



# Douglas Lake Newsletter

November, 2002

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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As I look out of my window into the woods I see that the trees are now bare. The boats and docks that were so recently on the lake are now all put away and many of their owners have gone to their winter homes. The holiday season is here and with it comes the anticipation of good times with family and friends and all of the special joys that the season brings to us. So let me wish all of you the happiest of holiday seasons!

Summer 2002 is now behind us and it provided us with many memories to cherish. For most of us it was a very fun and busy one filled with all sorts of activities. For the Douglas Lake Improvement Association a highlight of the summer was the breakfast in July that was hosted for our association members by the University of Michigan. The purpose of the event was twofold. The University wanted to introduce us to the new Director of the Biological Station, Dr. Knute Nadelhoffer. They also wanted to thank us for our generous help with the Camp Knight Project and to encourage our future participation as neighbors to the Station. The event was well attended by our members and very much enjoyed by those who went. Later in this newsletter you will see some pictures taken that morning by Gary Williams, a DLIA member and a long time member of the summer faculty at the Station.

For the sailors and spectators on the lake the second annual Douglas Lake Sunfish Regatta in July was a real highlight. It was a colorful, spectacular event with 28 sailboats participating. The North American Sunfish racing champion competed in the race! Everyone who competed and those who watched had a great time! Our Douglas Lake Regatta is now the biggest sunfish race in the state. Really!

At the Annual Meeting in August our speaker was Dr. Rex Lowe, a veteran professor at the Biological Station from Bowling Green University. We were all fascinated to hear his presentation on Douglas Lake and to find out how he thinks that the presence of the Zebra Mussel will affect it. Efrain Rosalez of the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council spoke to us about shoreline erosion and offered the Watershed Council's help to our members. Those of you who could not attend the meeting and have erosion problems may want to contact him. Three Association officers were reelected for new terms. Sue Nelson will be our Secretary for another two years, Linda Orlow will be our Vice President and Linda Farmer will be our President.

With that announcement I make my plea to the membership. We now have a full slate of "lame duck" officers. None of us can serve another term in our offices. If any of you would be interested in serving on our Board as an officer, please let us know. We will be looking for a Treasurer at the end of next summer when Liz Verhoeven completes her term and for a Secretary, Vice President and President at the end of summer 2004.

Finally, I want to thank everyone who helped the Association last summer. No matter what you did to help out, it was a big help and your efforts were very much appreciated. We are a volunteer organization and we cannot function without volunteers. I thank all of you! Again, I want to wish all of you a happy holiday season and a wonderful winter! I look forward to seeing you all next summer.

Linda Farmer

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK YOUR ENCLOSED INFORMATION LISTING AND NOTIFY US OF ANY CORRECTIONS. WE WILL BE WORKING ON THE NEW DIRECTORY OVER THE WINTER. REMEMBER YOU MAY E-MAIL CHANGES TO INFO@DOUGLASLAKE.ORG**

# Pike Marsh Report for 2002

By Paul Nows

Our Pike Marsh season was pretty successful this last spring. On April 8<sup>th</sup> the Pike began coming into the marsh to spawn. The water level in the marsh was high, so there was no need to use our pump at the start of the season. On April 12<sup>th</sup> I attempted to close the marsh to spawning Pike but I had to reopen it for a few days so that Ingleside Road would not flood. On April 18<sup>th</sup> I finally closed off the marsh to let the fry grow.

From May 29<sup>th</sup> through May 31<sup>st</sup> I netted and released fingerling into Douglas Lake. About 450 fry were released in this manner during those three days. By May 31<sup>st</sup> the water was coming out of the marsh at about the same level as the creek, so I left the rest to nature and let the remaining fingerling Pike swim into the lake. It was a good season.

On a sadder note---There was some vandalism at the Pike marsh this last spring. Locks were broken and some boards were removed and strewn about the area. If anyone has any information regarding who may have done this, please let me know. Or if anyone sees anything suspicious this next spring, please call me.

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the Biological Station has produced more PhD's than any other university biological station in the country. It has also produced a disproportionately large numbers of leaders in field biology, ecology and related fields. Its research programs attract world-class scientists and students from the U.S. and across the globe. Much of the station's research is focused on the effects of climate change (e.g. rising atmospheric carbon dioxide, air pollution, and warmer temperatures or the "Greenhouse Effect") on forests and water bodies. Dr. Nadelhoffer will continue, and expand the station's role in this field.

He intends to –

- Lead by example. He will continue his own "hands on" research, along with the administrative tasks of running the Station.
- Maintain and expand the Biological Station as a world-class leader in research and education.
- Seek greater involvement with the local community.

*Following a short presentation on the Greenhouse Effect, I had the opportunity to discuss with him how the local community could be more Involved. Ideas included:*

- Short presentations at the Station on environmental issues, aimed at helping the community understand complex issues. Technical jargon would be replaced with terms understood by the layman.
- Help with maintenance projects at the Biological Station. Signs need to be erected. Trails, which many of us ski on, need to be maintained. Equipment and buildings need repair.
- Provide help to the staff and students in setting up equipment for experiments, gathering and compiling data, and assisting where possible with scientific work that is underway.
- Encourage financial donations to the Biological Station.
- A "Friends of the Station" organization was discussed that could help with these tasks.



## News From The University of Michigan Biological Station

*The following are excerpts from an article by Gary Street, editor of the Burt Lake Preservation Association newsletter. It is being printed with his permission.*

### An Introduction to the New Director of the University of Michigan Biological Station

(On a Friday morning in late July, Northern Michigan welcomed the new director of the University of Michigan Biological Station, Dr. Knute Nadelhoffer, to the area with a spectacular thunderstorm. But having gone to college at the University of Wisconsin, the storm just reminded him he was back in the Great Lakes area.

Dr. Nadelhoffer will be taking over at the Biological Station in June 2003. He is currently a senior scientist at the Ecosystems Center of the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. Since June 2003, he has been serving as Program Officer at the National Science Foundation (NSF) in Arlington, Virginia. Although he will join the University of Michigan faculty as a professor in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology next October, he will continue to serve at NSF under contract until his arrival next summer at the Biological Station. In the meantime, the acting director is Dr. Brian Hazlett.

During a presentation at the Biological Station on July 26, Dr. Nadelhoffer shared some of his ideas regarding the future of the Station. He noted that



**Above:** Presentation by Dr. Nadelhoffer

**Right:** From left to right; Linda Farmer, Bill Gossmann, Tom & Diane Crandell, Dick Segrist

**Bottom:** Noelle Clark, Linda Farmer, Barb Wilkinson, Brenda Wehrli





# The Stewards of Douglas Lake and the Erection Of an Osprey Nest Platform

Mark Paddock  
Photos courtesy of John Verhoeven

After a couple years of fitful starts, the volunteer work group we call “The Stewards of Douglas Lake” became a reality this September. The key to this beginning was the enthusiastic endorsements by the biological Station's Interim Director Brian Hazlett and the newly appointed Director Knute Nadelhoffer. The group's primary mission is to assist the Biological Station in the management and protection of its 10,000 acres, which includes over five miles of shoreline on Douglas Lake and one mile on Burt Lake. We feel the protection and well being of these lands is of direct interest and benefit to those of us in the Douglas Lake Improvement Association. However, we also will work on some projects that are just enjoyable and interesting like the Osprey Nest Platform described below.

This fall the group met six times for part of an afternoon each session. The group usually consisted of 6-8 volunteers and we were always accompanied by Bob Vande Kopple, Resident Biologist at the Biological Station. Our accomplishments were: erecting gates and log pole barriers on trails being abused by ATVs, SUVs and trail bikes, cleaning up trash piles, constructing a new trail into Mud Lake Bog, and in mid-November the erection of a large utility pole with an Osprey nest platform on top. We put the pole and nest platform at the tip of the peninsula which separates Maple Bay from the west end of the lake and it was a real challenge getting the heavy pole in place. Without the special skill of Don Schnetzler who has had lots of experience setting utility poles, the job would have been far more difficult. We are optimistic that an Osprey pair will start nesting on our lake next spring and we'll have many opportunities to watch the large hawk-like birds spectacularly dive into the lake to catch fish for their food! Ospreys feed almost exclusively on freshly caught fish and they DO NOT bother loons nor compete with them for food.

The Stewards will reactivate next spring. If you are interested in learning more or wish to participate contact Mark Paddock. Finally, Don Schnetzler deserves special commendation for his single-handed efforts removing the invasive plant Purple Loosestrife from the ditches and adjoining marshes along Van Road. This alien plant, though beautiful, takes over and crowds out native and more important plants vital for wildlife habitat.



## Editor's Comments

Barbara Wilkinson

This winter we will be publishing a new directory; hopefully it will be available in the late spring. When it is completed zone representatives will be given copies for every member in their zone. But first, we have lots of work to do as we compile new information, check our database, print and assemble the 2003 edition. This is a plea for all members to please check the form which is enclosed in this newsletter and if you have any changes please get them to us ASAP. We will have to begin our part right after the holidays. So take a moment now, before you get busy with your holiday activities and check the information, then send us the changes if you have any. If there are no changes, then there is no need to contact us.

The cookbook sold very well and we are now on our second printing. If you have anyone you would like to give “Douglas Lake Cooks” to this Christmas, you may send me the order form at the end of this newsletter along with your check and I will ship the book or books to you. Or if you are or will be at the lake, contact Linda Farmer and you could purchase them from her at the non-shipping price of \$15.

Last but not least I would like to thank Gary Street for sending us his article on Dr. Knute Nadelhoffer, the new Director of the UMBS. Also, a big thanks to Paul Nows and Mark Paddock for their articles. Remember to send in any news, death notices or articles that you would like to see in the next newsletter. Try to have them to me by March 1<sup>st</sup>.

I would like to wish everyone a Bountiful Thanksgiving and the Merriest of Holiday Seasons!

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# REMINDERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DOUGLAS LAKE BAR & STEAK HOUSE WINTER HOURS.

The DLB is closed thru Thanksgiving but will re-open on Thursday December 5<sup>th</sup>.

November 24<sup>th</sup> thru December 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
(Christmas Eve & Christmas Day)

December 26<sup>th</sup> thru New Year's Eve  
January and February

Open Wednesday thru Saturday  
Closed

Open every day  
Open Wednesday thru Saturday

The above schedule is subject to change so please call ahead  
(231)-539-8588

Proper Lighting



### Light Pollution

Much progress has been made in the battle against light pollution around Douglas Lake due to an increase in the awareness of the problem. We would like to thank all of the cottages that have refrained from using mercury lights without cutoff guards. Keep in mind that the best way to retain our beautiful night skies is to use lights with built-in guards which prevent the spillage of light

Improper Lighting



### *Seeking Summer Rental*

Steve and Copeland Rudolph, owners of the Douglas Lake Steakhouse, are looking for a place to rent on the lake for several weeks this next summer. If you have a place that you are willing to rent, please contact them at the DLB or at their home (231) 526-5505.

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## CONTACT LIST WITH WINTER ADDRESSES & PHONE NUMBERS

For comments, problems, suggestions, address changes or items to be placed on meeting agenda.

Linda Farmer, President  
9655 Manitou Shores Trail  
Levering, MI 49755  
231 537-2111

Dues

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P.O. Box 472  
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Attn: Elizabeth Verhoeven, Treasurer

Newsletter issues & Obituaries

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