

# Pentwater Lake Association Newsletter

May 2022

## In This Issue

Committee Reports	2-3
Mich. Environment Watch	4-6
A Prescribed Burn in Woods	6
Foam on the Water	7
Summer is coming	8
Dive & Recovery Team	9
Calendar & Highlights	10-11
Youth fishing contest	12
The Force of Ice	12
Water Test Records	12
News Bytes	13
Green Schools Page	14
Membership Form	15
Tacos for the Trail	back cover



Young adult eagle. D. Selahowski

## President's Message: Patrick Hooyman Energy

When Spring finally comes and things start budding, you can feel the energy of nature awakening. In the Pentwater Lake Association (PLA), we are fortunate to have a community of members who bring an energy to our organization that gives it an effective reach far beyond our small financial capabilities.

We are truly an organization built on volunteerism and it is easy to forget all that our members are volunteering for. PLA volunteers: publish and distribute the Newsletter; write the State of Pentwater Lake Report; publish and mail the PLA Directory; record and publish Board Meeting Minutes; update the PLA Website and Facebook page; write weekly PTW magazine articles; organize and hold the PLA Annual Meeting; provide Information Booths at local events; hold the Youth Fishing Contest including posters, pictures on our website and trophies; collect lake water quality samples, lake temperatures and water transparency readings and transport these to a laboratory and then maintain a database of the results; install and maintain free life jacket stands at boat ramps; perform floating vegetation cleanup; empty trash cans and monofilament disposal units at fishing locations and boat ramps; attend Michigan Lake and Stream Conferences; organize and attend watershed meetings; staff the Clean Boats Clean Waters initiative and at homecoming, build and staff our Homecoming Parade float and hold our one fundraising event – the Strawberry Social! I might have missed a few things, but you get the idea – volunteers give us a lot of bang for our buck.

Speaking of bucks, the PLA is run on a budget based only on income from membership dues and the Strawberry Social. These have been fixed the last several years and inflation is starting to squeeze our budget. We may have to address this next year to make sure we can take full advantage of the energy our volunteers bring “for the Love of the Lake”. Hope to see you at the annual meeting in June!

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **SOCIAL COMMITTEE** by Lynne Cavazos

#### **Annual Meeting and Social - In-Person Event**

The 2022 Pentwater Lake Association Annual Meeting and Social Gathering will be held on Friday, June 17, 2022, from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM. The meeting will once again be held at Park Place - 310 N. Rush St., Pentwater and will be an In-Person only event. The cost for the event is \$20 per person. A Tasty Snack Box from the Antler Bar and Delicious Dessert Box from Green Isaac's will be provided along with Bottled Water and Sparkling Juices. NOTE: You are welcome to bring other beverages of your choice.

The Guest Speaker for this year's meeting is Jon Beard. Beard is the Director at Public Sector Consultant & Manager of the Great Lakes Fishery Trust. He will be speaking about "Investing in Lake Michigan's Fishery Resources." The business agenda includes voting for board members and presenting brief committee reports. Call Caroline Denlar (231) 869-2561 if you did not receive an invitation.

#### **Pentwater Lake Association Strawberry Shortcake Social**

The PLA Strawberry Social is scheduled for Thursday, August 11, 2022 during Homecoming Week in Pentwater. We serve shortcakes from 6:00 PM until the end of the band concert on the Village Green, or until we run out of ingredients. Volunteers are always needed for this event. If you would like to volunteer to help with the Strawberry social this year, please fill out the form that was enclosed with your membership renewal information or contact Caroline Denlar ([denlar@charter.net](mailto:denlar@charter.net) or 231-869-2561).

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE** by Rich Pugsley

Hopefully you received your Annual Meeting invite, Strawberry Social volunteer info and 2022/2023 membership renewal envelope in the mail recently. On the mailing label there is a number next to your name. This is the year that your dues are paid through. The number 22 indicates that you are paid through June 2022. We are now collecting dues for July 2022 through June 2023. If your number is 23 or higher, no dues payment is required this year. If dues are needed, please remember to send in your envelope with the funds. The payment envelopes are new this year and should be easier to complete. If the information in the directory is correct, you do not need to reenter that information on the envelope.

We appreciate our new members and want to list them so existing members can reach out and welcome them to the association. The following are new members since July 2021.

Dale & Dianne Baker	Daniel & Gena Hooker
David & Kris Bluhm	David & Sandra Kersten
Kellie Bond	Al & Betsy Koett
Mike & Judy Britt	Steve & Mary Louise Nedwicki
Scott Chesney & Christopher Lang	Bruce & Kathy Ortman
Brad Davis & Jodi Stanwick	Stan & Janice Rokita
Gene & Sharon DeJong	Steve & Susan Thomas
David & Mary Bell Dornseif	Mike & Lisa Warren
Jay Harris	

### **NATURAL RESOURCES** by Joe Primozich

**ALERT!** Be aware of spreading Oak Wilt Disease at this time of the year. To prevent the insect spread of oak wilt only one thing is required: don't cut oak trees or trim them between now and July 15. An open wound will allow insects to bring the disease to the tree and infest it. The oak will die in two weeks or linger in spiraling health. The Ocean Soil Conservation District office is the place to call (231-861-5600) to get rid of the disease before all your oak die off. Tree removal and cutting the roots by ditching kills the disease. The only case 3 years ago on our lake was stopped by those methods. The office above will provide the service program for an infested tree.



Photo by Dan Selahowski (a sign of spring?)

### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE** by Betty Pleva

PLA Speech Contest Update: Congratulations to Brandon Macher. Much effort went into planning the spring full county High School Speech Contest which was themed *Keepers of the Lakes*. However, due to timing issues only one student entered.

Brandon Macher, Pentwater H.S. Senior, was automatically awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place. He will be presenting his speech to the high school students in Mr. Magrath's English class. He has also agreed to present his speech at the PLA Annual Meeting on June 19. Brandon is a gifted student who demonstrates strong ecological values. He will be awarded his prize of \$125 and certificates at the Senior Awards Night, May 19.

Special thanks go to Pentwater teachers Rick Magrath and Kelly Sisung. English teacher Magrath offered a wealth of expertise in organizing the event. Computer teacher Sisung was invaluable with uploading all the necessary information, creating QR codes, and securing students Michael and Lucas Quinteros to create the "hook video" to attract and inform county students of the event. Additional thanks to PLA Board member Rich Pugsley for providing on-line resources to students, to Village employee Barb Siok for advertising the event on the Village message center, and to the Village for providing Park Place as the host site. Finally, thanks to the four persons willing to judge the event. Though their expertise was not required this time, we hope that Brian Melville, Claudia Ressel-Hodan, Kelie Bond and Anne Pawli will offer their services again.

We plan to repeat this speech contest in late October 2022. It is Magrath's year to teach speech and he will offer his students class time to work on their *Keepers of the Lakes* speech. We're unwilling to give up on the idea, so we'll "get back in the saddle again" and hope for more participants next time.

### **WEBSITE COMMITTEE** by Beth Provencal

The PLA Website: <https://www.pentwaterlakeassociation.com> is the primary mode of communication for PLA members and is a public domain for use by anyone interested in the PLA. It was set up late 2017 and has the PLA Board Minutes under the information section. Several Newsletters are available dating back to 2009. There are over 20 "links of interest" available, as well as information and pictures of Aquatic Invasive Species that threaten our lake and river. Contact information is on the home page for any questions you may have. It is the hope of the PLA that people utilize the website on a routine basis to learn about the health and welfare of our lake and build a sense of community with one another in our efforts to preserve and protect Pentwater Lake.

## Michigan Environment Watch

**The Great Lakes News Collaborative** is formed by several radio, television, and print media sources that focus on threats to the health of the Great Lakes. *BRIDGE Michigan* is one news source member of the collaborative, that features a column called “Michigan Environment Watch.”

*What follows are summaries of two articles written by Kelly House, condensed for our readers by AnnaMae Bush.*

### **A Grand Rapids lake and the consequences of Michigan’s road salt addition. Michigan Environment Watch, February 10, 2022.**

In 1970 the East Beltline in Grand Rapids was a scenic two-lane road. Bordering Church Lake, today it is a major highway traveled by 24,000 vehicles daily. Two years ago, a group of lake residents, who became concerned about road runoff they observed, commissioned a study of the lake’s chemical levels. Grand Valley State University (GVSU) graduate student Ellen Foley and a research team from the GVSU Robert B. Annis Water Research Institute took on the task.

At a glance, Church Lake appears to be one more beautiful and healthy lake populating Michigan. The clear shore water sports a variety of wildlife - heron, turtles, frogs and fish. “It’s what’s lurking underneath that’s the issue,” said Foley. Deep on the bottom Church Lake is a dead zone. Phosphorus and road salt have deprived the water of oxygen and made it toxic.

Church Lake is an example of how routine activities have polluted Michigan’s water from the Upper Peninsula to the Ohio border. The concentration of chloride has increased significantly from the road salt used to melt ice and snow. The water has also been contaminated by the phosphorus in landscape fertilizer and by leaking septic systems. In addition to increased road usage, decades of development have also produced parking lots, driveways and sidewalks that are heavily salted in winter.

Tests to measure chemical levels reveal chloride is present at more than twice the amount known to be dangerous to aquatic life. Phosphorus levels have been measured at up to 6,000 parts-per-billion when only 20 to 30 parts-per-billion are considered high. The salt level has intensified the phosphorus problem because the salt increases the density of the water, preventing seasonal mixing of the lake water, and thus traps the phosphorus on the bottom of the lake creating a layer of decomposing organic matter. The results show “a biological ticking time bomb,” Foley said. “We don’t know what the breaking point is.” The density of the water also prohibits the natural turnover of the water that happens seasonally in healthy lakes.

Lake water robbed of oxygen will suffocate fish. Warmed by summer, the phosphorus water will enable plant life to grow out of control, as well as cyanobacteria harmful to humans. Excessive salt will inhibit the growth of freshwater organisms or kill them.

All this information came to light because concerned residents took action. Residents have done all they can to mitigate the problem by creating vegetation buffer zones, using city sewers instead of septic fields, and

eliminating fertilizer usage. The question is, how much road salt can be eliminated? Studies have shown the use of salt greatly reduces the number of road accidents, up to 85%. The Kent County Road Commission reports it has reduced salt use by about 15% in the past decade. Further reduction is not likely unless an effective substitute for salt is found, or drivers change their expectation of bare road surfaces within hours of snow and ice accumulation. Church Lake's options include diverting runoff into a retention pond or pumping bottom water out of the lake, though both are expensive.

Recent research reveals our reliance on rock salt is even salinating Lake Michigan, known for being "unsalted and shark-free." Foley says, "Unfortunately, it's a human safety versus ecological health problem at this point. The human safety part is going to win out until we find something that keeps us just as safe."

*This article can't help but raise questions about chloride levels in Pentwater Lake and the impact of road salt runoff from Monroe Road and other streets close to the lake. How can we partner with the County Road Commission and the Village department of works to minimize salt runoff? [photo of excessive salt on Chester Street]*



#### **Four ways Great Lakes winters are changing as scientists search for clues. Michigan Environment Watch, February 9, 2022.**

A report in Michigan Environment Watch, intended to be the first of several reports, listed four changes due to climate change scientists found in the Great Lakes during winter. They want to determine how best to respond to the changes.

1. Less ice cover on the Great Lakes during winter: the average maximum coverage declined by 5% since the 1970s. Scientists predict that some Great Lakes locations will be completely free of icing over by 2055 if there are no decreases in greenhouse gases. In the future, measurements will be taken of ice thickness and how much light penetrates below the ice surface. Scientists will also check water temperature, oxygen levels, and nutrients present.
2. Increase in winter storms. Wind picks up moisture from open water to form snow. Less ice cover means there is more open water available for snow formation.
3. Less ice/weaker ice enables a longer shipping season, but also creates greater danger to snowmobilers and ice fishermen. Warmer winters cause a financial loss to the winter recreation industry.
4. Warmer winters initiate changes to biological species. Ice formation favors Whitefish and Yellow Perch reproduction. (Yellow Perch are sometimes called "cool water fish.") Alewives, an invasive species of herring, are enabled to thrive in warmer winter water. Phytoplankton, at the bottom of the food chain for Great Lakes fish, typically bloom in the spring. If their spring growing season changes, it will impact the entire food web.

So, while some of us welcome milder winters, we would do well to reflect on the negative changes this will also bring to our region.



*Comments from PLA Board member Dr. Ross Feltes, in response to these articles*

A few years ago, researchers from Western Michigan University wrote about a very similar phenomena that had occurred to lakes in the Kalamazoo area. They described the loss of spring and fall turnovers. Pentwater Lake is not a kettle lake, but is a coastal lake associated with a drowned river-mouth wetland (Pentwater River marsh). With flushing from the river, it is much less likely to develop the problems associated with Church Lake.

As noted in the article the problem with runoff of chloride from salted roads is a widespread problem... A study conducted by Minnesota researchers states that salt runoff from roads accounts for about twice as much of the chloride contamination as from fertilizer use and wastewater treatment plants... Livestock yards and septic systems contribute additional problems. Challenges associated with this, but not mentioned, are a negative impact on biotic diversity and contamination of groundwater. Current regulations in North America and Europe are not adequate to address the issues.

There will be changes in the food web with climate change... Stressors will include water temperature change, habitat destruction, increased presence of invasive species, disturbance from increased wave action, pollution, acidification of the water, changes in the reproductive success and growth rate of fish, and thus recruitment. I think most researchers would probably say there is not enough data to clearly project how serious the changes will be.

### **What is a Prescribed Burn?** by Joe Primozich

The DNR on April 15 called to notify area residents that a prescribed burn would be controlled by the forestry service on the next day, Saturday, the 16th. It would be from noon until 5pm covering 200 acres in the Pentwater State Game Area around the cross-country ski trails. This would be in Section 35 of Pentwater Township and south of the railroad grade parking lot for the ski trails. This would be the first time a controlled burn would be used on uplands in Oceana County.



The purpose of the burn to the forest understory was to control invasive land species and to improve the health of the forest. The main invasive plant is barberry brought in from Europe. To prevent this invasion in the future, people should discard ornamental plants at the township dump site instead of discarding them on state lands. The burn is controlled by keeping a low ground fire regulated by fire personnel walking and flame dropping. Other personnel ride with water wagons to put out flames on the leaf blown boundaries. The benefits extend to leaving trees alive, add ash for growing plants, releasing seeds from cones, and greening up grass

areas for turkey, deer, and wildlife. The DNR emphasized the safety of this burn by waiting for a light north wind two days after a rain to move the low flames under the mature forest canopy. That was evident on inspecting it as it appears mushroomers and birders should benefit by this prescribed burn area in the future.

## Foam on the Water by Patrick Hooyman



Foam Streaks at Hooyman's dock, Monroe Road

Perhaps you have wondered about the long parallel lines of foam we see on Pentwater Lake and in the channel after the ice melts. I know I did and so I decided to do a little research to try to find out why this foam appears and what it indicates about the health of our lake. Like so many things that seem simple in nature it turns out to be quite interesting and not quite as simple as I thought it would be.

Foam is a naturally occurring phenomenon on Michigan lakes and is most often caused by the natural die off of plants which have organic matter including oils. When this material floats to the surface the combination of wind and waves mixes it with air and can cause the foam that we

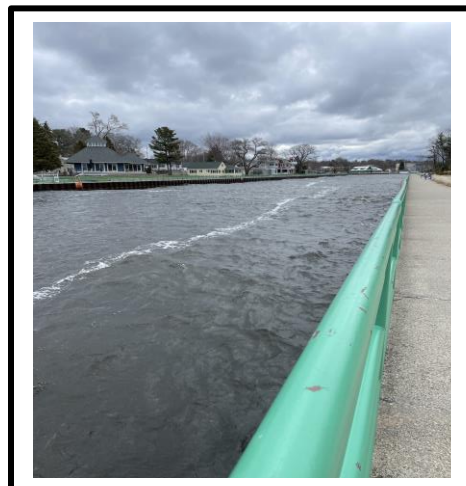
see. (see [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-oea-nop-foam\\_378415\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-oea-nop-foam_378415_7.pdf) )

Of course, pollutants like soaps and PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances that are man-made chemicals used in some industries) can also cause foam. Recently there have been a lot of warnings in the news about PFAS in some waters in Michigan and foam can be an indicator of this. Fortunately, we are not aware of any PFAS sources in the Pentwater watershed and our foam is a natural occurrence.

Why is the foam seen on the lake in long parallel streaks of bubbles across the lake? This is due to a phenomenon called Langmuir Circulation which was first observed by Irving Langmuir (a Noble Prize Chemist/Physicist) in 1927 as he sailed across the Sargasso Sea in the North Atlantic. Wave action and shear stresses between the wind and water generate helical circulation patterns that run roughly parallel to the direction of the wind. The physics behind this is complicated and still subject to some debate!

Finally, why is this happening after the ice melts and not in the middle of summer? The reason for this is that the lake is thermally stratified in the summer and is not stratified when it is iced over in the winter or when the ice has recently melted. This thermal stratification is the result of the density of water varying with temperature. You have perhaps experienced thermal stratification while swimming and feeling your feet in colder water than your upper body. Water is the densest and hence heaviest at 39 °F and less dense and lighter as the temperature increases. Layers of water with different density resist mixing from surface wind and wave action. In the winter, ice covers the lake shielding it from the wind and the entire water column becomes cold and largely the same temperature and density. When the winter ice melts the wind is able to mix the water column because there is no thermal layering and so we get organic material circulated up from depths. Conversely in the summer, the sun heats the upper layer and the water is stratified and not easily mixed.

Life on the lake shows us that Nature is certainly fascinating and fun to try to understand. (Right photo: Foam in the channel)



## Summer is Coming – by Tom Walter

Finally, it won't be long and summer will be here. Another great time at the lake. Do you have any plans for your lake front? Let me give you a few ideas to think about.

Pentwater Lake is 431 acres in size and has 116 acres of littoral zone. The littoral zone is basically described at the nearshore areas where light can contact the bottom and support the growth of vegetation. That amounts to 27% of the lake. Fisheries experts recommend 25% or more to have a well-functioning ecosystem and fishery.

That means lakefront owners have a stewardship role in making sure our little piece of heaven is well managed, serves our needs, and continues to provide appropriate “ecosystem services.” That will keep our lake from decline. Remember the amount of habitat that we have is the minimum recommended.

So what can you do? First think of yourself as a Steward. You are responsible for the health of your piece of the lake. Know what you have. Begin to learn what are “good” native plants and what are troublesome non-native invasives. Know what you can live with and what you need for your own recreation. That can be managed carefully, with respect for the minimum we're trying to maintain. Realize what you do on your land can affect you and the rest of us. Minimize your inputs of leaves, clippings, fertilizer, and water runoff. Consider planting low maintenance native vegetation along the edge. Be prepared. Lake Association members Tom Walter, Joe Primozech, and Rich Pugsley are willing to help you. Their numbers are in the Lake Association Directory. Let's talk and learn among Lake Stewards. The Pentwater Lake Improvement Board treats non-native plants, but they can't know, find, and treat everything at the last minute. Many of us know our plants, treatment methods and alternatives in addition to knowing those who can help.

Plan for the future. Over the next few years, the lake level will probably continue to be lower. That is the part of the cycle we are in. Many of us will see shoreline “beach” increase in front of our seawalls. That is a great opportunity to make some improvements. Some of us have done this before and will again. I am ready. Get some ideas. Don't be discouraged if you have a wall. Pretty soon you will have some land to make beautiful and increase your level of “ecosystem services.” Check out the resources shown below and get some ideas. As neighbors and Pentwater Lake Association members we can become Lake Stewards *For the Love of the Lake*.

<http://www.mishorelandstewards.org/>

<http://www.mishorelinepartnership.org/>





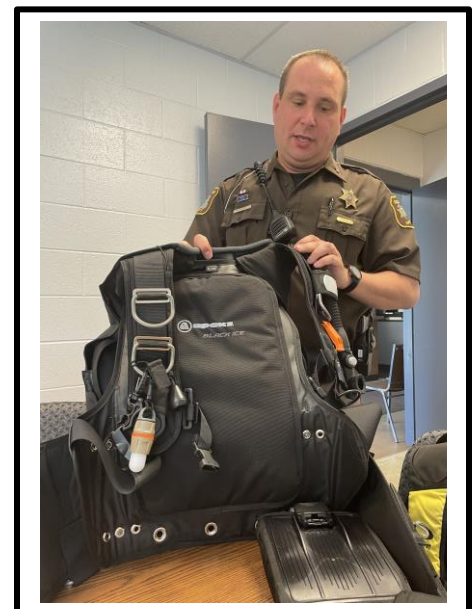
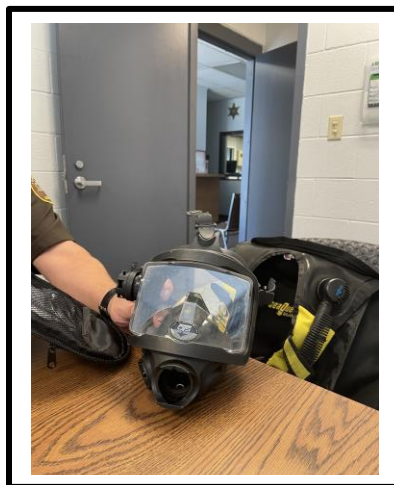
## OCEANA COUNTY DIVE TEAM by AnnaMae Bush

Oceana County includes 16 townships for which the county Sheriff's Office is responsible. By law it must provide jail space, serve legal papers, and recover bodies. (The Coast Guard is equipped for water rescues.) The county dive team responds to water emergency alerts in our county (twelve in 2020 and ten in 2021). They help to recover bodies when drowning has occurred, search for crime evidence such as drugs or weapons that have been hidden in bodies of water, and assist neighboring counties when needed. Dive team leader Michael Fillips said they cover all the lakes in the county plus parts of both the Pentwater River and the White River. The dive team has 8 members, including Pentwater Chief Laude Hartrum, who cooperate with Lake, Mason, and Newaygo counties when they need help.

Fillips reports that the county's number of recent drownings is greatly decreased from previous years. He credits that decrease to the excellent patrol work of Marine Deputy Tim Simon at Charles Mears State Park and to the shifting sand dunes at Silver Lake. Simon carefully monitors weather conditions and knows two days in advance when rip tides are likely to occur because of strong NW winds. He will post warnings and increase his patrols of the state park beach at those risky times, often pulling swimmers out of trouble and into his boat. At Silver Lake the highest peak in the dunes has shifted to create shorter, less steep dunes. This means that people running down the dunes to enter the water have a longer distance beyond the shoreline before reaching a risky water depth.

The dive team is currently updating their equipment – replacing antiquated pieces and adding equipment for new dive team members. They have been using a 1983 vehicle adapted from an ambulance to haul their diving equipment. It will be replaced by a new utility trailer with a customized interior to store all their equipment. It will be towable by several different vehicles and be stored at a large barn at the Health Department location on Oceana Drive. Some of the divers are using buoyancy control devices (BCDs) that include plastic parts and are meant for recreational divers. These vests will be replaced by BCDs designed with metal parts and meant for professional safety divers. The new vests cost more than \$400 each. When Fillips took leadership in 2014, one of his goals was to secure high quality sonar equipment with side view capability. In particular he would like to purchase a hand-held sonar tool called Aqua Eye. Prices on all new equipment have sky-rocketed in the past few years and fundraising has been a challenge. On March 1 the Oceana County chapter of Women Who Care voted to support the dive team, swelling their funds with approximately \$20,000. Although most of the new equipment has been ordered, many of the shipments have been delayed.

Fillips will be present at the Oceana County Water Safety Day in Pentwater on June 18. He will bring what equipment is available at that time, offer demonstrations, and answer questions. Everyone is invited to come and meet the marine officers we depend on when there are water safety emergencies. *[Photos: Fillips illustrates a new BCD and a new mask.]*



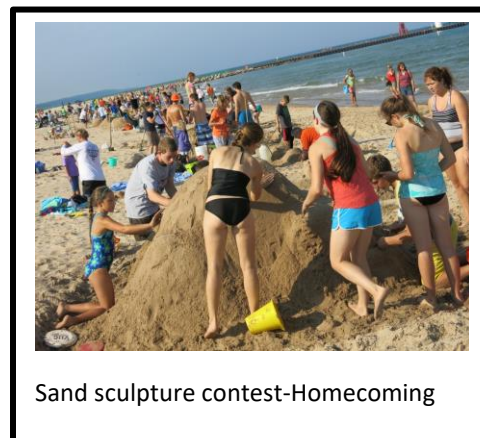
## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 7 Brews and Beats - Village Green Noon - 5:00 pm  
 May 3-14 Oceana County Virtual Student Art Show - View online  
 May 22 Wine & Art Scholarship Benefit - Park Place - 2 - 5PM  
 May 29 Pentwater VFW Hall - Pancake Breakfast 8am -Noon  
 May 30 Memorial Day Parade – 10 am
- June 5 Start of Summer Party at Village Marina - 5 - 7pm  
 June 6 Start of Pentwater Farmers Market, Mon & Thurs 10-1  
 June 10-12 National Asparagus Festival of Oceana County  
 June 11 Pentwater Community Wide Garage Sale 8am-5pm  
 June 11 Cork and Canvas - Pentwater Art Council 4 -7pm  
 June 11 Chocolate Walk, 1-4pm, at designated merchants  
 June 11-12 DNR Free Fishing Weekend  
 June 18 Annual Oceana County Water Safety Day, Village Marina  
 June 18 Pentwater Garden Club Plant Sale – Water Tower Park 9am-1pm  
 June 17 Pentwater Lake Assoc. Annual Mtg & Social - 6pm  
 June 18-19 Spring Fest Arts and Crafts Fair on the Village Green  
 June 23 Civic Band Concerts Start on Village Green thru 8/26 – 8pm  
 June 25 “Tacos & Trek for the Trail” Fundraiser – Meet at VG 11-3
- July 3 Pentwater VFW Hall - Pancake Breakfast 8am-Noon  
**July 3** Pentwater Fireworks at Dusk  
 July 9 Annual Fine Arts Fair on the Village Green - 9am-5pm  
 July 16 Mears Art Fair - Johnson Park, Mears 10am - 5:00 PM  
 July 23 Back from the Mac Party – PYC 5pm  
 July 29 Gallery Stroll - Art Galleries in Pentwater 4-7pm  
 July 30 Ladies’ Classic Fishing Tournament - Village Marine PSA

- Aug 7 Annual Chicken Dinner - St. James Episcopal Church, takeout meals 11:30 – ‘til gone  
 Aug 6 Youth: Trout & Salmon Fishing Tournament PSA  
 Aug 6 COVE<sup>1</sup> 5K/10K Beach Walk/Run - State Park –8:30am  
 Aug 11- 14 Pentwater Homecoming Celebration  
**See [www.pentwater.org](http://www.pentwater.org) for list of all events**  
 Aug 23-27 Oceana County Fair - Hart Fairgrounds  
 Aug 26 Gallery Stroll - Pentwater Art Galleries - 4-7pm  
 Aug 27 Wooden Boat Show & Parade – Pentwater Yacht Club  
 10am to 4pm  
 Aug 26-27 Annual Pentwater Merchants’ Sidewalk Sale

### Summer Weekly Repeats

- Pentwater Farmer’s Market on the Village Green June 3<sup>rd</sup> - Sept 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Civic Band Concerts - June 23<sup>rd</sup> - August 25<sup>th</sup> Thursdays at 8pm  
 Live Blues & Jazz - Gulls Landing - Sundays in July - August at 6pm  
 Comedy Night - Village Pub - Tuesdays in June, July, August at 9pm



## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

### Oceana County Virtual Student Art Show: May 13<sup>th</sup> - May 14<sup>th</sup>

Oceana County Virtual Student Art Show involves all schools in Oceana County. The event is sponsored by the Pentwater Arts Council starting at 6:00 am on May 13<sup>th</sup> through 3:00 pm on May 14<sup>th</sup>. There are 6 categories for student entries. The public can view the art and vote online at [pentwaterartscouncil.com](http://pentwaterartscouncil.com). A People's Choice Award will be given in each category based on public vote. The site will guide users through the voting process.

### Wine & Art Event, Sunday May 22 at Park Place, 2-5pm

Famous for appetizers, wine samples, handmade king size quilt raffle, tons of art, gifts, and service certificates, this annual event raises funds for scholarships to Pentwater students. Tickets \$25 beforehand, \$30 at the door.

### Start of Summer Party (SOS): Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 5pm-7pm.

Say "Hello" to Summer with your neighbors and friends at Pentwater's "Start of Summer Party" at the Village Marina. Hot dogs, water & tableware provided. Bring a dish to share and your own chair. Hosted by the Pentwater Service Club.

### Chocolate Walk: Chocolate Walk, Saturday, June 11, 1-4pm

Calling all Chocolate Lovers – Satisfy your sweet tooth and support the Cancer and Critical Care Fund (at the OC Community Foundation) at the same time. Call 517-290-4892 for tickets (\$40) and collect a delicious chocolate treat at participating merchants. Event chair is PLA member Patrick Fuller.

### Pentwater Community Garage Sale: Saturday, June 11, 8 AM- 5 PM

Garage Sales throughout Pentwater area! Lots of deals and fun! Register your sale for \$10 at Pentwater Chamber of Commerce by May 31st to be on the Virtual Map available on June 9<sup>th</sup>. [www.pentwater.org](http://www.pentwater.org) NOTE: The Pentwater Transfer Station has a "free day" on Saturday, June 19, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.

### Annual Oceana County Water Safety Day at the Village Marina, Saturday, June 18

This is a cooperative effort of the county sheriff's department, the Village police department, and the Pentwater Lake Association. It includes water safety exhibits and games, free lunch, limited free life jackets, rescue demonstrations, and safety officers to answer any questions. Some of the new equipment will be on display.

### Tacos and Trek for the Trail, Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup> 12:00 (noon) - 3:00 PM - see back cover for details

Fireworks in Pentwater, Michigan - July 3 at Dusk, Mears State Park  
Pentwater Fireworks will be over Lake Michigan off the Pentwater pier. Watch them from Charles Mears State Park or from your boat in Lake Michigan. Bring your lawn chair, beach blankets, friends and family. [Fireworks in Hart on July 2, in Silver Lake and Ludington on July 4]

### Pentwater Junior Women's Club Fine Arts and Crafts Fair: July 9, Saturday, 9am-5pm.

This is a "juried" arts and crafts fair on the Village Green. Always a summer highlight of local activities, the Arts and Crafts Fair gets rave reviews from artists and visitors alike.



## **Pentwater Lake Youth Fishing Tournament** by Joe Primozych

This year youth 16 and under will have a hard time to beat the catch from last year. Six of the fish caught were Master Angler fish according to the State of Michigan DNR. It was the best year for bigger fish for the tournament. On another good note, this year's tournament cost will be covered by the Dave Rose memorial fund. Dave was a former board member who passed away last year. A special thanks to Dave's family and friends who were so generous. Fish can be caught between June 11 to August 14 and must be caught between the Long Bridge and the western end of the channel pier.

To enter your catch, text a picture of your fish on a ruler or measuring tape to one of the following numbers and then call to confirm your entry. Measure the fish from the tip of the nose (or lower jaw) to the tip of the tail in a straight line. Indicate the name and age of the angler and a contact person and number to confirm the entry. Catch, measure, and release are encouraged. Fish can be entered by texting or calling one of the following: Joe Primozych 231-742-6339, Dave Peterson 630-533-1009, Tom Walters 231-250-9817, Rich Pugsley 586-255-2642, or Andy Kruger 269-716-0305.

The top fish in each of 17 species will be listed with the angler who caught it on [www.Pentwaterlakeassociation.org](http://www.Pentwaterlakeassociation.org). The winners' trophies should be picked up from Joe Primozych starting August 16. For a complete set of rules go to our website.

The fish species include: Perch, Rock Bass, Small and Large Mouth Bass, Crappie, Sunfish (pumpkinseed), Bluegill, Northern Pike, Sheepshead, Walleye, Gar Pike, Carp, Sucker, Bullhead, Catfish, Dogfish (Bowfin), and White (silver) Bass.

## **Ice is a Force to Respect** by Joe Primozych

In a climate that normally has freezing temperatures to set up ice conditions, the ice creates surprisingly strong forces. The residents of Pentwater are quick to point out the following effects of ice forming on the lake. 1) On freezing days, fishermen on the ice experience ice cracking that can be heard and sometimes seen due to expansion as water freezes. 2) Expansion occurs along the natural shoreline and ice can push or scour it. 3) As new ice forms at the bottom of the ice pack and floats, it expands and pushes up. Dock posts may be lifted in the air if posts are not set deep enough. An obvious example of this can be seen along Monroe Road. 4) Lake Michigan surges bring water into Pentwater Lake and lift buoyant ice flows. This creates fracturing along the shore and leaves large ice blocks broken. While these quickly refreeze they leave the surface uneven or rough. So, a good note to remember is 6 inches of black ice will hold humans walking on it. But bubblers along the shoreline travel under and weaken the ice, creating risky areas. Pay cautious attention and stay away from any places that are questionable.



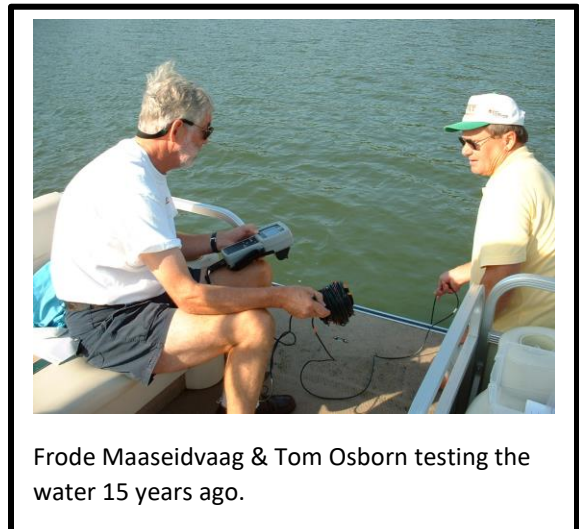


## PLA Water Test Data Collection by Patrick Hooyman

One of the most important activities of the Pentwater Lake Association (PLA) is the collecting of water quality data in the lake and watershed. These measurements are used to monitor the health of the lake and river and to provide guidance to the Pentwater Lake Improvement Board. The data is collected at numerous sites by volunteers periodically during the year and is typically analyzed by the lab at the GVSU Annis Water Resources Institute in Muskegon. A significant part of the PLA budget is used to pay for these lab tests and your dues are an important contribution for this.

The measurements include Chloride (Cl), Sulfates (SO<sub>4</sub>), Nitrates (NO<sub>3</sub>-N), Ammonia-Nitrogen (NH<sub>3</sub>-N), Organic Nitrogen (TKN-N), Soluble Reactive Phosphorus (SRP-P<sub>O</sub>), Total Phosphorus (TP-P), Escherichia Coli (E. Coli) and Water Transparency (Secchi disk).

The PLA has been sampling the water since its founding in 1995 but the water testing data for the lake goes back all the way to 1974 when Connelly Bowling's Pentwater High School Science class gathered data from 1974 to 1995! Recently the PLA has collected and catalogued all of this data and many other pertinent reports into a central file to preserve for use in the future. Reviewing this information shows how fortunate we are in having a healthy lake and watershed and provides a historic basis for monitoring future measurements.



## News Bytes by AnnaMae Bush

### Village Council News

A resolution on public broadcasting of the council meetings was expected at the end of April. Council voted to increase water, sewer and garbage rates. Permission for the use of alcohol on the Village Green, temporarily approved during the COVID pandemic, was renewed. A May 3 vote was scheduled regarding marijuana dispensaries in the Village. An offer to purchase the former Village office building was rejected. Council agreed to allow the Fire Department to sell one of their unneeded trucks for up to \$10,000.

Reappointments of Chris Conroy to the Planning Committee and of Nancy Ceton and Jim Young to the Zoning Board of Appeals were approved. Recreation Director Kate Anderson is taking classes and working alongside Keith Edwards for several months with a

view of taking Edwards' place as Zoning Administrator when his resignation takes effect. The next Council meeting will be held May 9, 6pm, at Park Place.

### Police Department News

Chief Hartrum reported a newly commissioned police vehicle would be put in operation mid-April. Both Chief Hartrum and officer Amanda Payne passed a test that permits them to respond to medical calls.

### Downtown Merchants

Two businesses have changed ownership and several locations have been vacated. Watch for some different enterprises to open on Hancock Street this summer, replacing Beech Nut, Pentwater Toy Box, and Everest Athletic.



## Pentwater Green Schools Club

By: Abe VanDuinen

Green Schools Member



Earth Day was celebrated in a variety of ways this year at Pentwater Public Schools.

Grades 6-12 got to enjoy popcorn and watch the Disney+ original film *Polar Bear*. *Polar Bear* documents the life and story of a female polar bear from childhood to motherhood, highlighting the circumstances that polar bears deal with today due to climate change and the rapid ice melt that the Arctic has been experiencing recently. Thank you to the PTCO for providing popcorn for the K-12 students!

At the same time, students in Mrs. Carter's and Mrs. Macher's classes prepared Hybrid Willow Trees to take home and plant. Thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Carter for donating the trees!



## PENTWATER LAKE ASSOCIATION

“For the Love of the Lake”

P.O. 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 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> . . . . . \$ 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

Patrick Hooyman – President  
Tom Walter – Vice-President  
Beth Provencal– Secretary  
Rich Pugsley – Treasurer  
Dr. Ross Feltes Joe Primozech  
Dan Selahowski Janet Strahan  
Kelie Bond Lynn Cavazos

### PLA Newsletter – published 4X/year

Editor – AnnaMae Bush  
Staff Writers – A. Bush, J. Primozech,  
T. Walter, R. Pugsley, L. Cavazos, P. Hooyman  
Mailing – Caroline Denlar  
Photos: D. Baker, D. Selahowski, Staff writers

### PLA Committees and Chairs

Membership (Pugsley), Natural Resources –  
(Primozech), Publicity (Hooyman), Social (Cavazos)  
Website (Strahan), Water Quality (Bond)  
Education (Pleva), Newsletter (Bush)

### Pentwater Village (869-8301)

President – Jeff Hodges  
Manager – Chris Brown  
Zoning Administrator –  
Clerk/Treasurer – Rande Listerman  
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer – Barb Siok  
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer – Kate Anderson  
*Trustees* – Michelle Angell-Powell, Dave Bluhm,  
Jared Griffis, Dan Nugent, Don Palmer,  
Dr. Claudia Ressel-Hodan

### Pentwater Township (869-6231)

Supervisor – Lynne Cavazos  
Zoning Administrator – Keith Edwards  
Assessor – Barbie Eaton  
Clerk – Maureen Murphy  
Deputy Clerk – Glenn Beavis  
Treasurer – Heather Douglas  
Deputy Treasurer – Lisa McKinney  
*Trustees* – Mike Flynn, Dean Holub

**Police Chief** – Laude Hartrum (869-5987)

**Fire Chief** – Jonathan Hughart(869-5987)

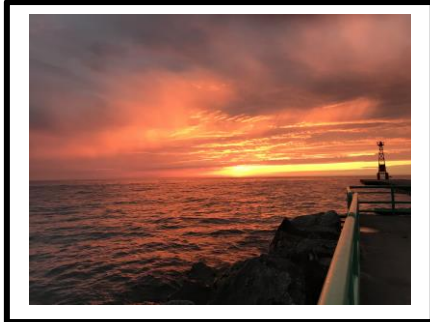
**OC Marine Deputy** – Tim Simon (231-873-2121)

**Pentwater Lake Association**

**PO Box 825**

**Pentwater MI 49449**

[www.pentwaterlakeassociation.com](http://www.pentwaterlakeassociation.com)



**Tacos & Trek for the Trail**  
**Saturday June 25, 12 – 3 p.m.**  
**Pentwater Village Green**

Register Now for the Trek-5K -All preregistered  
participants get a shirt and 2 tacos!-\$25 visit  
[www.pentwaterharttrail.com](http://www.pentwaterharttrail.com) for link

**11:00AM** on site registration  
(shirts not guaranteed)

**12 – 3 p.m.**  
Tacos will be served  
to raise funds for the Pentwater-Hart  
Trail. Minimum donation \$10.

Pentwater-Hart Trail, please visit: [pentwaterharttrail.com](http://pentwaterharttrail.com)  
**[www.Pentwaterharttrail.com](http://www.Pentwaterharttrail.com)**

**Grand Sponsor**  
Spectrum Health  
Ludington

**Platinum Sponsors**  
Pentwater Service Club  
Shelby State Bank

**Additional Support  
from**  
Trailhead Bike Shop  
Pentwater Run Club

For information on how  
you may support the  
effort to build the  
Pentwater Hart Trail  
visit our website and like  
us on Facebook