

Douglas Lake Improvement Association  
42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting  
August 11, 2010

President Sue Nelson welcomed everyone to the 42nd DLIA annual meeting. She introduced Dr. Knut Nadelhoffer, Director of the UMBS and thanked him for their hospitality and for being such wonderful neighbors. Dr. Nadelhoffer said it was a great year for student enrollment with the most students in 15 years. Air quality and water research have been especially good this year. Water research will be enhanced with the installation later this month of a monitoring buoy in South Fishtail Bay from which data will be beamed to a lakeside lab and made available all over the world. Lectures have been good this summer and this fall many organizations will be meeting here. He then talked about three new books "The Changing Environment of Northern Michigan, A Century of Science and Nature at the University of Michigan Biological Station" in which David Gates wrote the introduction which inspired another book, "A History of the University of Michigan Biological Station." This will be published soon. Another book "Grapevine Point to Pine Point," a centennial memoir project of the UMBS was published last year.

Sue informed the meeting that there were 56 members represented in person or by proxy. A Quorum being present, she called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Before beginning the meeting, she thanked Betsy Naumer and her team of master cookie bakers: Linda Alexander, Elsa Stuber, Liz Verhoeven, Sandy Ruffini and Nancy Sheldon for providing refreshments tonight.

**Secretary's Report**

Betsy Naumer presented the minutes and they were approved as submitted. She acknowledged a thank you from the Little Traverse Conservancy for our donation of \$350 on July 22, 2010. She read a letter from our 2010 scholarship recipient from the UMBS, Shelby Goss, thanking us for her scholarship this summer. She also mentioned an invitation sent to the Association from Tip of the Mitt to a fundraising party.

**Treasurer's Report**

Dan Francis reported that we have a balance of \$48,437.80. We operate on a daily cash basis so the balance varies as checks come in and go out. There being no questions, the report will be filed for audit.

**President's Report**

- A. Going Paperless: The Board made a decision to offer members the option of receiving their newsletter online. Two of the reasons for this are cost and paper waste. Members who choose to continue receiving newsletter by mail can do so. We expect our first online newsletter to be this fall's issue. Right now, the plan is that e-newsletters will be sent to members who make that choice. The fall newsletter will go onto the website when the following newsletter goes out, thereby creating an online archive.
- B. Directories: Because there are now more address changes due, primarily, to email address changes, the Board voted to publish directories every 2 years with an addendum on the off years with any changes. In the past, publishing costs have been covered by Ad sales. The

Board voted that publishing costs will be split between Ads and DLIA to assure that two copies will be available for each member. Directories will be published in May, ready for Zone Reps to distribute at the beginning of next summer. A binding party will be held in May to help defray the publication costs.

- C. Website: We are indebted to Nat Wilkinson for developing and maintaining our website for the past 10 years or so. Recently, Chick Hershberger volunteered his services to work on the website. Chick is a professional web developer and has worked with Nat to make a seamless transition. She thanked Nat for his dedication and work and gave him a gift. He will continue to work with Chick of this. She then introduced Chick. The website ([www.douglaslake.org](http://www.douglaslake.org)) will undergo significant changes which are now in process. Look for the announcement of the formal launch in the fall newsletter. Minutes of this Annual Meeting will be posted on the web within one month after this meeting as unapproved minutes as they are not officially approved until the next Annual Meeting.
- D. Swimmers Itch: The results of the recent survey of incidence in DL families were reported in the recent newsletter. Glen Lake had been working with Harvey Blakespohr to eliminate swimmer's itch for the past five years using his control methods. They were interested in purchasing his equipment and technology but they were unable to get the required permits so he could not sell to them. The jury is still out on the subject of Zebra Mussels impacting host snails. Tom Kennedy said that if zebra mussels decrease the number of snails that transmit the swimmers itch and if hunters were to decrease the number of Mergansers this fall, then the amount of swimmers itch should decrease significantly. He cautioned then that it will never go to zero.
- E. Township/County Liaison: Sue thanked Walt Nows for his years of serving as she accepted, with regret, his resignation from that position. He attended every county and township meeting for the DLIA and relayed important information back to the membership. He noted that fall taxes are higher than the spring because they include the school millage.

### **Committee Reports**

- A. Paperless Committee: Sue thanked the Paperless Committee. They will meet once more on September 7<sup>th</sup> with John Kurkijan to finish their plan and come up with a ad structure.
- B. Merchandise: She introduced Kathy Buchweitz who has been our Merchandise Manager for the last 2 years. Kathy said they've had a great year and that she needed to reorder for the last sales. She's looking for new ideas if anyone has suggestions.
- C. Lake Water Monitoring: Dick Segrist reported that he has been out many times to measure the clarity of the water. It is a concern that the deepest he measured this year is 13 1/2 ft compared to 16 ft last year. This could be because of the amount of run off from the boggs because of more rain causing tanic acid to look more brown. Our water is still a good quality, which is what is important.
- D. Pike Marsh and Loon Nests: Bill Hutto cleared the Marsh so the pike could get back and forth in the fall and again in the spring. The water table was low and there were a lot of predators. He left the marsh open long enough so that the females could get in and then the males. There were some fry but not a significant amount. The culvert was damaged which hampered the marsh. The county said that if we could get the money to pay for a new one, they would supply the manpower to install it. The cost would be about \$400.
- E. Environment: Mark Paddock reported that generally, it's stable. He discussed the new book "The Changing Environment of Northern Michigan". Twenty-three experts contributed to the

book and it was written for the lay person. It describes what has happened and what will probably happen in the future because of global climate change. He was asked why we were seeing so many seaweeds on our shores. He replied it's due to the clarity of the lake water allowing the sun to reach further down and encourage growth. He was then asked if many bald eagles had been sited this year. He said that he has sighted them as did others. He told how eagles use the same nest each year, adding to them until they are very large.

- F. Tip of the Mitt: Tom Kennedy reported that he and Sue went to the Lake Associations Summit where 19 lakes in Northern Michigan came together to discuss issues common to their lakes. Tom encouraged people to support the Tip of the Mitt. He reported the "Whale of A Sale" made \$16,000 compared to \$10,000 last year. He thanked those who donated to the sale and encouraged people to donate next year. He then reported that the DLIA voted to buy a qualitative kit at the cost of \$165 to look at blue/green algae. Tom has sampled six sites around the lake and the UMBS has run tests on these samples. He is finding less than 1 part per billion which is not bad and he will continue to monitor the lake doing at least one more sample the end of August. He said the toxin level is 20 to 100 times below the normal level of concern.
- G. Burt Lake Trail: Sue introduced Connie Vorenkamp to tell us about the proposed new Burt Lake Trail, a place to safely bike and hike. It is a Burt Township proposal. A committee was formed to make recommendations to them. They started planning it in 2003 and it will be built in segments. It will be 18 miles of crushed limestone. They are in the process of raising funds and applying for grants. It will probably be at least two years or more before the funding is in place and the building can begin. This trail will connect to other state trails. Information about this project can be found at their website [www.trailsCouncil.org](http://www.trailsCouncil.org). Information will also be on the Douglas Lake web site.

### **Guest Speaker**

Kevin Cronk from the Tip of the Mitt, talked about Invasive Species that are common around Douglas Lake and in the area. This area covers Elk Rapids to Cheboygan and Gaylord to Mackinaw City. He showed slides of the various species and talked about their history, how to identify them and potential solutions for control. About 190 invasive species have been identified in the Great Lakes area.

- A. Aquatic Invasive Species in Northern Michigan
  1. Purple loosestrife: arrived in the 1800's
  2. Eurasian Watermilfoil: discovered in the 1940's (not in DL yet but in most lakes in our area)
  3. Zebra/Quagga Mussels: introduced in the late 1980's are in 250 Michigan inland lakes
  4. Phragmites (there are both native & invasive types in Michigan)
  5. Round Gobee fish and Rusty Crayfish
- B. Additional Possible Invasive Species
  1. Hydrilla
  2. Asian Carp
  3. Snakehead
- C. Management Control
  1. Watershed Council efforts are helping in this effort
- D. Protection...What can we as citizens do?
  1. Clean & wash boats and trailers as you go from lake to lake

2. Support regulation and legislation to control
3. Be informed and inform others
4. Help with restoration efforts

He went on to discuss the economic and ecosystem impacts caused by these invasive species. The Erie Canal opened in 1825 which was the beginning of the invasive species arriving in the great lakes and our inland lakes through recreational boating, shipping, fishing, and trade. He stressed how important it is for lake residence to keep an eye out for new species.

In light of what was talked about by Kevin Cronk, Nat Wilkinson suggested changing *Douglas Lake Home Land Security monitoring* to *Douglas Lake Home Lake Security monitoring*. Sue added that if we see anything that looks curious to bring it to the UMBS for evaluation.

### **New Business**

There was no new business.

### **Election of Officers**

Linda Alexander, a nominating committee member, presented the slate for officers:

- President – Sue Nelson
- Vice President – Nat Wilkinson
- Secretary – Evelyn Schulte

There being no nominations from the floor, the slate as presented was elected by acclamation. Sue then introduced the newest Board members: Sandy Ruffini, Zone 92, and Chick Hershberger, Webmaster.

Betsy Naumer was thanked for her four years of service as secretary of the DLIA and presented a gift.

Sue thanked everyone for attending and showing their support and interest. They then drew for door prizes.

Otto Bussard moved the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Tom Kennedy. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Betsy Naumer