



*The Publication of the Hamlin Lake Preservation Society— Summer 2011*

## HISTORIC HAMLIN COTTAGE PRESERVATION

We would like your help.

In honor of Hamlin Township's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Hamlin Lake Preservation Society is sponsoring an initiative to move an historic cottage from Hamlin Lake to Historic White Pine Village.

This structure will be the center piece of an exhibit that attempts to recreate what it was like for a summer visitor to decamp from the dummy train, catch a launch, and move into a vacation cottage on Hamlin Lake. In the words of advertisements in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Hamlin Lake was the "Playground of the Western World," or "'To those in search of rest and recreation there is nothing in the world to rival it.'" At the end of the lumbering era life on Hamlin Lake was rustic indeed: kerosene lanterns, water pumped by hand, outhouses, but the fishing, boating and "bathing" (swimming) were just fine.



The first phase of this initiative will be to identify a cottage that will be accepted for inclusion at Historic White Pine Village. If you know of such a structure, please contact us.

The second phase will involve costing out and raising the funds to move and install the structure at the Village. When the time comes, we will be looking for donors who can make this move possible.

The third phase will involve planning the exhibits within the structure and raising the funds to install them. Donations of period items that vacationers would have used will also be sought.

Continued on page 3

# Hamlin Lake Preservation Society Board

## OFFICERS

**President, Jim Pinkerton**

pink829@yahoo.com

**Vice President, Bruce Pelletier**

tiggerroo@charter.net

**Recording Secretary, Wayne Disegna**

wdisegna@frontier.com

**Treasurer, Linda Leibole**

tedleibole@msn.com

Asst. Treasurer Kathy McGill

## DIRECTORS

Susan Austin

Jim Clark

Ruth Crompton

Lloyd Gearhart

Lynn Hoepfinger

Alison Puffer

Jim Storm

Bruce Pelletier

Kathy McGill

Kent Gage

Wayne Andersen

## COMMITTEES

*Government Relations*—Norval Stephens

*Mailings*—Ruth Crompton

*Membership*—

*Newsletter*—Wayne Disegna  
Karen Disegna

*Special Events*—Susan Austin,  
Linda Leibole, Alison Puffer

*Walleye*—Jim Storm

*Water Quality*—Lynn Hoepfinger,  
Wayne Disegna

*Weed Study*—Ted Leibole

**HLPS is a tax exempt organization under Sec. 501(c) 3 of the IRS code.  
All dues and contributions are tax deductible.**

Hamlin Lake *Currents*  
is published three times-a-year  
by the  
Hamlin Lake Preservation Society  
P.O. Box 178  
Ludington, MI 49431

Our educational objective is to  
present articles on current concerns,  
history, and activities pertaining to  
Hamlin Lake.

### **YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE WELCOME!**

Please address letters to:  
Wayne Disegna  
6647 W. Jackson Road  
Ludington MI 49431  
Phone: 231.843.6841  
wdisegna@frontier.com

*Your comments are welcome!  
E-mail Jim Pinkerton, President,  
pink829@yahoo.com.  
or write to the  
Hamlin Lake Preservation Society,  
P.O. Box 178  
Ludington MI 49431*

*All opinions expressed in this  
newsletter are those of the authors  
and are not necessarily  
the opinions of the  
Hamlin Lake Preservation Society.*

Hamlin Township  
Transfer Facility on Dewey  
Road

**WINTER SCHEDULE  
October 1—April 30  
Wednesday and Saturday  
9 A.M.—5 P.M.**

**SUMMER SCHEDULE  
May 1—September 30  
Monday, Wednesday, and  
Saturday,  
10 A.M. - 6 P.M.**

Hamlin Lake  
*Currents* Masthead  
Designed by  
Jeff Austin

HLPS has a website thanks to  
Jim Clark and Jeff Rupp. Take  
a look at  
[www.hamlinlakepreservation.org](http://www.hamlinlakepreservation.org)

The sophistication of the overall exhibit will be limited only by the amount of money that we can raise.

The Hamlin Lake Preservation Society has appointed board members James Clark and Alison Puffer to the organizing committee. Virginia Hluchan, Larry Scherer, Judy and John Thorp have volunteered to serve on this committee.



John Thorp is the contact person for the first phase of this project. If you are interested in supporting this initiative in any way, please contact him at [thorp641@aol.com](mailto:thorp641@aol.com), 6204 Grace Ave, or 845-5775.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER \*  
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*Our lake is at its summertime level and we are starting to see some boating activity on the lake. If only we could get Mother Nature to cooperate with some warmer weather just imagine what wonderful things we could be doing.*

*Spring really has not been anything to talk about. Many of us are waiting for the warm weather to come and stay. I for one am not a fan of cold weather and I'm still waiting to do my yard work and putting the boat in the water.*

*Our Hamlin Lake Preservation Society is asking you to renew your membership, the membership forms will be in the mail this month. The membership fee remains the same as last year; \$20.00.*

*Do not forget! This year marks the 150th Anniversary of our Hamlin Township. The following are just some of the activities being planned:*

- July 2nd      Fireworks on Hamlin Lake*
- Aug. 6th      Open House 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Hamlin Town Hall*
- Aug. 7th      Boat Regatta at Wilson Hill Park from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.*

*Ice Cream Social follows the Regatta*

*We hope you have a safe and wonderful fun filled summer.*

*Jim Pinkerton  
President*



## ***Natural Shoreline Landscapes on Michigan Inland Lakes A workshop for property owners***

Date, Time: To be announced- Planned for July/August 2011  
Mason County Location: Fin & Feather Club of Mason County- Scottville

Natural shorelines provide multiple benefits to our inland lakes. Natural shoreline landscaping and bioengineered erosion control techniques can restore those benefits by reducing runoff, deterring geese, stabilizing soils and improving fish and wildlife habitat while maintaining aesthetically pleasing access to your lake. Already have rock or sea wall? Learn how to enhance those structures for the benefit of your lake.

Workshop topics include:

- Healthy lake ecosystems
- Designing natural landscapes on lake shorelines
- Problems with high impact landscape methods
- Use of native plants in shoreline landscapes
- State of Michigan rules and regulations

***Workshop hosted by Fin & Feather Club of Mason County***  
*in cooperation with the Mason-Lake Conservation District  
and the Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership*



Workshops are also being planned for Oceana and Lake Counties

If you think you might be interested in attending a workshop this summer please e-mail [lynda.herremans@mi.nacdnet.net](mailto:lynda.herremans@mi.nacdnet.net) or call her at the Mason-Lake Conservation District (231) 757-3708 x3, so that she can send you more details as they become available.

# VIEW FROM THE COCKPIT

By Norval Stephens

June, 2011

Can you imagine the pain being at Hamlin Lake over the Memorial Day weekend, catching the first glimpse of the Lake late Thursday afternoon, and seeing a gentle north wind at work roughing the surface—and no sailboat in the water? Then, that night, the temperature dropped to 36 degrees! Can you imagine!

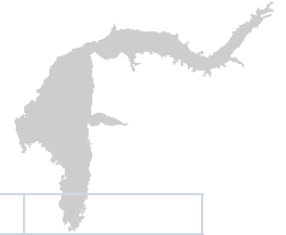
A quick chance on Friday in good weather to put the lift in place for my Laser sailboat, all ready for some decent weather. And what happened? First, some rain and then on Sunday night and all day Monday gale force winds, up to 25 knots per hour. And, of course, packing up after a long weekend and getting the house ready for the season on Tuesday,

May 31, glorious gentle breezes, I see a Sunfish out in Sunset Bay teasing me. Second, or is it third, a long-term weather report for the summer predicting relatively greater amplitude in the wind strengths all season. No matter. Sailing is at the whim of the gods. We lost more Saturdays last year than I can remember. Maybe, just maybe, the predictions will be wrong. But, what does not change is the belief of every sailor that today may be my day, that the guess to tack early and chance a wind shift will pay off, that the other sailors will count on more wind mid-lake and I will try the wind closer to shore, and.... All winter, I replay some of the races in my mind. But, put me on shore, even in a blow-out and I will try to see what I would do. You see, while in the cockpit, the whole race is up to you, every minute, with every sudden luff, with every move of the other boats and the final calculation on how best to play the wind down to the final whistle.

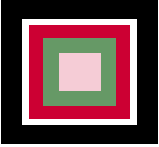
So, even with no chance even to consider sailing considering the To Do List, I could still look out at our beautiful lake, even in a tempest, and long for the starting horn later in the season. At least, that is thinking with my hand on the edge of the cockpit while the boat is still hung from the rafters.



**Hamlin Lake Preservation Society**  
**Annual Treasurer's Report**  
**January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010**



<b>CHECKING ACCOUNT:</b>				
	<u>Prev. Bal.</u>	<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Disburs.</u>	<u>Balance</u>
	61,234.30	25,691.64	17,161.42	69,764.52
Membership Dues	29,653.03	7,120.00	4,148.39	32,624.64
Riparian Magazine	519.00	424.00	528.00	415.00
<b>CONTRIBUTIONS:</b>				
General Fund	9,428.77	2,112.00	2,671.22	8,869.55
Fish Fund	5,003.09	2,593.00	0.00	7,596.09
Water Quality	3,994.94	1,765.00	913.81	4,846.13
Fireworks	7,849.18	9,194.64	8,300.00	8,743.82
Walleye Stocking	152.61	688.00	600.00	240.61
Land Reserve Project (Land Purchase)	2,623.52 1,000.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	2,623.52 1,000.00
Memorials	859.96	1,795.00	0.00	2,654.96
Sailing	150.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
<b>(includes #2 CD @ \$5000, #3 CD @ \$15,000 and #4 CD @ \$10,000)</b>				
<b>FIFTH THIRD Bank Certificates of Deposit:</b>				
#1 CD valued @ \$8108.94 + \$85.97 int.= \$8194.91 (int. 1/1/10 - 12/31/10)				
#2 CD \$1262.89 int.+ \$68.08 = \$1,330.97) (int. 1/1/10 - 12/31/10)				
#3 CD \$2780.81 int. + \$234.68 = \$3015.49 (int. 1/1/10 - 12/31/10)				
#4CD \$22.42 int. + \$108.9 = \$131.32 (int. 1/1/10 - 12/31/10)				
<b>CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE</b>				69,764.52
<b>FIFTH THIRD BANK #1 CD + int. and #2 CD int. + #3 CD int.)</b>				<u>12,672.69</u>
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$82,437.21</b>
<b>postal acct. balance</b>				<b>\$268.51</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>82705.72</b>



# Meeting Report Minutes



## Hamlin Lake Preservation Society Meeting

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011

**Present:** Kent Gage, Wayne Disegna, Linda Leibole, Susan Austin, Alison Puffer, Jim Clark, Wayne Andersen, Ruth Crompton, and Lynn Hoepfinger

Guests: John Throp, Larry Shearer, and Beckie Reimer

Meeting called to order 7:00pm @ Lynn Hoepfinger's house

### Reports

#### Secretary's Report

No minutes presented

#### Treasurer's Report

The financial statements for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2010, for 2010 annual, and for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2011. Receipts from membership dues are down from 2009 indicating a drop in membership. Two CD's matured and the new rate for a 6 month CD is now 0.3%.

The reports were all approved.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### Membership Committee

The letters for membership dues will be sent out immediately. Bonnie Wood has resigned as membership chairman and a replacement is needed. One will be selected after the annual meeting and election of officers.

#### Water Quality

Testing for Phosphorous, chlorophyll, secchi disk, and dissolved oxygen on Hamlin Lake has begun. We are having to now share the dissolved oxygen meter with 2 other lakes. The board felt that the water quality committee should go ahead and purchase our own meter. Lynn will do that.

#### Fish Committee

The VHS virus in Walleye has been corrected and 350,000 are to be planted hopefully in Hamlin Lake which is good news. The fish fund has enough money available for another planting of pan fish. Jim Storm will be working on this.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### Fireworks

The fireworks are set for July 2<sup>nd</sup> with a rain date of July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Permits have been obtained and everything is in order. HLPS has been offered 1000 small rockets from someone who has gone out of the business. Kent Gage will ask Bruce Pelletier to check and see if we could use these along with our regular contracted fireworks. There are liability questions here.

#### Ice Cream Social

The ice cream social is planned for July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Will Sketete has offered to chair this event. Sue Austin and Alison Puffer will help her.

#### Annual Dinner Meeting

**The Date for the Annual Dinner Meeting will be Sat. Aug. 6<sup>th</sup> 2011.**

**Plans are to ask Judy Thorp to do a historical presentation for the meeting.**

### NEW BUSINESS

### **Victory Park improvements**

Wayne Andersen gave a brief report on what has been happening and what is planned for Victory Park. Plans are to create a hiking trail. This project is being undertaken by a boy scout who is trying to earn his eagle badge. There are additional projects that might be taken on by another boy scout. A topographical map of the park has been developed and a wetlands survey has been completed and submitted to the DEQ. Wayne is looking for someone to make nature information signs along the hiking trail when it is completed. It was suggested that he contact Ginny Hluchan who is a naturalist.

### **Conservation Resource Alliance**

CRA requested a donation from HLPS. The request was denied as our contributions to them have been for the Big Sable Watershed taskforce only.

### **Cottage for White Pine Village**

John Thorp made a presentation to the board that HLPS should support an effort to move an old Hamlin Lake cottage to White Pine Village so that Hamlin Lake would be represented there. This project would have several phases to it. One would be to find a suitable cottage to move. Two, make a presentation to the White Pine Village Historical Society. Three, set up the exhibit in the cottage. To help facilitate this project John suggested that HLPS become a business partner of White Pine Village. To that end he is willing to match a contribution up to \$500 for the business partnership.

A motion was made by Lynn Hoepfinger to support the concept of moving a lake cottage to White Pine Village. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alison Puffer. Motion passed.

Wayne then made a motion to form a committee to work on the project. Sue Austin 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion passed.

The committee was formed. John Thorp, Larry Shearer, Alison Puffer, and James Clark are the committee.

### **Hamlin Lake Swim**

Becky Reimer is developing a swim across Hamlin Lake event for this summer. Plans are to have the event Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:30am in the morning. The swim would be from North Bayou to the dunes area on the west side of the lake, a distance of about 2 miles. She has asked for support from HLPS. She would like to donate any monies received over expenses to the fireworks fund.

The cost for the event will be \$50 for registration.

The board agreed to help with this event.

### **Erosion at the end of Duneview Rd**

The board received a letter from a member stating that the end of Duneview Rd. is badly eroded and requested that HLPS look into what might be done to correct this problem. At this time the road is almost unusable to wind surfers and small boat traffic. A committee was formed to look into this problem consisting of Lynn Hoepfinger, James Clark, and Keith Crompton. They will investigate the possibility of putting stone at the road end.

## **The deadline for articles for the Currents is Oct. 1st**

### **Next Meeting**

*The next meeting is Wednesday June 23<sup>rd</sup>*

*Plans are to tour Victory Park @ 6:00 pm*

*Then meet @ Linda Leibole's House @ 7:00 pm*

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm



# **Big Sable River Watershed Report**

## **Big Sable River Spring Update**

Welcome to Michigan's version of spring. It has not been a golfer's type of weather. The cool, wet weather has been beneficial to the river providing much needed precipitation. Low water levels are a concern throughout the Great Lakes Region.

The continuing bridge work on the Big Sable is progressing at 3 locations. The LaSalle Rd Bridge structure is completed. The asphalt paving is planned for this summer. The Darr Rd Bridge structure is progressing ahead of schedule. The contractor will be pouring the concrete bridge deck this week. The bridge will be open to traffic by early July. The asphalt approaches to the bridge will be completed before the bridge is open to traffic.

The completion of these two major road crossings will be a milestone in erosion control on the Big Sable River. Both bridges were installed with wider spans to accommodate the next 100 year high water event. More importantly both bridges will have asphalt approaches that will eliminate the road aggregate and surrounding soil from washing into the river. Asphalt approaches to the bridges from high bank to high bank with designed lip gutters will divert running water on the road surface off the side of the road into the flood plain where the runoff water will be filtered by the vegetation before entering the river.

The Stephens Road Bridge is in the planning/funding stage of the project. The Stephens Rd Bridge has been identified as in need of major structural repairs. The Mason County Road Commission has completed preliminary design work and is applying for funding through the Critical Bridge Program. The time line for actual bridge replacement is 2-3 years.

I commend the Mason County Road Commission and the townships for working successfully with governmental and non profit agencies in the collaboration of resources to secure the funding of these major projects in these difficult financial times. The work at these locations will benefit the Big Sable Watershed for generations into the future.

On April 29<sup>th</sup> volunteers of the BSWRC met the MDNR Fisheries tanker truck at 2 bridge locations on the river to put 7,500 Gilchrist Creek Strain of brown trout fingerlings in float boxes to disperse the fingerlings throughout miles of river. The annual scatter planting of brown trout supplements the natural reproduction of trout in the river. The combination of natural reproduction and annual supplemental planting of hatchery fish seems to be the right recipe at this time to provide a viable fishery in the Big Sable River.

April 29<sup>th</sup> was the Spring Meeting of the Big Sable Watershed Restoration Committee. Topics of discussion were potential in stream habitat projects, planned erosion control projects, the structure of the BSWRC Organization and an update of the bridge projects by the Mason County Road Commission.

We appointed a committee to determine the feasibility of installing a sand trap on the river. The committee will meet June 10 at the proposed site with MDNR Fisheries for a site inspection and discussion of the pros and cons of the proposed sand trap.

It was also decided to hold the late summer meeting on August 19<sup>th</sup> and to incorporate a float trip on the river into the meeting. Details are being finalized for this meeting. Feel free to contact me if you are interested in attending this meeting.

The final order of business at the April 29<sup>th</sup> meeting was to meet at the US-31 Bridge on the Big Sable River to dedicate a memorial plaque to Jim Miller who passed away in 2010. Jim was the founding chairman of the BSWRC and served for 5 years as the chairman of our group. Jim was responsible for the strong foundation which our river group has progressed from. His passion for the river is forever.

In closing I would like to strongly encourage everyone to consider attending the Natural Shorelines Education Program being planned for 2011 by Lynda Herremans of the USDA Mason -Lake Natural Resources Office in Scottville. Complete information will be available soon.

While enjoying time on the rivers and inland lakes of this area it is truly sad to see how some shorelines are abused by poor management practices of riparian owners. In most cases a lack of understanding on the importance of a natural shoreline is the reason for the abuses. The presence of a buffer strip of natural shoreline vegetation is a key component of healthy lakes and rivers.

Take time to enjoy and appreciate the natural resources of this area.

Best Regards

Wayne Andersen, Chairman



# ***HLPS Sponsors Ice Cream Social***

WHAT: Ice Cream Social

WHEN: July 2<sup>nd</sup>, Saturday

WHERE: Wilson Hill Memorial Park on Barnhart Rd.

TIME: 7:00 to 10:00 pm

“Make it a FAMILY AFFAIR”. In addition to the wonderful fireworks show on Hamlin Lake, the Ice Cream Social will be held again at Wilson Hill Memorial Park. The fireworks are scheduled for **Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> at “Dark”**. The Ice Cream Social will be from 7:00 to 10:00 pm just before the fireworks. The park is a great place to watch them. Bring your own lawn chairs or blankets to sit on to view the display over Hamlin Lake. Come early for ice cream and cake. Coffee and Lemonade will also be served.

The proceeds will go toward next year’s fireworks. **We need your help!** We will need a zillion cupcakes. We ask that you deliver them to the park between 5:00 and 7:00 pm. Call Alison Puffer (843-2789), Susan Austin (480-4660), or Will Steketee (843-1350) to let them know you are bringing cupcakes or can volunteer your time at the park scooping ice cream or helping with other preparations.

We need your help to make it a great time for everyone!

Susan Austin



# ***Calendar of Events for 2011***

**Deadline for the Fall Currents  
Oct. 1st**

**Hamlin Lake Swim  
Aug.13th**

**150th Anniversary Boat Re-  
gatta  
Aug. 7th**

**Community Town Hall & Fire  
House  
Open House  
Aug. 6th  
Mike Nagle—Speaker**

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL  
@ Wilson Hill Park  
July 2nd**

**HLPS ANNUAL DINNER MEET-  
ING  
Aug. 6th**

**HLPS Fireworks  
Upper Hamlin Lake  
July 2nd  
Rain date July 3rd**

**Begin Lowering Lake Level  
Oct. 23rd**

**Hamlin Township Float  
In 4th of July Parade**





**Hamlin Lake Preservation Society**  
**P.O. Box 178**  
**Ludington Michigan 49431**

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# **HLPS**

**Hamlin Lake Currents**  
**Summer 2011**



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