road/Stream Crossing survey was completed on all 289 crossings in the watershed. (Report is available by sending me a request.) Based on the survey Hannah Arnett and Nathaniel Shuff, Water Resources Division of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) were given a 4-hour tour of the watershed. This allowed them to establish monitoring sites to assure permits for large water discards do not impact the watershed. In July the PLA Board approved a contract with Grand Valley State University to conduct a survey of watershed households to get their input on watershed concerns. The survey is being funded by grants from Fly Fishers International, Oceana County Community Foundation Investment Fund, the Eugene Kuhne Fund, and private donations from Oceana County residents. The survey will be conducted this fall.

Trout Unlimited is sending two representatives for a tour on August 2nd. Sky Harsh from the Oceana Conservation District will also join the tour. We are looking forward to their recommendations on activities we can perform to improve the watershed. Currently the watershed is in good shape.

Another activity of interest is approval by the Pentwater Lake Improvement Board to fund *E.coli* source tracking water quality testing this summer. The source tracking will enable us to determine the source: wildlife, human, pig, or cow.

The 60% engineering and design work for restoration of Sandy Bend was completed and there is hope the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will also fund the implementation.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT by Lynne Cavazos

Pentwater Lake Association Strawberry Shortcake Social: Thursday, August 10; 6pm until sold out; on the Village Green. The Annual Strawberry Shortcake Social is the major fund raiser for the Pentwater Lake Association. Come and enjoy this delicious treat beginning at 6 PM while the crowd gathers for the special concert of combined Scottville Clown Band and our own Pentwater Civic Band. Due to the increased cost of ingredients, the cost of the Shortcake Treat will be \$5.00 per Shortcake (biscuit, strawberries, ice cream and whipped cream). Water for \$1.00 is also available. *Thank you to the PLA Board and PLA members for your support of this fundraising event.*

PUBLICITY REPORT– Pat Hooyman

Articles are appearing in each issue of the PTW magazine. Authors include Lynne Cavazos, Tom Walter and Rich Pugsley. A float is planned for this year's Homecoming parade.

WATER QUALITY REPORT by Pat Hooyman

Water samples were taken May 18, June 15 and July 13. Oxygen profiles have been obtained every two weeks.

The Team met to formulate a recommendation to the Board regarding PLA policy when E.coli is detected at levels exceeding EPA standards. We recommend that when this happens, a designated member of the water quality committee will inform the District 10 Health Department , EGLE, the village manager and the township supervisor. Joan Menke-Schaenzer will create a decision tree for use next year to further refine this procedure.

In June, high levels of E.coli were detected in the village creek. DNA analysis indicated that the source was not human. The July 13 samples indicated high levels of E.coli in several sites. We are investigating how to follow up on this to determine the possible source. Notified EGLE, District 10 Health Department, township supervisor and village manager.

Annual Meeting Summary

This year's annual meeting was the best attended membership meeting to date. As usual, it began with a social hour 6:00-6:30pm. An excellent buffet dinner catered by Gloria Ann's Catering from Fountain MI followed the social hour. President George Richey was unable to attend, so Vice President Tom Walter officially welcomed everyone present and introduced the current Board of Directors as well as several past Board Presidents who were in the audience. He lead a short business meeting at 7:15pm that included approval of the minutes from the 2022 annual meeting and a review of the treasurer's report for June 2022-May 2023.

In place of individual committee reports, Walter provided an overview of the past year by listing the many activities PLA has continued to do, the new activities initiated this past year, and the activities PLA is considering for the future. New this year were the formation of The Friends of the Pentwater River Watershed (completed a road-stream crossing survey) and our Score the Shore program (aiming to encourage a healthy shoreline). Future program ideas include a scholarship program, PLA logo wear, shoreline restoration models, E.coli testing in the Pentwater River, and expansion of the boat blitz program.

Board members elected to a three year term ending in June 2026 were Lynne Cavazos, Patrick Hooyman, Joe Primozich, Beth Provencal, and Tom Walter.

At 7:45 our first guest speaker, Grace Stoneman, was introduced by Joe Primozich. A recent graduate of Pentwater High School, she was winner of the 2023 PLA Speech Contest. She delivered her winning speech entitled "Pollution, but what's our Solution?" At 8:00pm Tom Walter introduced our second guest speaker, Garry McKeen, who is chairperson of the Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission. His 30-minute presentation was entitled "Partnerships lead to success" and included before and after photos of all 8 county parks in Oceana County. The parks were transformed by the work of many volunteers and funding from grants and private gifts. It was inspiring to see and learn about so many beautiful parks in our county. (See photo of Gale's Pond County Park on page 2.)

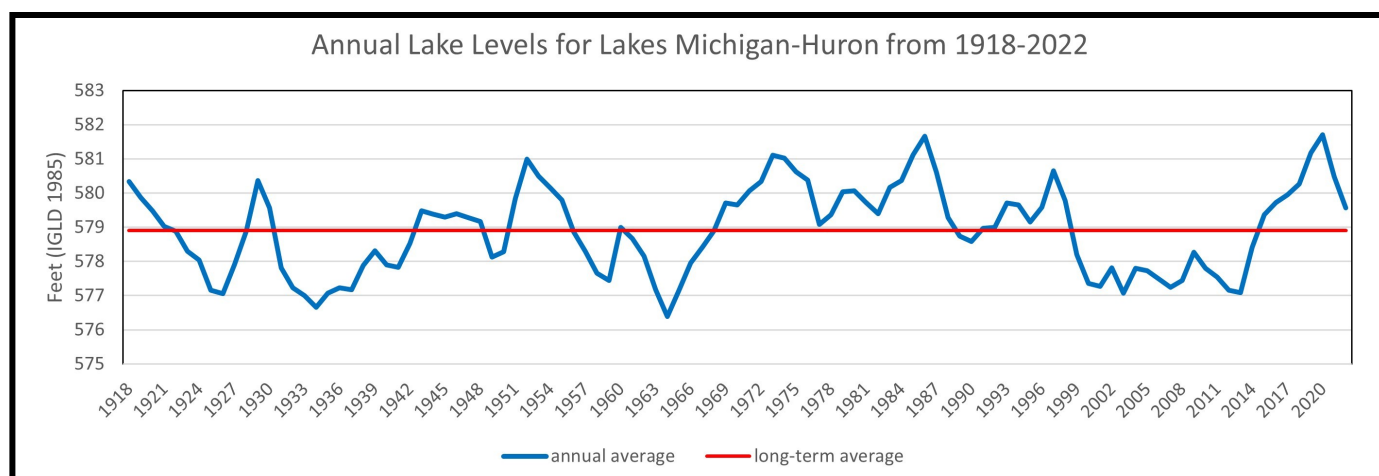
Following the raffle of door prizes (gift certificates to local businesses), the meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Understanding Lake Levels and Dune Activity by Deanna van Dijk, Calvin University

(dvandijk@calvin.edu; www.calvin.edu/go/fyres)

Recent research on Lake Michigan dunes is building a deeper understanding of the connections between changing lake levels and dune activity. Coastal residents may better observe and understand changes near them if they learn about the patterns of lake level changes and how Michigan dunes behave in response.

The level of Lake Michigan (shared by Lake Huron) has been directly measured for more than 100 years beginning in 1918. Graphed data show variations of about 5.6 feet around a historic average of 578.9 feet. In comparison with the recent high lake levels peaking in 2020, some coastal residents may remember the high lake levels, and coastal erosion, in the 1990s, 1980s, and 1970s. The recent extended period of low lake levels from 2000-2013 has no parallel in the historic record, but the low lake levels of the 1960s are notable as a time when peo-



ple saw wide beaches and built houses on the dunes overlooking the lake.

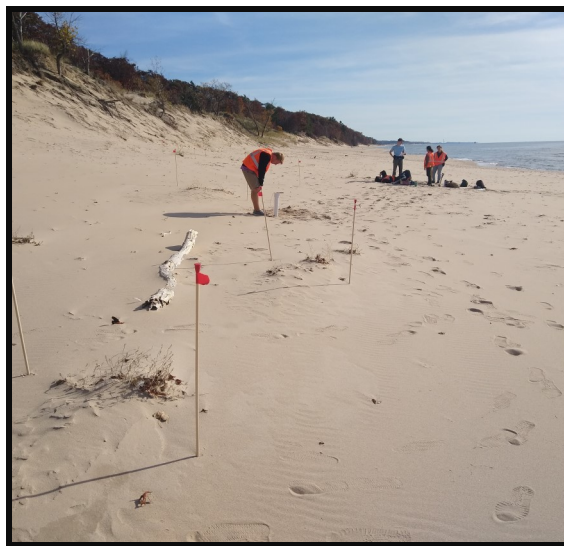
Data source is the US Army Corps of Engineers at <https://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Missions/Great-Lakes-Information/Great-Lakes-Information-2/Water-Level-Data/>. Great Lakes levels are referenced to a specific height (IGLD 1985) which is roughly mean sea level.

The record of direct dune measurements is shorter, but no less informative. Calvin University (formerly Calvin College) researchers have been collecting data since 2000 at PJ Hoffmaster State Park and other west Michigan dunes. More than 300 students working with geography professor Deanna van Dijk have measured surface erosion and deposition, mapped dune features and topography, analyzed wind data, or investigated vegetation and human impacts. Most studies take place in the autumn and winter when the dunes are more naturally active because of strong storm winds and less vegetation to slow sand movement. In summer, weaker winds and maximum plant growth produce less dune change from natural causes, even while human visitors (and their impacts) are higher.

On top of the annual cycles, broader patterns of dune change related to lake levels are becoming visible to researchers. The years 2000-2013 were a time of low lake levels and dune growth as wide beaches provided an abundant sand supply which strong winds moved landward to be deposited in vegetated areas. Most of the sand deposition occurred on foredunes, which are low rounded ridges of beach-grass-covered sand that form adjacent to the beach. Depending on the year, between 4 inches and more than 2 feet of sand were added to the foredune. Almost no sand moved from the beach into the larger and older dunes, which were either stabilized by vegetation or had "local" sand movement in small or large blowouts.

During the rising and high lake levels of 2014-2020, narrow beaches and wave erosion of dunes were common. At Hoffmaster, the sand that had built up the foredune over roughly 14 years was eroded by waves in less than six years, with the final remnants removed in a November 2019 storm. Most erosion occurred during high-energy storms, with a vertical slope called a scarp indicating the position of the most recent wave undercutting. Without the protective buffer of the foredune, wave erosion began to work on the next dune, often creating more impressive scarps because of the greater dune heights. Property owners north and south of Hoffmaster experienced a similar sequence of dune erosion (with structure damage where docks, stairs, or buildings were on the dunes) but different timing depending on the original foredune size and wave conditions.

With the falling lake levels of 2021-present, student research teams are focusing on changing scarps, sand ramp building, and the beginnings of new foredunes. As beach width increased, gravity pulled sand down from the top of scarps and wind piled up beach sand at the bottom. The resulting “sand ramp” eventually grows high enough to be a pathway for wind-blown sand to move from the beach onto the nearby dunes. These dunes are showing the largest amounts of change measured in the last 25 years, with visible evidence of sand drifts and plant burial in previously stable areas. The increased dune activity may be short-lived. Upcoming student research projects will focus on measuring new foredune growth to identify when the sand supply from beach to landward dunes gets cut off. Coastal residents are invited to look at the beach and dunes near them to see how their activity compares with the observations from Hoffmaster State Park.



LEFT: Calvin students mapping & measuring the dune scarp in October 2019. RIGHT: Calvin students measuring sand movement and vegetation on a sand ramp in October 2022.

Deanna van Dijk is professor of geography at Calvin University in Grand Rapids, Michigan. After obtaining her PhD (geography) from the University of Waterloo (Ontario, Canada), where she studied sand movement in winter on Lake Ontario dunes, she began teaching at Calvin College in 1999. Field measurements, winter processes, and working with undergraduate students have been important parts of her research on Lake Michigan dunes. In 2011 she developed and began teaching the First-Year Research in Earth Sciences (FYRES) course in which ~24 first-year students learn about science each fall semester by doing dune research mentored by upper-level students. After building a sand dune on campus in 2020 when COVID prevented off-campus field trips, she was delighted to get back to the Lake Michigan dunes with FYRES students to study the interesting changes from 2021 through this year. This is an original article, solicited by the editor for this newsletter issue.

What Can I Do With My Weeds? – by Tom Walter

“There are so many weeds, what can I do? They limit how I can use my lake front.” It is a problem most riparians are confronting. And it’s not a new problem. Here is a bit of our history with weeds.

In the early years of the PLA we had massive amounts of Eurasian milfoil. We brutally killed that with herbicide, leaving vast barren areas with no vegetation. The fish population suffered horribly. Herbicide use diminished as most of the weeds were gone. Curly leaf pondweed eventually invaded spaces left open by treating milfoil. So we treated pondweed. Eventually milfoil returned and we still are learning to live with some of it because it will never be completely gone.

Right when we seemed to “come to peace” with our situation of horrible amounts, horrible treatments, horrible consequences, and eventually a more reasonable understanding and approach, we got hit with: 1) herbicide resistant milfoil; 2) Starry Stonewort; and 3) European Frogbit. Frogbit is now confined to the marsh and being treated there. Starry is herbicide resistant and gets harvested. It is as pervasive as the early milfoil was, but herbicide isn’t used. **Not using herbicides reduces our muck and injury to native plants and fish.** Harvesting occurs after fish spawning. What we are seeing now is that native plants can compete well with Starry if we don’t kill the natives while trying to treat Starry. It’s a long haul. But our tolerance for weeds has increased, Starry is harvestable and native plants are gaining. Now if the PLA can help riparians to understand all this, increase their tolerance for some weeds, and teach them how to manage a small area for themselves, we will continue making progress.

This summer has been a slow start for weeds. The water temperatures have remained cool and the lack of rain means excessive nutrients have not been washed into the lake. There will still be weeds. As mentioned earlier, we have invasive Starry Stonewort. Located everywhere. It forms a dense mat that limits fish and riparian use.

The Pentwater Lake Improvement Board (PLIB) collaborates with the Pentwater Lake Association (PLA) to make improvements on the lake. A project at the forefront has been invasive species plant management. Invasive species like Starry Stonewort (Starry), European Frogbit, Eurasian Milfoil, and Curly Leaf Pondweed are the only species permitted for commercial treatment. Historically, commercial herbicide treatment has been the method of choice for treating invasive species. Herbicide is not effective on Starry Stonewort. The mat is so thick that the herbicide can’t reach the whole plant. That species gets harvested. Our hybridized Milfoil resists chemical treatment. Fortunately, we don’t have much Milfoil, Curly Leaf and Frogbit nowadays. Some still get chemically treated. So far this spring 6 acres have been sprayed. A secondary treatment proposal is forthcoming. Starry will again be harvested when it develops. It is important to remember that only the non-natives we have can be commercially treated. So you need to know what you have in order to know what can be done.

Learn about what you have. If you have non-natives, let the PLA or the PLIB know. You can physically treat any weeds you have on your property without chemicals and without a permit. Your weeds can be pulled, raked, cut and placed on shore. Raked and left on shore to dry, they will be much lighter. Both the PLIB and the PLA are realizing that we will never eliminate all non-native invasives. But our limited chemical treatments and our harvesting, along with your weed removal from around your dock or swimming area, will enhance recreational opportunity. Your swimming area will look pretty good with a fresh haircut.

Individuals for hire to help with weed removal include: Andy Kruger 231-716-0305 and Brandon Macher 231-233-2131.

Pentwater Sportfishing Association

(contributed by Dean Jessup)

The 2023 Memorial Weekend Derby results are in, and the 43 boats entered enjoyed a great weekend of fishing, with the listed winners dividing up over \$7000 in awards value, along with consolation prizes for all others.

Grand Prize: 20.20 # King Salmon – “Little Gray Boat”

Andy White – Muskegon, MI



Other Place Winners

	<u>King Salmon</u>	<u>Lake Trout</u>	<u>Steelhead Trout</u>
1st	Gray Fin – 19.35# Brad Smith – Holland, MI	Reel Screamer – 16.60# Dan Reyna - Mears, MI	Carpe Diem III – 12.45# Ken Wegner - Pentwater
2nd	Panama Lady – 19.90# Tom Lerchen – Shelby, MI	Fish Stix– 12.10# Tom VanderHenst – Holland, MI	Lym Time– 10.80# Steve Weber – Kalamazoo, MI
3rd	Passion – 18.60# Bruce Koorndyk – Pentwater	Little Gray Boat – 6.80# Andy White - Muskegon, MI	Shark Bait – 10.10# Cody Anscombe – Scottville, MI
4th	Quicker – 17.80# Floyd Kersting – Muskegon,	Lake Effect – 6.30# Steve Romsek – Coopersville,	Quicker – 9.95# Floyd Kersting - Muskegon, MI
5th	Fish Eagle – 16.80# Steve Sauser - Hart, MI	Breakaway – 5.30# David Vanderveen – Granger, IN	Slap Happy– 9.10# Jason Hackert– Scottville, IN
6th	Fish N Overtime – 16.80# Robert Halfacre - Pinckney, MI	Highway Man – 4.70# Darryl Highway – Shelby, MI	Fish N Overtime – 6.75# Robert Halfacre - Pinckney, MI

Brown trout—5.00# - Slap Happy—Jason Hackert

Protecting and Restoring Michigan Lakes and Streams – Ross and Carol Feltes

(A Conference Summary)

Michigan Lakes and Streams Association (MLSA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation, protection, and wise management of Michigan's inland waters. The organization supports lake associations as well as other educational, stewardship, and conservation initiatives. It assists riparian property owners in water resource friendly techniques and methods of protecting waterfront property. MLSA is Program Administrator for the MiCorps Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program. It is an active collaborator in the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership and the Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership.

The 62nd annual MLSA conference, *Protecting and Restoring Michigan Lakes and Streams*, was held at Crystal Mountain Resort on May 5th & 6th. Each day began with a plenary session followed by a series of three concurrent sessions.

The opening keynote address by the MLSA President focused on the impacts associated with wake boats. He referenced an ongoing study at the University of Minnesota and draft rules from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. There was discussion about water related state legislation and the partnership between MLSA, EGLE, and MSU on lakeshore issues.

State Senator Sean McCann, Chair Senate Committee for Energy & Environment, spoke on environmental issues discussed in Lansing. He favors removal of non-essential dams and agrees with recommendations in MDNR Fishery Report 37 on wake boats. The Farm Bureau and EGLE are in court over regulation of concentrated animal feeding operations. A bill has been introduced for a statewide septic code. **Michigan is the only state without such a code.** [Ed.] The Governor supports additional funding for the Conservation Districts.

Other presentations addressed: the relationship between agriculture and environmental concerns over waterways; the importance of logs and woody structures to the ecology of rivers; challenges stream-road crossings present to healthy rivers; control of nuisance woody vegetation along rivers; and riparian rights legal issues.

The MLSA Science Advisor spoke on the role of proper land use practices affecting lake health. Issues noted were runoff into lakes, algal blooms, invasive species, excessive lawn fertilizing, poor septic systems, development too close to lakes, poorly maintained drains, illegal filling of wetlands, and excessive impermeable surfaces.

Presentations were given by Grand Valley State University's Annis Water Resource Institute graduate students. Topics included: microplastic and salt contamination; microbial communities; screening for fecal contamination; remote sensing for water quality; and the impact of climate change on phosphorus loads.

Ted Rulseh, an author from Minnesota, talked about failing septic systems, loss of natural habitat, invasive species, and plantings of native species. He emphasized the need for environmental education of riparian owners and collaboration between watershed organizations.

Other speakers stated Lake Improvement Boards can perform more activities than some typically do. The role of lake associations was addressed.

Julia Kirkwood from EGLE conducted two sessions covering the Michigan Shoreline Partnership and the MI Shoreland Stewards Ambassadors. These are outreach efforts, including citizen science and informing the public, to foster healthier shorelines on inland lakes, needed due to loss of state funding and staffing.

Do you know your buoy markers? by Joan Menke-Schaenzer

As I travel on beautiful Pentwater Lake, I often wonder what all the buoy markers mean. So, I decided to ask the expert, Pentwater Chief Hartrum, to understand what buoy markers we have on Pentwater Lake and why. There are 15 buoy markers marking the NO WAKE ZONE on Pentwater Lake.

Per Chief Laude the three most important things boaters can do to keep safe are: 1)Wear a life jacket at all times. 2)Don't drink and drive. 3)Observe the NO WAKE signs to minimize danger.

The map (right) shows the designated NO WAKE ZONE for Pentwater Lake, courtesy of the Oceana County Sheriff's marine unit. These maps are posted at the three boat launches. ***Note that the NO WAKE ZONE begins in Lake Michigan at the entrance to and through the entire channel to Pentwater Lake.***

The main purpose of the NO WAKE ZONE is to protect the boats in the marinas (from banging into the docks and neighboring vessels) and on the moorings in the wake-free area. It is also for channel safety. Boat wakes in the narrow space of the channel will rebound between the walls and can easily tip over small watercrafts.

There are some additional buoys in the lake. A buoy near the Longbridge boat launch warns boats of shallow water depth. There are buoys to mark the racecourse for the weekly sailboat races. A buoy at the east end of the channel marks the center of the channel to help direct outgoing and incoming boat traffic to the right or left of the buoy.



A Weather Reporting Buoy? by Chris Conroy

Dave Roseman of Patterson Marine Partners recently reported: "We have the possibly of obtaining a weather buoy, to be placed in Lake Michigan about 5 miles west of our channel. This would help provide further understanding of the movement of sand that fouls access to our channel. [The buoys] provide data that includes wind speed and wind direction, wave height and direction. wave period, and meteorological tsunamis. NOAA is prepared to grant the funds for several more buoys, and Patterson Marine agrees to deploy and retrieve ours if we are given the opportunity." Currently the nearest weather buoy is in Ludington.

We have since found out that a buoy west of Pentwater has been funded. With the help of Guy Meadows, former Director of Michigan Tech's Great Lakes Research Center, we hope to learn more about the impact of underwater sand movement from this reporting buoy. Dean Jessup, President of the Pentwater Sportfishing Association, endorsed the buoy's value to the fishing community. "A new buoy outside of Pentwater would be great ... to help us judge lake conditions. I am guessing this would be connected into the new reporting system platform, Seagull, which we use." *[It will be.]*

Calendar of Events and Highlights by Lynne Cavazos

- Aug 5 COVE 5K/10K Beach Walk/Run - State Park –8:30am
- Aug. 6 Trout & Salmon Fishing Tournament - PSA
- Aug 11- 14 Pentwater Homecoming Celebration
- Aug 10 Strawberry Shortcake Sale – Village Green – 6pm till GONE!
- Aug 10 Les Bailey Memorial Band Concert - Village Green - 7:30pm
- Aug 11 Sand Sculpture Contest – State Park 8am
- Aug 12 Homecoming Grand Parade – 4pm
- Aug 12 Big Ten Tailgate Party - Tent Behind Village Pub - Noon
- Aug.12 Homecoming Fireworks at Dusk – Mears State Park
- Aug 13 Pentwater VFW Breakfast 8AM
- Aug 13–17 Ensign National Championship Regatta
- Aug 16–19 Oceana County Fair – Carnival (Hart Fairgrounds)
- August 19 Fish Boil Fundraiser by the Protect Pentwater Harbor Channel Committee to establish a public private partnership for local dredging. Anticipate fried fish provided by local fishermen/ women, corn from local farms, etc. Donations can be made directly to the Protect Pentwater Harbor Campaign Fund managed by the Community Foundation of Oceana County <https://oceanafoundation.org/give/give-now/?fundname=Protect%20Pentwater%20Harbor%20Campaign%20Services%20Fund> Event at Village Marina. Watch for signage to confirm date.
- Aug 23-27 Oceana County Fair – Fair (Hart Fairgrounds)
- Aug 26 Wooden Boat Show & Parade – PYC 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Aug 25-26 Annual Merchants’ Pentwater Sidewalk Sale
- Sept 15-16 Glow in the Park Luminous Trail – State Park at Dusk
- Sept 21 Harvest Day – Pentwater Farmer’s Market – VG 10-1pm
- Sept 23-24 Fall Festival Arts & Crafts & Antique Fair on the VG
- Oct 1-2 Fall Volunteer Weekend – Mears State Park – 9am
- Oct 14 Oktoberfest: Classic Car and Hot Rod Show. Stout Stumble 5K, COVE Home Tour, Live Music, and Yard Games
- Oct 28 Halloween Spooktacular – Village Green Costume Contest & Goodie Bag, Spooky Scavenger Hunt Downtown, & Merchant Trick-or-Treating 12-2 pm
- Oct 28 Recycling Center closes at Transfer Station.



Getting dessert at the band concert



Fall Fruits

Pentwater Homecoming Schedule August 10th – 13th

Homecoming Sponsor – Shelby State Bank and Grand Parade Sponsor – Insignia Homes

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

- 10AM – 1PM Pentwater Farmers Market Village Green
- 6PM PLA Strawberry Shortcake Social on Village Green
- 7:30PM Les Bailey Memorial Concert - Pentwater Civic Band & The Scottville Clown Band Concert on the Village Green



FRIDAY, AUGUST 11

- 8AM-12PM Sand Sculpture Contest - Charles Mears State Park. Sponsor: Pentwater Service Club
Theme: *Celebrating the History of Pentwater*
- 1PM: Interactive Story Telling at Storybook Village
- 1PM: Mason/Oceana County MSU Alumni Golf Outing - location TBD
- EVENING: Live Music - Village Café & Pub

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

- 12PM-8PM Big Ten Preseason Tailgate Party - Behind Village Café
- 1PM Horseshoe Tournament - Audrey Horseshoe Pits
- 2PM Registration and lineup for the Grand Parade
- 4PM Grand Parade - Grand Marshal: Joe Primozich
- Dusk Fireworks Display - Charles Mears State Park over Lake Michigan

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

- 8AM-12PM VFW Pancake Breakfast- Pentwater VFW Hall
- Sunday Worship Services

9AM St. James Episcopal Church

9AM & 10:30AM First Baptist Church

9:30AM Centenary United Methodist on the Village Green

Saturday 4:00 PM and Sunday 10:30AM St. Vincent's Catholic Church



Grand Parade 2021

New AED Defibrillator Unit at the Marina Gifted by Local Resident's Family

Jerry Daggett's family wanted to locally honor his death from a heart attack last year in Florida. Because he was so focused on outdoor activities and his son Brent operates the Sportsman Charters fishing boats in Pentwater, they wanted to do something at the marina. Although there is an AED Defibrillator unit in the Marina office, it is not available when the Marina office is closed. The family liked the idea of having an AED Unit outside, for 24/7 potential use by the entire downtown community.

The family approached the Pentwater Sportfishing Association for help with fundraising. Donations from family, friends, and the fishing community totaled over \$2000. Village Manager Chris Brown helped secure the unit and alarm box now mounted in a box on the outside of the Marina Office Door. When accessed, it sounds an alarm to alert the need for assistance. An awesome gift to the community and already operational, it will be publicly dedicated with a special plaque in the near future.

News Bytes by AnnaMae Bush

Oceana County 2023 Water Safety Day was held July 8 at the Pentwater public marina and was declared a great success by the county marine deputy, Tim Simon. Once the rain subsided and the sun came out, so did the crowds. The Pentwater Yacht Club funded the purchase of 150 life jackets and all of them were distributed to adults and children who attended the event. Life jackets for infants and toddlers were the first to be claimed. Instructions and whistles accompanied the life jackets for older children. A free hot dog lunch was offered to all attendees. Demonstrations of sonar equipment drew an appreciative audience and examining marine vehicles attracted the youthful participants. The new Oceana County Dive Team enclosed trailer, partially funded by Oceana County Women Who Care, was on display.

Event personnel came from the Pentwater Police Department, the Pentwater Fire Department, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Oceana County Emergency Management, and Michigan State Police. They wish to thank the event sponsors: Pentwater Yacht Club, Hansen Foods, Charlie's Marina Bait Shop & Gas Dock, Pentwater Convenience Center, and Peterson Farms, Inc. "We couldn't do this event without you!"



The Pentwater Arts Council has continued making its contribution to Community Art with the Sculpture Walk 2023. This year's installation has six new sculptures with the following titles and locations: 1) *Water Maiden*, 2nd Street by Kook's Eye Gallery; 2) *Be Here Now*, top of the Village Green; 3) *Aluminum Spiral*, South Hancock in the old Bell Park; 4) *Constructed Tree*, marina park north; 5) *Beckon*, marina park south; 6) *Red Feather*, water tower park. [See photo on front cover]

For more information, see the PAC website (www.pentwaterartscouncil.org) or look for the special brochure for "Children and their Grown-ups" in downtown stores, at the Chamber office, or at the campgrounds.

Tacos and Trek for Trail : The fundraising event for the Pentwater-Hart Trail was well attended. On a sunny and warm June 24 there were 65 participants who walked, ran, or biked the 5k course. Volunteers served 212 tacos meals and \$7,000 was raised for the trail maintenance fund. In partnership with the township, the Trail group has submitted a million dollar grant request through a Department of Natural Resources program called SPARK. Competition for available funds is great but Dr. Claudia Ressel-Hodan says, "We are hopeful."

[Photo of some of the 5k event participants]



Fishing Rods/Reels Needed: The Pentwater Library is hoping to start a fishing pole loan program this summer. The idea is to allow those who don't have any fishing gear to be able to enjoy the lake and its fishing. To do this they need new or used donated panfish rods and reels. The youth fishing tournament runs until August 13. Please bring available fishing rods to the library.

Double red flags mean don't go in the water: If you see double red flags at a state-designated swim beach at a state park along the Great Lakes, you are not allowed to enter the water.

To boost awareness of changing conditions and save lives, there's been a change to the Great Lakes beach flag warning system. A DNR land order makes it illegal to enter the water when there is risk to human health and safety. Risks can include hazardous waves and/or dangerous water conditions, active rescue or recovery efforts, and environmental hazards. This does not apply to surfers using wind-powered or self-propelled wave-riding boards.



Pentwater History Tour X 5: There are so many innovative ways to learn about the interesting history of Pentwater. The traditional way is to visit the Pentwater Historical Museum, 85 S. Rutledge, which is staffed by knowledgeable docents. Visitors can browse the museum at their own pace while listening to a narrative about the displays on their cell phone. Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 1-4pm.

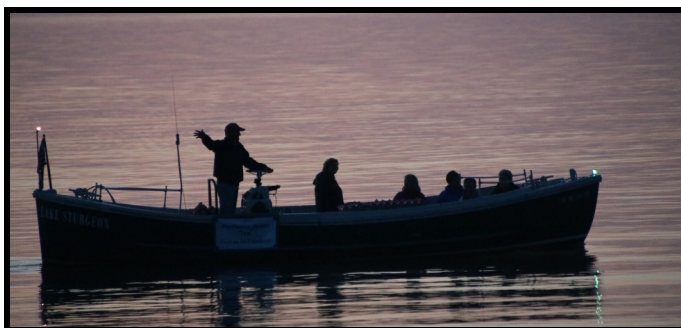
A second way is to enjoy a boat tour on Pentwater Lake with Captain Lee Price as skipper and a docent from the museum as the tour director. These scheduled tours require the purchase of tickets. Tickets cost \$15 for passengers 13+ years old. For more details about the tours you can check the website, www.ptwtaxi.com. To make reservations, call 231-742-8874 or email pentwatertaxi@gmail.com.

A third way is to participate in architectural walking tours to be held on four consecutive Thursday mornings (July 20 and 27, August 3 and 10) at 10:30am. The tours begin and end at the museum and provide special information about the innovations and customizations on several historical homes in the Village.

A fourth option is the new Hancock History Self-Guided Audio Tour, accessible by dialing 231-720-0291 and following the prompts. This tour offers six audio narratives describing some of the history that occurred on six blocks of Hancock Street. The listener can remain in one place while listening or can walk to each location that is described in the narratives. "It was fascinating to compile and record these narratives" said Ron Beeber, a museum docent.

A fifth and flexible way to learn about Pentwater history is to schedule a boat tour on your own vehicle at your convenient time for your choice of participants (family, friends, or others) with Ron Beeber. Contact him at 313.498.0155 or ron.beeber@gmail.com. You provide the skipper, bring refreshments if you wish, and make a minimum donation of \$25 to the museum.

Right: Lee Price captains a sunset tour on Lake Michigan



Dredging Update by Chris Conroy

King Co. out of Holland Michigan is the private dredge company awarded the bid to service Grand Haven and Pentwater. We have been regrettably scheduled behind Grand Haven and have been anxiously awaiting their completion so that they could mobilize to meet our federally funded dredging needs.

Note that our spring promised dates were pushed to June, then post- 4th of July, then delays in Grand Haven due to E.coli testing results. This postponement puts our Back from the Mac event, and the Ensign National Championship Regatta in jeopardy. Pentwater is a harbor of refuge for Mac racers (many with 7 - 9' drafts) and yachtsman in general. For these reasons alone, the economy of Pentwater depends on a viable deep draft harbor. Sand shoaling and wind/wave action cause continuous movement of sand at our harbor mouth and inside the channel to the attenuators.

PLA Logo Contest at Pentwater School by Betty Pleva

In May, Pentwater School students in grades 4,5,6,7,8 were challenged to create a character logo for the “Clean, Drain, Dry” program sponsored by the Pentwater Lake Association (PLA). Students were first introduced to the contest with a presentation led by Betty Pleva, PLA School liaison, and Rich Pugsley, PLA Treasurer. The 2-week contest basically called upon students to create a character that would be a “Top of the Mind Awareness” for boaters reminding them to clean their boats after each usage to avoid the transfer of invasive species, be they plant or animal. [Think: Smokey the Bear, Golden Arches, Colonel Sanders – one image sends a reminder message.]

There was one winner per grade. Each winner received a \$25.00 award from the PLA for their artwork. The winning entries will be sent to Michigan’s EGLE department for consideration to be used in their posters and publications to remind boaters the importance of boat washing after each use. The posters were also on display at the PLA Annual Meeting at Park Place on June 16, 2023.

The winners for each grade were:

Grade 4: Colton Jorissen

Grade 5: Brianna Musil

Grade 6: Jade Emick

Grade 7: Adelaide Atkins

Grade 8: Bodey Lawler



The students’ artwork was judged for creativity and artistic talent, quality and a catchy slogan.



THANK YOU,
Pentwater
School Art
teacher, Car-
rie Jeruzel,
for your assis-
tance with
this contest!
Well done,
ALL!



PENTWATER LAKE ASSOCIATION – “For the Love of the Lake” PO BOX 825, Pentwater MI 49449

Membership Application Date _____ New _____ Renewal _____

Member Applicant Name _____ Spouse _____

Local Address: Street _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Mailing Address: Street _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone #(s): Local or Home _____ Cell: _____

Email Address: _____

How to send your newsletter: Email _____ Hard Copy via USPS _____

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

Subscription to Michigan Riparian Magazine, published quarterly (optional) \$14.00 \$ ____.

TOTAL (Make check payable to: Pentwater Lake Association, Inc.) \$ ____.

Pentwater Lake Association Board

Pat Hooyman—President

Tom Walter—Vice President

Beth Provencal—Secretary

Rich Pugsley—Treasurer

Joe Primozich Joan Menke-Schaenzer

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Deputy Clerk/Treasurer—Barb Siok

Trustees—Michelle Angell-Powell, David Bluhm, Jared
Griffis, Dan Nugent, Don Palmer, Kathy O'Connor

PLA Newsletter—published 4X/year

Editor—AnnaMae Bush

Writers— Board members, guest contributors

Photographers—Writers, D. Baker, D. Selahowski

Mailing—Caroline Denlar

PLA Committees and Chairs

Membership (Pugsley), Natural Resources—

(Primozich), Publicity (Hooyman), Social (Cavazos)

Social Media (Provencal), Water Quality (Hooyman)

Education (Pleva), Newsletter (Bush)

Pentwater Township (869-6231)

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Clerk—Maureen Murphy

Deputy Clerk—Glenn Beavis

Trustees—Mike Flynn, Dean Holub

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Fire Chief—Jonathan Hughart (869-58580)

Police Chief—Laude Hartrum (869-5987)

O.C. Marine Deputy—Tim Simon (231-873-2121)

Pentwater Lake Association

PO Box 825

Pentwater MI 49449

www.pentwaterlakeassociation.com

Facebook: Pentwater Lake Association



Pentwater Lake Management a Success by Joe Primozich

The past 5 years of running the youth summer fish contest has proven to be more of a success than expected. The data kept from the winners of each category of fish speak loudly to the improvement of the fishery on the lake. In 2010 Milt Pugsley cited that the bluegills had vanished from the dockside areas, and something had to be done. Here in 2023, we can answer his concern, as the fishery is balanced and back again. The data shows that the panfish (bluegill, pumpkinseed or sunfish, rock bass, and crappie) have all increased in number caught. The predator of panfish, the bowfin or dogfish, has benefited by that and increased in size caught from 22 " to 29" this year. Also, the number of master angler dogfish over the last three years has risen to 6. Master angler dogfish must be 27" in the state of Michigan. Spawning sites for bluegills have been noted on most shorelines and two master angler bluegills and one pumpkinseed were reported by adults in the early season. So, if youth under 16 want to enter the Pentwater Lake fish contest they have until Sunday, August 13, to send a picture of their fish on a ruler or tape to the contest managers. Good Luck to all!

