



Douglas Lake Improvement Association Inc.



July 2004

www.douglaslake.org

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Summer, the season that most of us have anticipated for some time, has finally arrived! We can now all look forward to long days, all sorts of warm weather activities, and memorable times with family and friends. As you look at the calendar printed with this newsletter, you will notice many of the activities that you may have enjoyed over the years—just with different dates or times. It looks like another busy summer!

The main event for the DLIA this summer will again be our Annual Meeting on Wednesday evening August 11th. Again, we will hold the meeting in the Lecture Hall at the University of Michigan Biological Station. This year we will have two speakers and both should be of special interest to Douglas Lake residents.

The first is *Kathryn Arnold* of the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG). She is going to present to us the findings of the Cheboygan River/Lower Black River Watershed Initiative. This is the watershed which includes Douglas Lake and the surrounding area. Kathryn has had the responsibility of managing this project which began early in 2002. The project's study and planning phases have just been completed. She will be reporting to us general information that the study has produced to date and specific information that was discovered about Douglas Lake. She will tell us what ideas this initiative has developed to manage non-point source pollution in our watershed and how we all might help.

The second speaker will be *Katie Parker*, a local archeologist. She studies the

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A Cool Wet Spring, High Water (again), Loons ,Eagles, and Black Flies



Mark Paddock

April and May were really cool and unpleasant even for this part of the country. April was not wet, but with cooler than normal temperatures and cloudy skies there was little chance for evaporation from the lake and the watershed. May was downright wet with over 6" of rain recorded at the lake, and quite cool. The Lake actually rose a couple of inches after dropping for several weeks in late April and early May. Again there was serious shoreline erosion from wave action when the lake was at its highest levels.

Naturally a wet spring results in many additional breeding places for mosquitoes in our numerous wetlands around Douglas Lake and this year is proof of that. But, black flies only breed in permanent streams. Therefore if they seem more abundant this spring (and they certainly are at our place with the Maple River nearby) it is because the streams ran more fully last summer when the adult black flies were laying eggs in the streams. Then the streams kept flowing at a good rate all fall, winter and spring giving the fly larvae plenty of habitat over winter.

Garth Spencley has been watching an eagle pair raise a baby in their nest on Pells Island this spring. This is probably the first eagle to be hatched on Douglas Lake in 90 years! At the same time Garth reported the Great Blue Herons did not return to their nest colony several hundred yards down stream from the outlet of the lake. Did the presence of the nesting eagle pair nearby influence them to move? Eagles often reuse the same nest year after year and add more sticks to the nest each spring. Some eagle

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We Will Miss

We offer our condolences to the families of Lucy Armsrong Davis and Gary Williams

LUCY ARMSTRONG DAVIS was 84, when she died Monday, June 14, 2004. She was a graduate of Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, NY. Lucy had a rich life, working in New York City as a "Gray Lady" for the Red Cross during WW II, then for Time Magazine and later for Macy's Department Store. Subsequently, she moved to San Francisco where she was the personal assistant to restaurateur, "Trader Vic" Bergeron. Following her marriage, Lucy was a devoted wife and mother, and an active volunteer with such organizations as Meals on Wheels and at the American Cancer Society's Discovery Shop. She was a member of Covenant Presbyterian Church, where she volunteered at the food pantry, and PEO Sisterhood. Lucy loved theatre, music, and Douglas Lake. Lucy remembered Sunday dinner at the Ingleside Hotel where many arrived by boat, dressed in their very best clothes and each family had their own round table. Ice was 50 cents a block, there was no electricity, indoor plumbing or running water. A highlight of the summer was going to South Fishtail for a picnic in the family launch and that was an all day affair. As a teen the Hotel, which was by then deteriorating, hosted Saturday night square dances, and Lucy's family went, as did many of the counselors from Camp Manitou. Lucy later married one of these counselors, Roger Davis and in turn they continued the tradition of summers on Douglas Lake with their children, Scott, Jayne and Wendy. Her parents, Thomas and Monica Armstrong, and sister, Monica Hunter, precede her in death. She is survived by her husband, Roger Davis; children, Scott (Jenny) Davis, Jayne Knox, and Wendy (Roger, Jr.) Vaughan; grandchildren, Perry, Matthew, Brian, and Paul Davis, Tanner Knox, Katie, Zachary, and Sara Vaughan; sister, Sally Gieseler; niece, Monica Schneider; nephew, Frank Hunter.

GARY R. WILLIAMS—*submitted by Mark Paddock.* Gary 68, of Mackinaw City, died after a very brief illness on March 21, 2004. Gary, with his wife "Gussie" of 46 years, spent 28 summers on Douglas Lake at the Biological Station where he was an incredibly effective, much loved teacher, charismatic leader and friend to hundreds. He and Gussie were raised in rural southern Iowa where they were high school sweethearts before marriage and attending Central College together in Pella, Iowa. Although Gary's profession was as an influential

and excellent high school biology teacher, first in Iowa and then in Glen Ellyn, Illinois for 30 years, he was best known around Douglas Lake and the Northern Michigan region as a highly popular and innovative teacher of field photography, both to the students at the Station and local adults. Gary's interests and activities were incredibly broad and he had the intellectual appetite for learning to match. Aside from biology and photography, he was a worldwide traveler, computer expert, technological whiz, and a strong environmentalist - conservationist. Upon retirement he and Gussie moved from Illinois to Mackinaw City where they built a lovely home on the Straits. Gary became very active in village affairs as a trustee on the Village Council, many local boards, and The Church Of The Straits. The Williams' family own property on Douglas Lake and have been members of the DLIA for years.



DLWomanade-2004

Sue Nelson

Last summer we held three dinners and raised just over \$2200 as Douglas Lake Women rose to the challenge. The funds we raised are earmarked to meet one time emergencies for families in the Cheboygan County area. We contacted Louann Blossom, at the Cheboygan County United Way and Dr. Jennifer Trybon, a local pediatrician asking them to make referrals to us as family emergencies arise. Over the winter we assisted a young woman who was holding down two jobs to raise money to return to school. She made her goal except for car insurance. We paid the insurance so that she could start the semester. Later we paid a utility bill for a single mom with extenuating circumstances. Recently we purchased a used Nebulizer for a 6 year old boy with chronic asthma. We are on our way!

On June 23 we held the first dinner for 2004 at Margaret Gilbertson's, 17 women attended and Dr. Trybon joined us. We will meet next on Wednesday, July 21 at 6:00 at Lynn Clark's home at 8641 Manitou Shores Trail. The third summer dinner will be Wednesday, August 18 at Sharon Anderson's at 10750 Northwood Shores, also at 6:00. A fall dinner will be held at Linda Farmer's, 9655 Manitou Shores Trail on Saturday, October 9. Husbands and friends are invited to the fall dinner. We suggest that women bring the customary \$25 donation to the fall dinner; husbands/guests are invited to make donations as they choose.

Dinners are held at 6:00, guests bring a dish to pass, their own table service and their \$25 donation. If you haven't had a chance to join us, please do and bring a friend. Call Sue Nelson 539-8322, Lynn Clark 537-4020, Sharon Anderson 539-8754 or Linda Farmer 537-2111 for directions or to let us know that you will be attending.



KNOW YOUR D.L.I.A. BOARD

Their Douglas Lake History

**Ruth Paddock
Zone 33 Representative**

As I write this in the snows of winter, I am happy to be at Douglas Lake, and live here year-round. Soft fluffy snow has again blanketed the land and the lake. The bare maples, oaks, beeches and birch trees now show their architecture that in October held their brilliant fall colors. Pine and spruce trees are generously draped in white and we ski the trails in a fairyland of beauty. Yes, it is cold! But summer will come again with its call of the loon from the lake. And that is why we are here. The lakes and woods create our climate. And we love it...

I grew up in Ames, Iowa, a neat college town, and attended Iowa State College until transferring to Colorado University in Boulder as an art major. There I met Mark Paddock, an ecologist, shortly before we graduated together,

Our family first visited Douglas Lake briefly in 1970 and '71 and spent our first full summer at the lake in 1972. We lived in a

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Sunfish Regatta

On Saturday, July 17 the fourth annual Douglas Lake Sunfish Regatta will be held. This is now the largest Sunfish Regatta in Michigan! It includes Douglas Lake Fleet #700 Sunfish skippers as well as skippers from other Michigan lakes. It will begin at 2 p.m. and last until approximately 5 p.m. We encourage spectators but please stay clear of the race boats. For more information about the race contact Linda Orlow, 537-4484

2004 Merchandise Sale Dates Sandy Segrist DLIA Merchandise Manager

Sale Dates

Sunday July 4th 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
11654 Seabrook Lane (John Kurkjian)

Saturday July 17th 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
9411 MacArthur Rd. (Beth Reynolds)

Wednesday August 11th 7:00 p.m.
U of M Biological Station (Annual Meeting)

Saturday August 28th 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
7360 Pells Island Drive (Sandy Segrist)

EDITOR'S COMMENTS



We plan on mailing one more newsletter

this summer, so watch your mail late in July or early August. Due to the calander and other announcements the history corner is on hold and will return in the next issue. As always feel free to submit information or articles to me via e-mail - cdataserv@earthlink.net. For publication in the next issue I should have it by July 20th. Take care, *wave the flag* and have a fun and safe Fourth of July.

LONG DISTANCE PHONE SERVICE

Several DLIA members have tried and like Total Call International long distance telephone service.

They say that they have found the service to be a very cost effective option for people in the 537 or 539 calling areas. There is no monthly fee, only a 6 second minimum, and the rate is only 2.9 cents per minute for in-state calls and 4.9 cents per minute for out of state calls. For more information, call Bill Kosloskey at 231-348-5525 or 888-888-4404.

Douglas Lake Bar & Steakhouse



"A Gourmet Roadhouse"

The A.C. is on and the DLB is open!

Check out Chef Jason's new additions to the summer menu.
Sun - Thurs 5:00 - 9:30 p.m.
Fri - Sat 5:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Music

Join us with local songwriter, Kirby most Saturdays in July & August (July 3, 10 - Jim Owens Jazz Duo)

SUNFISH RACING DATES



Once again this year there will be Sunfish Races every Tuesday and Saturday During July and August.

For Locations and times please contact Jay Butler (537-4537) or Linda Orlow (537-4484)



(please note this is not a DLIA sponsored event).

DOUGLAS LAKE BOOKIES

The Book Club continues with weekly meetings at the DLB on Wednesday mornings.

This is not DLIA sponsored. New members are welcome, join in when you can.

FOR SALE

Sanpan Pontoon Boat, 25' hardtop w/40 h.p. Mercury tilt.

Call Jack Schulte at 231-537-4698



DUES

In the upper right corner of you address you should see a year listed, with a closing date of June 15th. If this year is 2004 or later, you own nothing now.

However, if it shows 2003 or earlier then please send your check (\$10.00 per year) to:

Douglas Lake Improvement Association Treasurer

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beautiful old log cabin at The University of Michigan Biological Station where Mark was Associate Director to Dr. David Gates. Ann Arbor was our home from September through May, but we treasured our twenty summers at "Bug Camp" as some call it. After Mark retired we moved permanently in 1997 to our present home on 80 acres. As an Iowa girl I am continually amazed to be surrounded by so many lakes... so much water!

Mark and I now feel a part of two communities at Douglas Lake, the DLIA community and UMBS community on South Fishtail Bay. Both are very dear to us, filled with many special people and activities, friends we have known over the years and many new and interesting friends we are getting to know.

Our immediate family, three children who grew up in summers here, their spouses and our grandchildren care deeply about the lake, too. They join us in the snow at Christmas and in the summers to play in the sun, sand and water. They feel, like us, a kinship with the lake and the enduring friendships. We are grateful for the presence of the U of M Biological Station and its 95 years of scientific research and protection of Douglas Lake environs. Douglas Lake is a great family place. It is a very special lake, indeed.

Mark Paddock - Chair of environmental committee

I arrived at Douglas Lake in 1971 to accept a new position at the University of Michigan Biological Station. After six torrid summers in St. Louis our family was anticipating a delightful life on the shores of Douglas Lake in the north woods. And I knew I would enjoy working at a world-class biological field station. It was a perfect fit for me with my education, experience and interests. My family and I did have a wonderful 20 years at the Station (and also in Ann Arbor when we were not at the lake). Then when I retired Ruth and I moved up here year round to our 80 acres we affectionately call "Old Orchard".

I grew up "on the water" but the water was the muddy Mississippi River not a clear lake. My family home in Iowa was a block and a half from a quiet slough and our family summered in a cottage on the main river a few miles away in Illinois. Those childhood summers were perfect! I guess I lived a Tom Sawyer-Huck Finn existence and loved it beyond belief. We rowed everywhere in wooden flat-bottomed boats (we did not own a motor until I was 17), even rowing out to catch huge waves from the paddlewheel Steamboats. Most of our fish were caught on trotlines (catfish primarily) and my big brother sold some in my uncle Frank's tavern for spending money. There was a small farm nearby with three children our age and that was an additional attraction as was a small rocky creek with numerous fishing holes -just right for barefoot boys with cane poles. With such a boyhood it was logical that I developed a strong interest in the natural sciences and conservation. And of course Douglas Lake has a strong hold on me just like it does for others who live on its shores. However, my strongest interest in the lake is due to the fact that it is one of the world's most studied ecosystems. Naturally I enjoy its beauty and quietude, but when I gaze out upon Douglas Lake I always am impressed by seven miles of undeveloped shoreline backed by 10,000 protected acres. I am in awe that this lake, as an exceedingly important living laboratory, still has the same fine environmental quality it had when the Biological Station started 96 years ago. Fortunately both the Douglas Lake Improvement Association and The Biological Station have the same goal for Douglas Lake which is to keep it the high quality re-

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Woodland Indians who lived on and around Douglas Lake one thousand years ago. It should be interesting to hear how our predecessors lived, exactly where, and how we can discover evidence of them. It should be an informative Annual Meeting, so please mark your calendars and plan to attend!

In closing, I want to issue a few Good Citizenship Reminders for the summer:

1. Be Courteous and Act Safely On and Around the Water!
2. Please Keep a Good Distance Away from Loons and Other Waterfowl!
3. Respect the Peace and Quiet of the Neighborhood!
4. Notify the Local Authorities if You See Any Suspicious Activity On or Around Your Neighbor's Cottage or Your Own!

I wish all of you a wonderful summer on the lake!



Linda Farmer
manitoulinda@racc2000.com

(High Water, Loons Continued from page 1)

nests become incredibly heavy with many hundreds of pounds of nest material and enlarge to several yards in diameter and the same depth.

Before we placed the loon nesting rafts out in the lake this year we purchased four large buoys to place in the water near the rafts asking people not to disturb the nesting loons. The new buoys are very visible and easy to read from a considerable distance. Garth and Mabel Spencley took on the task of placing the loon nesting rafts in the lake when I was down with a nasty cold. The rafts should go out no later than a couple weeks after "ice out" (which was April 16 this year). A loon pair with two eggs on the loon nesting raft was spotted in Maple Bay and as of June 20, 2004 the loon pair hatched one chick which was observed riding on the back of its mother while the male was nearby. However, the raft at Hook Point in North Fishtail Bay has not been used for nesting and it is unlikely that it will be at this late date. I have seen a pair of loons in Fishtail Bay together several times very recently. If they were nesting, only one loon would be seen feeding at a time; the other would be on the nest.