



Douglas Lake Improvement Association

NEWS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June 2011

Dear Friends

After several months of Douglas Lake being at low levels, recent spring rains have filled the lake again. We heard from UMBS that the level measured this year is second highest ever recorded. It is good to see it back to former spring levels but until it goes down a bit it may affect getting our docks in. The ramp at the Douglas Lake Bar was damaged by winter storms but the DNR has been out to make repairs. I know that some folks have gotten their boats in already.

You will be receiving your new directories this summer. Your Zone Rep will have the directories after our June 25 Executive Board Meeting, you can contact them after that date to make arrangements to get them. As in the past, two directories will be provided for each member listed in the directory. In addition, as a gift from the Association you will receive a map of the trails surrounding UMBS. It is a foldable, waterproof map that you can carry with you. The Stewards have been hard at work on those trails and have provided signage that will facilitate your enjoyment.

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Wolves Are Back

By Mark Paddock

About 100 years ago a wolf was killed in Michigan's Lower Peninsula. That was the last wild wolf in the Lower Peninsula and it was an act that ended continuous wolf presence here for maybe 8,000 years, or since forests grew again after the glaciers retreated north.

Now wolves are back here!

In winter of 2009-10 a farmer in western Cheboygan County, having good natural history observation skills, became convinced he was seeing tracks and other signs of wolves on his property. Wolf specialists from the Upper Peninsula, where wolves are present in good numbers, came down to investigate. These experts from the USDA Wildlife Service and the Michigan DNR were convinced enough that they installed motion detector cameras along trails in the vicinity. Sure enough, after several weeks, good photographs of wolves going along trails at night were obtained. Later they began a trapping program using humane leg traps. Eventually by fall a total of three wolf pups were caught, tranquilized, radio collared, and released. Radio collars give the specialists good information of the wolf movements. Two of the pups were female and in good condition weighing 40-50 lbs, the other was a smaller male. The adults were probably too wary to be trapped. This last winter, a collar from one of the young was found on Kitchen Road. (Perhaps it was

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University of Michigan
BIOLOGICAL STATION

There are almost as many reasons to visit Bug Camp this summer as there are chipmunks along Upper Drive! In our 103rd consecutive year, we welcome you to a variety of free events throughout the summer.

ENVIRONMENTAL FILM SERIES

Sunday evenings from June 26 through August 14, we will host free environmental film screenings.

Highlights include two 2011 releases: "Greenfire" (July 10) and "The City Dark" (August 7).

"Greenfire" tells the life story of conservationist and renowned author of "A Sand County Almanac," Aldo Leopold. "The City Dark" addresses light pollution and the loss of night sky. Ian Cheney, director of "The City Dark" will be at the Station for the screening and available to answer questions following the film. He is joined for a double feature by Sharon Shattuck, UMBS alumna, who will screen her short documentary "Parasites: A User's Guide" at 4:30 p.m., also on August 7.

We will show each week's feature movie at 7:30 p.m. in the Gates Lecture Hall. Interested parties should check the attached schedule or our website (<http://www.lsa.umich.edu/umbs/events/environmentalfilmseries>) for information about each week's film including running time and rating.

SUMMER LECTURE SERIES

As in past years, we are running our mid-week lecture series. Speakers include invited guests, faculty and resident researchers. Their topics range from solar power (July 12) to plant defenses against insect attacks (August 9). The first lecture of the summer is Tuesday, June 28, when UMBS Limnology instructor and Bowling Green State University Professor of Biology Paul Moore addresses, "Why Do Smart People Believe Dumb Things? A Guide to Better Thinking."

All Summer lectures and research seminars are at 7:30 in either the Gates Lecture Hall Auditorium, or upstairs in the Alumni Room. The complete lecture schedule is attached and available on our website (<http://www.lsa.umich.edu/umbs/events/summerlectureseries>).

DISCOVERY DAY

Families should mark their calendars for Saturday, July 16. We will have our annual Discovery Day program from 2:00-4:00 p.m. During Discovery Day, visitors may take a self-guided tour of the Station

and talk with faculty and staff from the Piping Plover research pen, the Insects and Aquatics classrooms, the community garden, the water monitoring buoy, and plant identification review station (a.k.a. "Plant TV").

From Movies to Science Lectures, U-M Biological Station Offers Free Educational Opportunities All Summer

Pellston, MI - June 6, 2011 - There are almost as many reasons to visit the University of Michigan Biological Station on Douglas Lake as there are lakes north of the 45th parallel. The Station, now operating in its 103rd consecutive year, welcomes the public to a variety of free events throughout the summer.

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Additional Film Series Information: <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/umbs/events/environmentalfilmseries>
Additional Lecture Series information: <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/umbs/events/summerlectureseries>
Phone: 734-764-5212 or 231-539-8408

Wolves

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killed by a coyote hunter?). This probably leaves a family of four, two adults and two young, still in the wild.

The Gray Wolf, *Canis lupus*, is the largest in the Canidae or dog family. It is over twice as large as the more familiar coyote. Adult wolves weigh 80-140 lbs, the coyote 25-45 lbs. Wolves are most often grayish in color, but may be brown or black with lighter underparts. The long bushy tail has a black tip, ears are erect. Compared to a large dog, the wolf has a narrower chest, longer legs and larger feet. Fur around the mouth is white in a wolf, and dark in a dog.



1980 at the Biological Station. It was a thrill for Ruth Paddock to pet the wolf named "Mariah"! Mariah was never off the leash in camp.

It is very interesting, and indeed amazing, to learn that the domestic dog from the tiny Toy Poodle to the huge Great Dane are genetically speaking, wolves! For years there was much speculation as to the origin of dogs, now recent DNA research has concluded that dogs originated from wolves. It probably began 10-15,000 years ago when wild wolves began to frequent human habitations seeking food scraps and bones thrown out by humans. Over thousands of years and wolf generations the more "tame" wolves gradually were naturally selected to be less afraid of humans, eventually they became domesticated and later were bred into the widely different dog breeds we know today.

Wolves are "pack" animals consisting of 5-9 adults usually, but not always, of various aged offspring from the same parents. They have a rigid social hierarchy led by the dominant "alpha male, with an "alpha female" as his mate. Usually only these two wolves breed. All the other males and females in the pack sort themselves out with each individual dominant over the others lower in rank. However, all males are dominant over the females.

The young are born after a 63 day gestation period about 1 May in an underground den. All the pack shares in hunting and feeding the young, including babysitting when the parents are out hunting. Females do not reach the age for breeding until 2-3 years old.

Wolves hunt cooperatively for larger prey like deer. They need about 4-12 lb. of food per day to remain healthy. A small pack of four wolves like we may have around here, will need to kill a deer every week or so, but since a good portion of their food may come from smaller animals like rabbits, beaver, squirrels, mice and yes, even coyotes and foxes, deer kill may be less. Deer hunters worry about the deer herd being significantly reduced by wolves. But when one considers that 60,000 deer are killed just by vehicles annually in Michigan, an additional kill of 50-100 here in this region by wolves seems insignificant.

Wolf territories, or home ranges, are huge, from 20 to 300 square miles. The pack often covers 12-30 miles daily, mostly at night. It is almost certain that these adult Lower Peninsula wolves came across the ice from the Upper Peninsula. Perhaps food was scarce in the UP, or maybe there was some conflict within the pack causing them to leave.

Should we be concerned about personal safety with the new presence of these large predators? No! We know they are easily capable of killing us, but for some reason, likely having to do with thousands of years of wolf-human relationships, these highly intelligent animals do not prey upon humans. In the past century only ONE human in all North America has been killed by wild wolves and that was in Alaska! Consider that in just the last 20 years over 300 humans have been killed by pet dogs!

Can, or should, wild wolves survive in the Lower Peninsula, a far different place than the Upper Peninsula? It is questionable, but his guy hopes so.

I hope you will add our website, www.douglaslake.org to your Favorites. It has been updated and has several new features. Ads that businesses bought for the directories will also be found on the website. I hope you will support these businesses and let them know that you found them online or in the directory. Profits from the ads paid for your copies of the directories. Big thanks to John Kurkjian for his above and beyond work in increasing the number of advertizers this year.

We are going to try something new this year for our Annual Meeting. We will have a short business meeting followed by a DLIA Picnic on Sunday afternoon, August 21 held at UMBS by the lake. Save the date, the committee is at work and details will follow.

A reminder to keep an eye out for unusual plants in the lake as you are out boating. If you spot something of concern, you can take a sample to UMBS and they will analyze it for us. This way we can be ahead of the game in the event of invasive species appearing in our lake.

If you have concerns about lake life, you can contact your Zone Rep or any of the officers. Email is a great way to bring your concerns in your own words.

Welcome back and have a great summer!

President,

Sue Nelson

D U E S

If you have not yet paid your dues through 2011 please send your check (\$10.00 per year) to:

The Douglas Lake Improvement Association
Treasurer
P.O. Box 472
Pellston, MI 49769

If you recently gave your dues to your zone representative these may not have been reported to us by the mailing of this newsletter. You do not need to contact us.

3rd annual
"WHALE of a SALE"

Friday and Saturday, July 15 & 16, 2011
A Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council Event

The Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council will hold a large water recreational rummage sale again this summer. If you are interested in donating items or attending this event, please read the following details. All sale proceeds will go to benefit the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council and will support their work to keep our northern Michigan waters clean. Donations are tax deductible. If you want to attend: This large rummage sale will take place from 8 am to Noon on both Friday and Saturday, July 15 & 16, rain or shine. The auction will be in the Irish Boat Shop Storage Buildings in Harbor Springs on Fairview Street (located behind Meyer Ace Hardware in Fairview Square off State Road). Most equipment will be sold by auction, but boats will be sold by silent auction.

If you would like to donate: The Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council is accepting donated water recreation items from individuals, marinas and suppliers. Items should be gently used, saleable and in good condition and include: fishing gear, life vests, rafts and toys, water skiing, diving and/or sailing equipment, and boats, kayaks and canoes and related hardware, equipment and gear. No clothing please. Call Tom Kennedy at (231) 537-3110 if you have items to donate. Tom will either pick them up at your Douglas Lake Home or give you the address of a nearby neighbor where you can drop off your donated items. Large items, such as boats, can be picked up by Irish Boat Shop personnel. Again, donations are tax deductible.

If you would like additional information, call the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council at (231) 347-1181.

We Will Miss will return in the next issue. Please see the Editor's Comments.



Editor's Comments

Not to long ago I suffered computer problems and some information was lost. During this problematic time a great deal of my Comcast email disappeared. If you sent an obituary or other notice to me and it has not yet been published in previous newsletters or in this one please send it to me again. I am sorry for having to ask you to do this however, I do not want to miss including any information in the next letter which will be in July.

To contribute please forward your articles or announcements to me no later than the July 10th. If possible e-mail the information to me at barbwilkinson@comcast.net. or bayw2002@yahoo.com otherwise please type and mail your information to me at P.O. Box 1067 Jackson, MI 49204. We do publish events that are not necessarily D.L.I.A. sponsored as long as it would be open to all or of general interest to part of our membership. Remember to keep in touch with any address changes, lake news you wish to pass along or obituaries we need to print.

Thanks and have a fun filled summer.

Womanade



- June 21 Irene Crum
11260 White Birch Dr.
email, irenec@umich.edu
phone 539-7272
- July 19 Betsy Naumer
8211 Young Road
email, wnaumer@hotmail.com
phone 537-8211
- August 16 Evelyn Schulte
9561 MacArthur Rd.
jacevelyn@aol.com
phone 537-4698
- September 24 Couples Meeting
The Alexanders (Linda & Steve)
8797 Manitou Shores Trail
manitoulinda@centurylink.net
phone 537-2111

Please call ahead if you are planning to attend so the hosts know how many to plan for. All meetings start at 6:30. As always, please bring a dish to share, your table service and a check (\$35). Everyone is welcome. We have fun and have helped many families in the area.

Friday, August 5 9:30am-4:30pm
Saturday, August 6 9:30am-2:00pm

northwoods art fair at Douglas Lake 2011



POTTERY PHOTOGRAPHY INLAID WOOD JEWELRY ETCHED GLASS ORIGINAL PAINTINGS
BEADED ART FABRIC ART WATERCOLOR GREETING CARDS
10810 Northwoods Shores Dr., Pellston, MI 49769 John & Marilyn Stover 231-539-8280

Riggsville Rd. (C-64) to North on Bryant Rd. Turn East on Northwoods Shores Dr.

For Rent

Pells Island Dr. on Douglas Lake 2 cabins on one lakefront lot accommodating up to 8 persons. \$1000. per week. Please contact Rod or Sue Grambeau at 231.526.6973 or email suegrambau@hotmail.com

Cozy Dougl's Lake cottage just north of DLB. 2 Bedrooms; 1 Bath, Maximum 4 people. \$795 per week. Contact 970.925.6489 for additional information.

Lake front cottages for rent on Maple Bay near the island. Great beach and dock. Rustic-2 BR / 1 BA that sleeps 6. Inquire: janetb4@verizon.net

DLIA MERCHANDISE

Kathy Buchweitz DLIA Merchandise Manager
SALE DATES

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

Saturday July 16th 10:00 a.m. to noon
9411 MacArthur Rd. (Beth Reynolds)

Saturday August 6th 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 pm
10810 Northwoods Shores Dr. (Stovers)

August 21st
(Annual Meeting) UMBS

September 5th (Labor Day) 10:00 a.m. to noon
11588 Seabrook Lane (Sue Nelson)

Douglas Lake Improvement Association 2011

PICNIC AND PITCH-IN

ALONG THE SHORELINE

OF DOUGLAS LAKE AT UMBS

Sunday, August 21
Bring family and friends
Come by boat or by car

The entree and some beverages are provided ...

Julienne Tomatoes will have delicious ham, turkey, and beef for sandwiches as well as an assortment of delectable desserts.
The Biological Station will provide iced-tea and lemonade.

Here's the Pitch-In part ... You bring a side dish or salad to share with serving utensil and, if you wish, an alternate choice of beverage.
Ice, beverage glasses, and table service are all provided

The Annual Meeting is at 4pm
The Picnic is at 5pm
Come to either or both!

In case of rain - we will picnic in the dining room

RSVP by August 15th:

Holly Gedert, hollygedert@hotmail.com, 537-3269

Margaret and Howard Gilbertson,

margaret.gilbertson@gmail.com, 537-2257

Betsy Naumer, wnaumer@hotmail.com, 537-8211

SEE YOU AT THE CHATTERBOX FOR DRINKS!