

Pentwater Lake Association Newsletter

MAY 2021

In This Issue

| | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Committee Reports | pp2-3 |
| Fighting Fire from the Sky | p4 |
| Dam Safety | p5 |
| Marinas | pp6-7 |
| Spring Cleaning Docks | pp7-8 |
| Bubblers – Pros & Cons | pp8-9 |
| Water Safety for Kids | p9 |
| Calendar | pp10-11 |
| News Bytes | pp12-13 |
| Pentwater Green School | p14 |
| Volunteers Needed | p16 |



President's Message: Lynne Cavazos

Pentwater Lake Association - Importance and Benefits

An “association” is often defined as an “organization of persons having a common interest.” Across the State of Michigan, there are hundreds of Lake Associations whose primary interest is to come together, riparians and concerned citizens, to act as stewards to protect and enhance their chosen lake.

Given that all lakes, including Pentwater Lake, are vulnerable to invasive species, pollution, and other environmental issues, it is critical that some structure be in place to prevent wide-spread infestations, potential decline in water quality, and environmental destruction.

It is not enough for all of us to “Love” our lake, we must be sure that we are doing all we can to protect Pentwater Lake, the marsh, and the Pentwater Watershed.

The Winter 2021 issue of the Riparian Magazine identifies the following five (5) benefits of having a Lake Association for lake protection.

(1) Provide Structure to the Local Riparian Community

A Lake Association provides leadership in the form of board members and officers and a membership base that helps protect the lake and provide on-going fund raising for operations and activities.

(2) Increase the Social Capital of the Riparian Community

Social capital comes in two forms: Bonding - that brings a network of people together and Bridging - that draws people together from different backgrounds and experiences. Both forms of social capital help to bring about community action and positive outcomes.

(3) Increase Human & Cultural Capital of the Riparian Community

Human capital includes the knowledge, education, training, intelligence, energy, work habits, trustworthiness, and experience that individuals bring to a community to provide different views and resources. Cultural capital refers to the behaviors and attitudes that people bring that helps to bring about positive change and innovation.

(4) Develop Collaboration between the Association and Local Municipalities

To best care for an inland lake, a Lake association needs to work with municipalities, such as the Township, Village or County Government to assist with financial support and long-term planning. The lake association can in turn provide direction, information and coherent vision for future actions.

(5) Enhance Natural Capital through Participation in Lake Management

Protection of the lake is critical for life to survive in the ecosystems within and surrounding a lake. A lake provides everyone with fresh water, fish, recreation, beautiful vistas and wildlife. We as humans must protect the resources provided by nature to ensure that the lake continues to provide benefits to the community now and into the future.

[Reference: The Michigan Riparian, Winter 2021, Volume 6, Number 1]

It has been my pleasure to serve as the President of the Pentwater Lake Association (PLA) for these past six years (2015 - 2021) and to help ensure that PLA focuses on these 5 benefits. We have experienced a variety of challenges over these past years - new invasive species, excessively high water levels, damaging winds, even a "meteorsunami" from Lake Michigan. As an Association, we have worked together with a variety of state and local environmental groups to take precautions and find solutions to our most pressing issues.

I will continue to be an active member of the PLA in the years to come and support the programs and projects we have initiated to protect our lake, keep visitors to the lake safe while boating and tubing and provide opportunities for the community and all PLA members to be involved and active stewards.

Committee Reports

MEMBERSHIP by Rich Pugsley

May is membership month. Hopefully, you have received your membership form in the mail within the last few days. Now is the time to complete the form and return it. Take advantage of the Riparian Magazine subscription and volunteer opportunities as well. Also, now is a good time to talk with your friends about joining. Just copy the membership form or download one from the PLA website, www.pentwaterlakeassociation.com

On the form is a place for an email address for one or two. We have recently created an email distribution list and hope to send out late breaking news in between newsletters via email. If you would like to receive these emails make sure we have your email address(es). Look for emails from PLAnews@outlook.com. Welcome to our new members who are not in the latest directory.

John and Jilly Barnes, 8347 N Oceana Dr, Pentwater
Ron Christians, 87 Sands St., Pentwater

Rod and Ginger Kronk, 1026 S. Beach St., Pentwater
Kyle and Karen Nelson, 412 S. Rutledge St., Pentwater

PLA WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK by Pat Hooyman

In addition to our newsletter and annual meeting get together, PLA has two other means of online communicating with our members. We have a very complete website at www.pentwaterlakeassociation.com where you will find

past board meeting minutes and lots of information about our lake. We also have a Facebook page – just search for “Pentwater Lake Association” in Facebook and check it out. Feel free to let us know of interesting items our PLA members should be aware of.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE by Lynne Cavazos

PLA Annual Meeting 2020

Invitations and response cards have been sent out. The 2021 Pentwater Lake Association Annual Meeting and Social Gathering will be happening this year on **Friday, June 25, 2021** from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM. The meeting will be held at Park Place (formerly the Friendship Center). You may choose to attend **IN PERSON** or join us **VIRTUALLY** (via a ZOOM connection). ***COVID Precautions will be practiced: Wear Your Mask & Social Distance***

There is a \$15 per person cost if you choose to attend in 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 Emily Neuman, Graduate Student, Grand Valley State University. TOPIC: Research Study - Invasive Species of Pentwater Lake



PLA Strawberry Shortcake Social
We plan to host The PLA Strawberry Social scheduled for **Thursday, August 12, 2021** during Homecoming Week in Pentwater. We serve shortcakes from 6:00

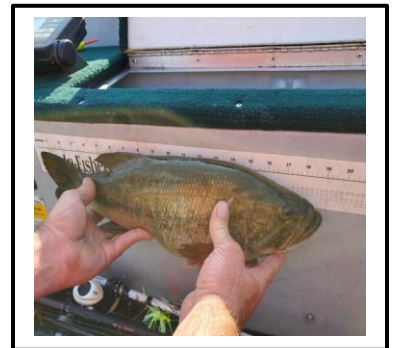
PM until the end of the band concert on the Village Green. Volunteers are always needed for this event.

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 Lynne Cavazos(lcavazos5939@charter.net ; 231-869-5939) or Caroline Denlar(denlar@charter.net ; 231-869-2561).

NATURAL RESOURCES by Joe Primozech

2021 Youth Fishing Contest

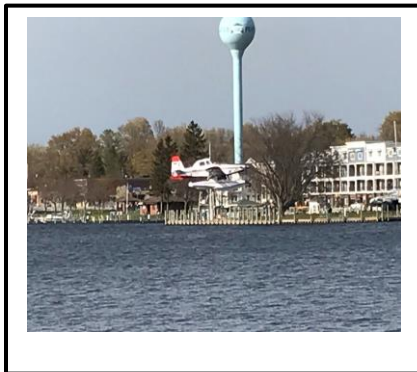
This is the fourth year for the summer youth fishing contest. It begins on Saturday, June 12 and goes to August 15. You must be 16 or younger to enter and follow all



state fishing rules and regulations. June 12 and 13 is free fishing weekend in Michigan. Fish must be caught in Pentwater Lake from the Long Bridge to 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. In a straight line measure your catch from the tip of the nose to the tip of the tail. The name of the angler and age is necessary along with a contact number. Anglers who caught the largest fish in each of 17 lake species will be announced as the winners on August 16th. Winners should pick up their trophies from Joe Primozech. All top fish will be on our website www.pentwaterlakeassociation.org. Contact numbers are Joe Primozech (231-742-6339), Dave Petterson (630-533-1009), Tom Walter (231-250-9817), or Andy Krueger (269-716-0305).

Fighting Fire from the Sky: New Use for our Lake's High Water by Joe Primozich

With the high water levels being a concern for all Pentwater Lake users, it is good to see the lake water put to a unique, beneficial use. On Saturday, May 1, the call went out to water bomb a grass fire that started on Polk Road, about 5 miles south of our lake's Longbridge. The conditions of up to 50 mph gusts meant the ground fighters were only doing clean-up work as the fire was moving too fast. Immediately the forest service called in its two water bombing float planes from Grayling. They needed help to get ahead of the fire, else it was headed to the river, expressway, and north. After three o'clock the floatplanes arrived and made their first run on the lake to pick up water in their two storage pontoons. The agile planes came over the channel and the tree line to touch and run in front of the marina and then hit full throttle to pick up water and lift off by the point at mid lake. Both pontoons were full now. This lift-off of a mile took a while with a full water load. They never cleared the trees, instead going right over Longbridge and heading up the river valley toward Hart and the grass fire on Polk Road. Great Lakes Energy line men were brought in as the threat was real when the fire used the grassy electrical lines to race forward. The line men could see the planes' success in white clouds of steam rising as the water bomb made a direct hit on the fire. The planes made 15 to 20 water runs on the lake before they were done. The men from the fire departments did the clean-up along the fire line that evening. So the reality of the dry seasons came abruptly to Oceana County yesterday in the form of a grass fire that started along a road. Three weeks earlier before the forests greened up, this could have turned into a forest fire. Because of the side of the river it was on, it could have become the first fire to threaten the village of Pentwater in its history.



So, thank the two pilots of the forestry service, the forest service's quick reaction time, our fire departments, and the emergency responders such as the linemen who maintain our electrical lines. For Pentwater, the only inconvenience was a small electrical line was down for 3 hours that day.

According to OceanaPress.com, the fire was called in at 2pm and the area was finally cleared at 9:30pm. On Sunday morning some firefighters returned to check for hot spots. Saturday afternoon the Hart Fire Department was assisted by firefighters from several local departments: Walkerville, Pentwater, Ferry Township and Shelby-Benona. The cause of the fire is suspected to have been a downed power line that was damaged by the strong winds which also worked to fan the flames and spread the fire to approximately 50 acres of grassy fields. Fortunately no building structures were destroyed and no people were injured.

An interesting fact is that the two planes used to fight fires each have a capacity for 700 lbs of water in their pontoons. (See a photo of the fire on the back cover; photo contributed by Bryan Aertz.)

Dam Safety in Michigan Adapted by AnnaMae Bush from a report by Scott Brown

The **Michigan Waterfront Alliance** (MWA) is a 501(c) 4 non-profit corporation formed over twenty years ago in order to effectively advocate for the creation or preservation of state laws, and/or policies designed to protect, preserve, and promote the sustainable and wise use of our state's immense treasure of high-quality freshwater resources. Their activities include lobbying, participating in court cases, and direct involvement with natural resources management. In a recent **MWA** Facebook posting Scott Brown wrote a summary article entitled **Michigan Dam Safety Task Force Issues its Final Report**. The catalyst for the report was the failure last May of two privately owned dams on the Tittabawassee River that flooded two counties, completely drained two lakes, and caused \$250 million in damages. [Many Pentwater residents remember the extensive flooding here in 1986 when the Hart dam failed, Hart Lake drained completely, and the Pentwater River closed US Hwy 31, closed Monroe Road with 17" deep water, and washed out Longbridge Road. Perhaps this story will be featured in a later issue.]

Brown reported Governor Whitmer formed the **Michigan Dam Safety Task Force** in order to perform a comprehensive review of the status of Michigan's 2,500 dams. Comprised of dam safety officials, engineers, senior state agency managers and tribal representatives, the 19-member task force recently issued its report comprised of a set of **86 recommendations** that includes:

- quadrupling the number of EGLE staff members dedicated to dam safety regulation
- hiring additional dam safety inspectors
- establishing a \$25 million dam safety emergency fund over the course of the next five years
- establishing a 20-year, \$400 million loan fund dedicated to helping dam owners with much-needed maintenance on aging, crumbling, high-risk dams
- promoting dam owner accountability by revising and adapting new laws and rules that would act to clarify the on-going responsibilities of dam owners, and the structural engineers they hire to help inspect and maintain dams

It is important to note that most of Michigan's 2,500 dams were built many decades ago, and are now in a state of severe deterioration as a result of age, antiquated design, severe erosion, and/or neglect as indicated by the fact that many of the dams have been poorly maintained over the years. Dams in Michigan are regulated by **Part 307, Inland Lake Levels**, and **Part 315, Dam Safety**, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 Public Act 451. Of Michigan's 2,500 dams, 813 of which are regulated by Part 315, and 235 are regulated by Part 307. Dams are regulated by Part 315 when they are over 6 feet in height, and when they serve to impound over 5 acres of water during the design flood. Dams regulated by Part 307 are structures that were constructed in order to establish and maintain court ordered inland lake levels. Michigan also hosts 99 hydroelectric dams that are regulated by the **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission** (FERC) under the auspices of the Federal Power Act. (Photo is of the Hart Dam, rebuilt after it failed in 1986. Contributes 7% of Hart's electricity.)



THE OTHER WATERFRONTS by Rich Pugsley

In the last newsletter private single-family waterfronts were discussed. In this article the topic is waterfronts that differ from the single-family type. There are four types of other waterfronts: Historical, Condominiums, Marinas, and Rented Mooring Buoys. Understanding these will help us better manage the lakeshore as we strive to protect the lake and its use.

Historical

Historical waterfronts, typically docks with less than 50 feet of lake frontage, or more than 3 boats at a dock, or rented mooring buoys which were in place prior to the date the controlling village and township zoning ordinances and Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) permitting guidelines were enacted. These can continue, but only as non-conforming structures. These occur along Monroe Rd. just north of the Boat House restaurant, at the Oceana Beach dock at 400 Chester St, buoys across from Snug Harbor and in the small bayou.

Condominiums

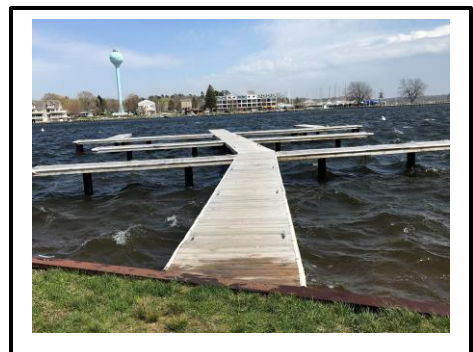
The zoning ordinances in chapter 7A for the Village has an R-4 Lakefront Multiple Family Residential District. The key provision in Section 7.03A is “boat docks for multiple family developments.” This provides the coverage for Spinnaker and Pentwater Point condominiums to have boat slips for each condo owner with less than 50 feet of lake front. Currently there is no other property in the village or township with this zoning classification.

Marinas

Here is the information from EGLE on Marinas: Marina means a facility that is owned or operated by a person, extends into or over an inland lake or stream and offers service to the public or members of the marina for docking, loading or other servicing of recreational watercraft.

“Whether or not an activity or an ongoing use is considered a marina requiring a construction permit under Part 301 Inland Lakes and Streams of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA), depends on the nature of the use. In addition to commercial businesses that provide docking or mooring as part of their services, (EGLE) maintains that docking or mooring from riparian properties such as outlots, trailer parks, condominium and apartment developments, yacht clubs, and other commonly owned or controlled points of access function as and meet the definition of a marina under Part 301.”

“The statutory definition of a marina does not make distinction between commercial or private or residential docking or mooring facilities. It does not make a distinction of whether dock structures or moorings are permanent or seasonal. It only looks at the service being provided by a person to the public or ‘member of the marina.’ While ‘members of the marina’ is not defined in Part 301, EGLE has consistently interpreted this phrase to mean individuals or users of waterfront property where there is common interest in the property and docking, loading, or other servicing of recreation watercraft being provided. Likewise, EGLE has consistently interpreted ‘private noncommercial recreational use’ as reasonable exercise of legitimate riparian rights associated with waterfront property zoned and used for single family residential use.” In summary, when a dock is used by more than a single-family resident, it requires a marina permit and the correct Village or Township zoning.



Pentwater currently has 10 marinas with permits. These include Pentwater Municipal, Snug Harbor, Yacht Club, Charlies Marina, Pentwater Point, Pirates Plank, Point Holdings, Oceana Beach Association(photo), Spinnaker Condominiums, and the Boathouse restaurant. Now that the Boathouse is for sale the nature of that waterfront could change with the new owner. Their marina permit will continue to be in place for the new owner. With existing zoning ordinances any new marina location requires a commercial zoning classification. Also, when any permits for marinas are submitted EGLE notifies the Village, Township and PLA .

Mooring Buoys

Rented mooring buoys are the fourth condition. These exist opposite Snug Harbor with permits granted prior to the existing ordinances. ***New mooring buoy permits need*** to meet the following EGLE general category requirements.

One noncommercial mooring buoy that meets all of the following:

- The mooring buoy serves 1 single family residential property.
- The entire circular area swept out by the vessel moored at the buoy under all wind conditions will not interfere with navigation and the riparian rights associated with the adjacent riparian properties.
- The applicant must own a riparian parcel located landward of the buoy location (i.e., provide proof of ownership or warranty deed to the DEQ).
- The latitude and longitude of the buoy and a scaled site plan showing the distance of the buoy offshore has been provided to the DEQ.
- The buoy must be clearly marked with the DEQ and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) file numbers in letters and numbers at least 1-inch high and of contrasting color to the background color of the buoy.
- The buoy must meet all relevant United States Coast Guard requirements and the requirements of Part 801, Marine Safety, of the NREPA.

Also of note is that the person assigned the permit is responsible for the buoy. Permits may be reassigned to a new riparian owner. So, if a property with a buoy is sold, the permit should be changed to the new owner. Just like changing the registration on a vehicle.

We who enjoy the lake are very fortunate that the Village and Township zoning ordinances and EGLE permitting guidelines have evolved over time to provide the level of protection the lake now enjoys.

Spring Cleaning at The Lake by AnnaMae Bush

PLA member Greg Harrison raised a question for the Board: “What is an environmentally safe and effective way to clean docks?” Because docks extend over the lake surface, any runoff from cleaning directly enters the lake. But the question can also apply to decks, paddle boards, kayaks, boats, and other water toys that are cleaned on the lakeshore. There may be moss, mold, sap, barnacles as well as dirt clinging to waterfront structures and recreational items. Some of these unwanted substances are harder to remove than others, whether the surfaces are wood, metal, or vinyl. It was a good question and very timely for this issue of the newsletter.

Unquestionably the safest method is to use a good power washer with plain water. When water alone does not do a satisfactory job, a cleaning agent can be added to the water – as long as the cleaning agent contains no phosphates (phosphorous) or nitrates, which are the culprit ingredients that almost immediately cause

algae blooms. So before you add a soap or suds household cleaner, check the ingredients list. I found that Dawn dish soap and Spic and Span were both safe. If you don't have the force of a power washer, try using a brush, sponge, or rag with some good "elbow grease".

Once a year the PLA Board participates in a state-wide program to educate boaters how to identify invasive species and prevent spreading them from one lake to another. When a boat cleaning station is available, volunteers wash the boats with water, towels, and a spray bottle of a weak bleach solution – best done at a distance from the water shoreline.

People who are seriously interested in learning more about battling water invasive species and cleaning their water vehicles/toys safely can register for a free MSU extension course. It is an online course that takes several hours to complete. Access the information at www.michigan.org/educational-programs/mi-paddle-stewards/

Bubblers: The Pros and Cons by Tom Walter

Doesn't everything have its pros and cons? Like our winter weather lately. We haven't had to shovel snow as much and as often, but we also didn't have as much ice on the lake. To some that is welcome but to others, like ice anglers, poor ice conditions are a disappointment.

More open water leads to a larger, more dramatic waterfowl show and results in less jeopardy for those protecting permanent docks. Hard pervasive ice can ruin a dock.

Those with permanent docks usually protect them from ice with bubblers. There are bubbler models that actually use bubbles to deter ice formation. But most use electric motor-driven propellers, hung from ropes, that direct a current toward the surface to deter ice formation. They work well. They are a little pricey and gobble electricity, but what are you going to do? You don't want to have your dock ruined.



There are several issues involved though, for dock protectors as well as for ice anglers. During the warmer winters, with less ice, you don't need to run bubblers constantly. If you do, they leave a much larger open water area. Sometimes that open water area can stretch for hundreds of feet or more. If you are not around to see it, you may not even know that it is happening. A large "bubbler hole" can create a risk for someone to fall in. It might be large enough to eliminate your neighbor's need to bubble their dock. But maybe it prevents them from getting on "their" ice when they want to. Last winter I couldn't get on my ice at all. At times bubbler holes stretched across both boat ramp accesses last winter. The Lake Association placed warning signs at the ramps to warn

ice users. What I am saying is that others can be negatively affected, and that can generate complaints. Are there possible compromises to consider?

Last winter a complaint about bubblers affecting the boat ramp was fielded by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Conservation Officer. After some investigation the officer forwarded the complaint to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). Apparently EGLE asked the bubbler owner(s) to contain their impacts or get a permit.

That response by EGLE sheds some light. The permitting system is largely designed to manage environmental as well human impacts. A general permit with a \$50 application fee, and a minor project permit with a \$100 application fee, are largely for projects that have little or no impact to the environment or others. If there are larger impacts, the applicant needs an individual or public notice project permit with an application fee that can be \$500 - \$2,000. What begins to emerge is the need to reduce your impacts on others or get a permit. If you have a permit for your dock, I am guessing that permit did not disclose a bubbler that results in impacts to others.

Actually, reducing impact is not a lot to ask. Limiting your liability is in your interest as well as everyone else's. There are ways to reduce your impact. You could get a timer and/or a thermostat. They may cost a little - but not as much as the permit. Might as well get it before the permit rather than after the permit. A thermostat can be set to turn off when the temp is above 30 and turn back on when it is below 30 for example. Perhaps there is a rheostat that can reduce the motor speed so it propels with less force. These impact mitigation measures might even reduce your electric bill! (My photo is of a tidy little bubbler hole.) So there you have it. You may not have realized all the issues related to bubblers. It is really just about being a good neighbor. Be nice, save some money, avoid the permit. It is easier than you think.

Water Safety for Students by AnnaMae Bush

Living in a community with multiple bodies of water we have good reason to be concerned about the safety of children around water. Two years ago the PLA partnered with the Oceana County Marine Officer and the Pentwater Police to sponsor a day-long Water Safety Day, held at the Pentwater Marina. Aimed at all age groups there were demonstrations, diving equipment to explore, law enforcement individuals to meet, hotdogs to enjoy, and a distribution of 100 free life jackets for children. Envisioned as an annual event, it was canceled last year due to COVID but hopefully will return this summer.



Some larger communities (Grand Rapids, for example) cooperate with local WMCA facilities to offer water safety courses geared to specific grade levels to teach children how to tread water, how to float, how to swim, and how to be safe in unexpected circumstances in the water. The PLA Board is exploring the possibility of bringing such a program to our community. The first step is gauging the interest and support of parents for an extended water safety program. We hope to do that in the near future. Providing there is enough interest, we would need to find available pool facilities and certified instructors, work out logistics for school scheduling and transportation, and secure funding for the costs involved. We already have a willing partner in the Muskegon YMCA water safety program. We will keep PLA members updated on the process.

Classroom Work on Water Safety yet this year: Betty Pleva has been a PLA Board liaison to the Pentwater Elementary School, where she taught for many years. She has helped to initiate a program called "Be Aqua Smart" which includes a classroom aspect and a public service aspect. In the classroom the teachers will introduce safety rules with boating, swimming, fishing, and other water sports. Teachers will also explain how students can be eco-friendly with the many waterways they encounter.

After studying safety rules and eco-friendly behavior, the students will work with the art instructor, Mrs. Jeruzal, to create posters that display their knowledge as public service announcements. The posters will be displayed throughout the village during the boating and swimming season. Look for these artful messages this summer! The PLA thanks Mrs. Jeruzal and Pentwater Elementary teachers for their willing participation in this program.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS, SUMMER 2021

- May 14-15 Oceana County Student Art Show – Pentwater Art Council
- May 22 Community Garden Dedication, 11am, next to the library
- May 31 Memorial Day Parade – **Cancelled**
- June 6 Start of Summer Party - Hancock Street, 5-7pm. Everyone is welcome! Hot dogs, beverages, & table ware provided; bring your own sides. (No sharing due to COVID.)
- June 7 Start of Pentwater Farmers Market – Village Green, Mon & Thurs, 10-1
- June 11-13 National Asparagus Festival of Oceana County: For daily details call 231-873-2247
- June 12 Pentwater Community Wide Garage Sale; 8am-5pm
- June 12-13 DNR Free Fishing Weekend, no license needed. Fish Pentwater Lake or Lake Michigan
- June 19 Garden Club Plant Sale & Exchange – Water Tower Park 9-1
- June 19-20 Spring Fest Arts and Crafts Fair on the Village Green
- June 24 Civic Band Concerts Start on VG thru 8/26 – 8pm
- June 25 Pentwater Lake Assoc. Annual Mtg & Social
- June 26 “Tacos for Trails” – Meet at Village Green 11-3
(See **News Bytes** for details)
- July 3** Pentwater Fireworks at Dusk – TBD
- July 7-11 Vietnam Memorial Traveling Wall – Oceana Fair Grounds, 8A-5P daily; *Honoring Veterans Day* in Oceana County
- July 10 Annual Fine Arts Fair on the Village Green - 9am-5pm
- July 17 Mears Art Fair - Johnson Park, Mears 10am - 5:00 PM
- July 23 Back from the Mac Party – PYC 5pm (See **News Bytes** for details)
- Aug 1 Annual Chicken Dinner - St. James Episcopal Church 11:30 - 2:00
- Aug 7 COVE 5K/10K Beach Walk/Run - State Park –8:30am
- Aug 12- 15 Pentwater Homecoming Celebration See www.pentwater.org for all events
- Aug 17-22 Oceana County Fair - Hart Fairgrounds
- Aug 28 Wooden Boat Show & Parade – PYC 10 to 4
- Aug 27-28 Annual Merchants’ Pentwater Sidewalk Sale



The Orioles are back! Put out the oranges and grape jelly!

Notes on Selected Events

Oceana County Virtual Student Art Show: May 14, 9am – May 15, 4pm.

Sponsored by the Pentwater Arts Council (PAC). Student work can be viewed and citizens can vote for their favorites at the PAC website, pentwaterartscouncil.org. The site allows easy access and will guide users through the voting process. Prizes will be awarded.

Pentwater Community Garage Sale— June 12, 2021, 8 AM- 5 PM
Garage Sales throughout Pentwater area! Register your garage sale at Pentwater Chamber of Commerce by May 31st. The cost is \$10 to be on the map.

Virtual Map will be available on June 9th. www.pentwater.org

Spring Fest Arts & Crafts Fair

Saturday 10am-5pm, June 19 and Sunday 10am-3pm, June 20

Location: Village Green, 231 S. Hancock Street, Pentwater, MI

Over 100 vendors provide hand-made crafts, a special skill or art, a skilled trade or antiques on the Village Green. COVID 19 Precautions will be in place.



57th Annual Pentwater Junior Women's Club Fine Arts and Crafts Fair

Saturday, July 10th on the Village Green in Pentwater. Hours 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Always a highlight of the summer activities in Pentwater, the Arts and Crafts Fair gets rave reviews from both artists and visitors alike. This is a juried arts and crafts fair.

Wine & Art Scholarship Fundraiser [NOTE NEW DATE AND LOCATION](#)

Date: Sunday, 8/29th Park Place in Pentwater; 2:00 - 5:00 PM Advanced Tickets - \$25, At the Door - \$30

This event raises thousands of dollars to support post high school education scholarships for Pentwater grads. Hosted by the Pentwater Women's Club.

The event will feature a silent auction on many varied items and gift certificates for all kinds of goods and services. There will be wines to sample, along with a table full of delicious hors d'oeuvres. A special raffle is scheduled to give away a lovely hand-made quilt, a highlight of previous years' fundraisers.

Tickets will be available for sale soon at many merchants in Pentwater and Hart.

Summer Weekly Repeats

[Pentwater Farmer's Market on the Village Green](#) June 4th – September 3rd

Mondays and Thursdays at 10am-1pm

[Civic Band Concerts – 73 Year Tradition](#) June 24th– August 26th

Thursdays at 8PM

NOTE: See the Pentwater Chamber Website for details and cancellations. (www.pentwater.org)

News Bytes

Tacos for the Trail, Saturday June 26th 12:00 (noon) - 3:00 PM

At 11:00 AM, register for the 2 MILE Ride/Run/Walk at Noon.

The registration cost is a \$20 donation per family or \$10 per person.



From 12:00 - 3:00 PM tacos will be served on the Village Green to raise funds for the Pentwater Hart Trail. Minimum donation is \$10. The Grand Sponsor is Spectrum Health, Ludington Hospital.

NOTE: Start your day the Taco Way - Get a breakfast burrito at Green Isaac's and they will donate 50% to the Trail Fund.

Back from the MAC Party

Sponsored by Pentwater Yacht Club, this event is July 23, 5-11pm.

This food and music event brings racing sailboats and their crews to Pentwater as they return from the Chicago Yacht Club Race to Mackinac. The public can buy tickets and join in the fun 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM.

Buffet available, Cash Bar 5:00 PM - Midnight. Live Music - Rocket Fuel Handlers at 8:00 PM

For additional information, call the PYC at (231) 869-8921.

Don VanZile Memorial Boater Safety Course

This two-day training will be held 8/5 and 8/6 at the Pentwater Yacht Club. All interested persons aged 12 and above are welcome. For more information, call Tim Simon, Oceana County Marine Deputy at (231) 873-6771

Wooden Boat Show & Parade

This annual event will be held at the Pentwater Yacht Club August 28, 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

A Buffet Lunch is available from 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM to the public. Award ceremony is at 3pm.

Yacht Club News

At a March 27 meeting, the Pentwater Yacht Club Board of Directors voted to continue the design phase for a one-story building with an upper deck. PYC members have shared their thoughts and ideas regarding the clubhouse for the past several months. Plans will be finalized in the weeks ahead. Construction is slated to begin right after Labor Day, with completion targeted for around Memorial Day of 2022. The benefits to be realized include a longer season, better in/outside views, more outside seats, comfortable and functional bar, modern and more efficient kitchen, safer footing, above the flood plain, meets all safety codes, energy efficient HVAC and air filtration, modern audio/video/IT capability, and ADA compliance. (submitted by Ron Beeber)

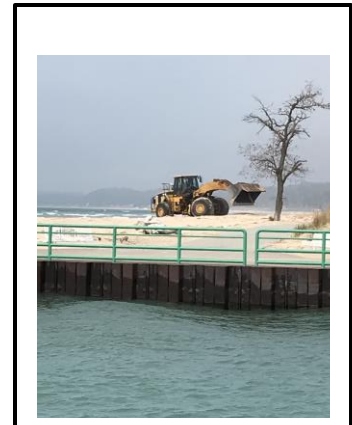
Pentwater Service Club

Members have been very busy this spring. On April 16 they added dirt to the community garden boxes where the dirt had settled over winter. On April 22 they met early in the morning to accomplish their highway trash pickup along two miles on US 31. On April 23 they stained the exterior of the garden box frames. On May 1 they assisted (with several other groups) in a huge camp cleanup project at the Methodist Camp on Ridge Road. They are gearing up for selling food in the Duncan Wagon for summer craft events. Now selling their caramel popcorn at several retailers, they are spending a lot of time popping corn. After collecting 50 bushels of food last year to mark their 50th anniversary, they decided to hold an annual food drive and have been collecting food and donations for the local Baptist church food bank. On May 22 the

culmination of their community garden project will be celebrated with a dedication ceremony. There are still a few of the elevated (accessible) garden boxes available and the boxes rent for only \$40 per growing season. Contact Jim or Laurel Howell if you are interested.

Summer Preparations

The last week in April saw the annual removal of snow fences and reshaping of the beach at Mears Sate Park. The sound of heavy equipment moving the sand into a gentle decline to the water's edge was sweet to hear in its promise of pleasant times once more at the beach. To help guide boaters in the channel after sundown, the lights on the south wall of the channel were also reinstalled. Bursts of yellow in the abundance of daffodils and forsythia bushes are welcome sights. Temperatures in the 60s and 70s have helped us get eager for the return of summer. See you at the *Start of Summer* Party June 6!!



West Michigan SAIL (WMS)

Formerly known as West Michigan Sailing Program, WMS is a non-profit 501(C)(3) organization based in Pentwater. WMS recently launched its new website and has published its 2021 brochure. To view the 2021 brochure and learn more about WMS, visit the website at <https://wmsail.com/>. The brochure makes clear the need for and the value of a sailing program for veterans.

This summer is going to be a busy time for the new organization. WMS has the honor and unique opportunity of hosting two certified US Sailing courses beginning May 17, 2021 on Pentwater Lake, Pentwater, MI. *US Sailing, is the official governing body for the sport of sailing in the United States.*

There are still open seats available for these two classes. Anyone who would like to become a US Sailing Certified Keelboat Instructor, can go to the US Sailing Websites below and register for either of the classes being hosted by West Michigan SAIL. Courses will be taught by the Certified Sailing Instructor, Betsy Alison.

Keelboat Instructor Course being offered May 17-19,
2021 <https://www.ussailing.org/education/instructor/keelboat-instructor-programs/>

Adaptive Sailing Instructor Course being offered May 21-23, 2021
<https://www.ussailing.org/education/adult/adaptive-sailing/instructor-workshop/>

For Your Recreational Pleasure If you enjoy frisbee golf, there is a great 18-basket course near the Hart Dam. It's free and beautiful!



To find it, take Harrison Road east of 72nd Street. Harrison dead-ends at the golf course and the dam.



Pentwater Green Schools Club

by Shelby Brown



The Michigan Green Schools program was founded in 2006. Students and teachers from Hartland Consolidated Schools came up with the idea in 2005 and proceeded to propose their bill to Michigan Representative Joe Hune, who introduced the bill to the Michigan House of Representatives.

Students and teachers testified before the House Natural Resources Committee, and the bill was forwarded to the House floor. Under the name of "Public Act 146 of 2006," the bill was passed with an overwhelming majority. Next stop, the Senate.

After being sponsored by State Senator Valde Garcia, the legislation was sent to the Senate floor by the Michigan Senate Natural Resources Committee. Once again, the bill was passed with an almost unanimous vote. It was signed into law in 2006 by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm.



The purpose of Michigan Green Schools is to assist all Michigan schools in achieving goals directed towards protecting the environment.

By completing activities with these goals in mind, participating schools can earn "points" and work towards a Green Schools Status. Schools can work towards either a Green School (10 points), Emerald School (15 points), or Evergreen School (20 points) Environmental Stewardship Designation.

Pentwater Public Schools became one of the almost 700 schools involved with Michigan Green Schools in 2009. The Pentwater Green Schools club has worked hard to earn the Evergreen status for eleven consecutive years and current membership amounts to 15 students.



The Green Schools Club provides students with the opportunity to actively protect our environment by recycling, picking up litter, and so much more. Annual events such as the Mears State Park Beach Clean-Up allow for learning experiences and contribute to making our community a better place overall.

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 (in Color) _____ Hard Copy via USPS (in B&W) _____

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

Lynne Cavazos – President

Patrick Hooyman – Vice-President

Betty Pleva– Secretary

George Richey – Treasurer

Rich Pugsley

Mike Peters Dan Selahowski

Joe Primozych Janet Strahan

Beth Provencal Tom Walter

PLA Newsletter – published 4X/year

Editor – AnnaMae Bush

Staff Writers – A. Bush, J. Primozych,

T. Walter, R. Pugsley, L. Cavazos,

Mailing – Caroline Denlar

PLA Committees and Chairs

Membership (Pugsley), Natural Resources –
(Primozych), Publicity (Hooyman), Social (Cavazos)

Website (Richey), Water Quality (Peters)

Education (Pleva), Newsletter (Bush)

Pentwater Village (869-8301)

President – Jeff Hodges

Manager – Chris Brown

Zoning Administrator – Keith Edwards

Clerk/Treasurer – Rande Listerman

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer – Barb Siok

DeputyClerk/Treasurer – Kate Anderson

Trustees – Michelle Angell-Powell, Pam Burdick,

Jared Griffis, Dan Nugent, Don Palmer,

Dr. Claudia Ressel-Hodan

Pentwater Township (869-6231)

Supervisor – Lynne Cavazos

Clerk – Sue Ann Johnson

Treasurer – Heather Douglas

Trustees – Mike Flynn, Dean Holub

Police Chief – Laude Hartrum (869-5987)

Fire Chief – Paul Smith (869-5987)

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

Pentwater Lake Association
PO Box 825
Pentwater MI 49449
www.pentwaterlakeassociation.com



Polk Road Fire, Hart, May 1
Photo courtesy of Bryan Aertz

Volunteering for the Pentwater Lake Association by Tom Walter

Back in late 2020, meeting on Zoom, the Pentwater Lake Association (PLA) board members began a planning exercise for 2021. We were asked to think about what we have been doing. We were to identify what activities we should do more of, less of, or just keep doing. That was an interesting exercise. There were many more suggestions for more we could be doing than anything else. Way too much more. We did decide to produce a State of the Lake Report.

The State of the Lake Report will tell our membership what has been going on and what more can be done. It will include a Volunteer Pathway to identify needs for participation and a process for getting volunteers included. There are a lot of activities in many areas.

For example, some of the things you could help with in the aquatic arena are raking up and loading and unloading European Frog Bit, maintaining the floating Frog Bit Boom, collecting and transporting water samples, putting together a parade float, placing and removing Sea Tow life jacket stands, and staffing a Clean Water Clean Boats event. These are just some of the things to do in one area of interest. There is much more.



So think about it. It is a little bit of work but much more fun. You will meet some new people and learn from folks who have experience. For now there is a place on the membership mail-in envelope to indicate your interest. With a few more volunteers we can get more done ***For the Love of the Lake!***