



# Douglas Lake NEWSLETTER

Douglas Lake Improvement Association

[www.DouglasLake.org](http://www.DouglasLake.org)

P.O. Box 472, Pellston, MI 49769

May, 2016



## Letting Nature Take Its Course

Naturalizing a shoreline may or may not save time (it depends on the property and the owner), but it will probably save ground. Wave action and runoff are less likely to chew away shores anchored by native species, which tend to develop deeper root systems than turf grass and ornamental plants. A buffer area of natural vegetation reduces time behind lawnmowers and the risk that mowing will cause a shore's bank to collapse.

The ambiance of a naturalized shoreline is not lost on wildlife. A wet meadow area along the shore provides nesting and nourishment opportunities for songbirds and waterfowl. Natural conditions encourage fish, frogs, turtles, small mammals and butterflies to take up residence.

Some people erroneously believe that tall grasses and shrubs will attract pestilent species. The reality is that hangouts for dragonflies and other insect-eating animals serve to reduce a mosquito population. Taller grasses and shrubs at the water's edge deter nuisance geese seeking a turf-grass lunch. Fearing the unseen, geese are reluctant to creep through vegetation that is over their heads.

Native plants can also give you more time for fun at the cabin. The watering hose, fertilizers and herbicides required for a lush lawn won't be necessary here. With the exception of trimming shrubs and tree branches occasionally, your naturalized shoreline can become maintenance-free.

Compared to ornamental alternatives, native plants are more resistant to pests, better at attracting wildlife and more

likely to survive. Native plants also provide color, texture and height variation throughout the growing season and often beyond.

Planting Makes Perfect

Careful planning is more likely to result in a successful planting. Here are some questions to ask before tearing up the sod:

1. What do I use the shoreline for?
2. How much of the shoreline do I want to naturalize?
3. Can I minimize erosion problems?

Consider the soil type, slope and light conditions when choosing plants. Remember to factor in how much of the area will be used, and whether you want to be able to view the lake over or through the new plantings. Making a sketch of your property might help your plotting and planning.

One option for re-vegetation is to do nothing. When mowing, weeding and raking cease, native plants will likely reestablish themselves. If the shoreline has mucky or silty soil, seeds from plants that lived there in the past may still exist in the bottom sediments. Plants such as spike rush, sedges and arrowhead are particularly keen on resurfacing once the grass is allowed to go to seed. An interesting array of native perennials likely buffered the shoreline long before you were born; let them reappear!

If the goal is to establish particular species or to accelerate the evolution of a natural shoreline, get out the gardening gloves. Before manipulating your shoreline, be sure to familiarize yourself with and follow Michigan regulations. Choose native plants that have been grown locally and ensure they are free from invasive species.

Shoreline re-vegetation is most likely to succeed in areas that are sheltered with little or moderate wave action, that have a stable water level during the growing season and that are flat.

*"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he sees."*  
- John Muir, Naturalist, Conservationist, Author 1838-1914  
Founded Sierra Club and National Audubon Society

**Saturday, May 28: Munro Township Clean-Up Day**

Please have your trash ready at the end of your driveway near the road.

For more details: [www.MunroTownship.com](http://www.MunroTownship.com)

**AREA EVENTS OF INTEREST**

**Pellston Memorialfest- \*New**  
May 26-30

Featuring live music, beer/wine tasting, antique car show, Memorial Day Parade

**Annual Lilac Festival**  
Mackinaw City & Mackinac Island  
June 3-12

**Petoskey Concerts in the Park**  
Noon: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday  
June 7-August 26  
Pennsylvania Park

**Charlevoix Summer Open House**  
June 16, 4 - 8 pm  
Downtown

**Soo Locks Engineers Week-End**  
June 24-25, 9 -4

**Petoskey Antiques at the Fairgrounds**  
July 2 & August 6, 9 - 5  
July 3 & August 7, 9 - 4

**Cheboygan Waterways Festival**  
July 7-10

**Blissfest Music Festival**  
July 8-10

**Indian River Summerfest**  
July 20-23

**Cheboygan Downtown Summer Concert Series**  
Thursdays July 14-August 25 7 pm  
Festival Square

**Cheboygan Music Festival**  
July 29 & 30 4 - 11 pm  
Festival Square

**Mackinaw City Antique Show**  
August 2 10 - 4  
Mackinaw City High School

**Cheboygan County Fair**  
August 6-13

**Alanson Riverfest**  
August 12-14

**Petoskey Festival on the Bay**  
August 19 & 20 11 am to 11 pm

**Emmet County Fair**  
August 23-28

**Taste of Harbor Springs**  
September 24 Noon - 3

**BAY VIEW ASSOCIATION**  
Assembly season June 12-September 4  
Sundays 10:45, Hall Auditorium  
Vespers concerts June 12-September 4  
Sundays 8 pm, Hall Auditorium

**DOUGLAS LAKE WOMENADE**

June 15-Kathy Buchweitz 6 pm

July 20-Martha Beechler 6 pm

August 17-Marilyn Stover  
(Carolyn Neunuebel assisting) 6 pm  
September/October- with guests (no date yet) -Linda Alexander 6 pm

*Everyone is asked to bring a dish to pass and a \$35 suggested amount donation check. We would like to extend an invitation to all women from around the lake. We are a great bunch of ladies and enjoy meeting new and old members at our meetings. Looking forward to seeing you.*

**THE HEADLANDS**  
at Dark Sky Park Mackinaw City  
Trivia Nights!  
Each Friday 8:30, July - September

True Blue Moon  
May 21 8:30 - 11 pm

The Cycle of the Year  
as a breathing process  
June 20 8:30 - 10:30

Lights Out Challenge  
Perseid Meteor Shower  
Program 9 - 10, Challenge 10 - 11 pm

**ART & CRAFT SHOWS**

- June 16, 6pm - 9pm, Petoskey Gallery Walk, Downtown
- July 16, 10 - 6, Petoskey Art in the Park, Pennsylvania Park
- June 17, 2 - 8; June 18, 10 - 4; June 19, 10 - 3 Cheboygan Summer Art & Craft Show, Washington Park
- June 24, 6 - 8pm; June 25, Noon - 6 pm South Boyne Arts District Arts Festival, Sunset Park
- June 25, 10 - 5; June 26, 10 - 4 Charlevoix Summer Solstice Art Show
- June 25 & Aug. 27, 10 - 7; June 26 & August 28, 10 - 3, Mackinaw City Fine Arts & Crafts Shows, Conkling Park
- July 3 & 4, Boyne City Arts & Crafts Show, Waterfront
- July 4, Harbor Springs Art Fair, Zorn Park
- July 9 & 10, Charlevoix Art & Craft Fair, Waterfront
- July 13, 9:30-4:00 Nub's Nob Women's Club Art Fair
- July 29 & 30, Bay Harbor Arts Festival
- Aug. 6, 9 - 4, Northwoods Art Fair at Douglas Lake, Pellston
- Aug. 20, 10 - 5, Petoskey Big Art Show, Pennsylvania Park

**DOUGLAS LAKE MERCHANDISE SALE DATES**

May 28, July 4, August 13, Sept 3 @ 10am - Noon

June 18 @ 3pm - 5pm

Held at the storage building beside the Pellston Lodge across from the airport

**SIDEWALK SALES**

- Petoskey: July 29, 9:00 - 9:00 and July 30, 9:00 - 6:00
- Cheboygan: August 4, 5, 6
- Harbor Springs: September 3
- Charlevoix: August 18, 19, 20, 9-6
- Boyne City: August 12 & 13



**Area Summer Farmer's Markets**

**Cheboygan**  
Wednesdays & Saturdays 8:00am - 1:00pm,  
June 4 - October 29 at Festival Square

**Indian River**  
Wednesdays 2:00pm-6:00pm and Saturdays 9:00am-1:00  
June - October, Corner M-27 & M-68

**Harbor Springs**  
Wednesdays & Saturdays 9:00am-1:00pm  
mid-June - Labor Day, Main & State Streets

**Petoskey**  
Fridays 8:30am-12:30pm, June - September  
on Howard Street (Carnegie library rest of year)

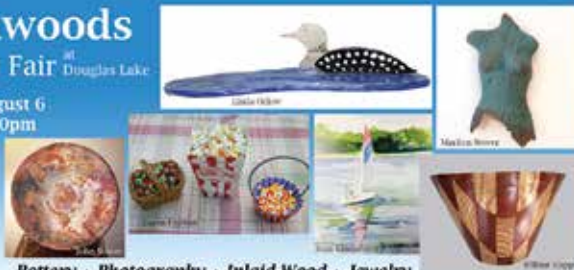
**Boyne City**  
Wednesdays & Saturdays 8:00am - noon,  
May to Oct. at Veterans Park

**Charlevoix**  
Thursdays 9:00am-1:00pm,  
June to October, East Park

**Northwoods**

2016 Art Fair at Douglas Lake

Saturday, August 6  
9:00am to 4:00pm



Pottery • Photography • Inlaid Wood • Jewelry  
Fused Glass • Lampwork Beads • Watercolor

10810 Northwoods Shores Dr, Pellston, MI 49769 John & Marilyn Stover 231-539-8280



From Riggs file Rd (C-64), go North on Bryant Rd. Turn East onto Northwoods Shores Dr.

Calendar information researched by Jayne Morse and others

## What's to See at the 'Soo'

Is your family looking for a special treat this summer? A perfect itinerary (weather-permitting, of course) is a trip to Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan's oldest city, for Soo Locks Engineers Week-End, June 24-25, 2016. It's your once-a-year opportunity to explore behind the scenes: walk across the lock walls and explore the buildings and special exhibits open only on the 24th (the last Friday in June). The gates are open from 9:00-4:00 on Friday to permit visitors across the Locks and into historically important structures used solely for the work of one of the world's busiest lock systems.



On Saturday June 25th, put your walking shoes on for the annual International Bridge Walk, stepping off at 9:30 am. The approximately 2 mile-long bridge spans the waters that separate Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan and Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. The pace is easy and there are spectacular views of the twin Saults, the St. Marys River rapids and the Soo Locks. Walkers need to bring their passports or other approved I.D. Contact the Sault Ste. Marie Area Chamber of Commerce for more details at (906) 632-3301.

Web site for all the Engineers Week-End information is <http://www.saultstemarie.com/events-calendar/soo-locks-engineers-weekend-june-24-25-2016/>.

The Soo Locks are a set of parallel locks that enable ships to travel between Lake Superior and the lower Great Lakes. They are located on the St. Marys River between Lake Superior and Lake Huron, between the UP and the Canadian province of Ontario. They bypass the rapids of the river, where the water falls 21 feet. The locks pass an average 10,000 ships per year despite being closed during the winter from January through March, when ice shuts down shipping on the Great Lakes. The U.S. locks are a part of St. Marys Falls Canal which is owned and maintained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Passage through the locks is free. The current configuration of 4 locks includes the MacArthur (1943), the Poe (1895), the Davis (1914) and the Sabin (1919). The Poe lock was re-built in 1968 to accommodate larger ships after the St. Laurence Seaway opened. The Poe is the only Soo lock that can handle the large lake freighters used on the upper lakes. And, just in case you thought the "Poe" was named for Edgar Allen, forget it. This Poe is Orlando Poe who engineered the original lock; his work directly inspired the design and engineering of the Panama

Canal by Lt. Colonel Henry Foote Hodges who worked with Poe on the Soo lock.

The Soo Locks Visitors Center (906-635-4236 or 906-632-3366) is open from May 8th until mid-October. The Visitors Center has exhibits and displays featuring shipping and history themes. The exhibit "Ships of the Great Lakes"

features historic photographs and information about ships that have sailed the lakes since the early 1800s, including whaleboats, side-wheelers, steamers with barges, wooden freighters and the modern 1,000-foot-freighters that can hold 70,000 tons of iron ore. Front Desk staff at the Center post a daily list of when ships are scheduled to go through the locks inside the Center, or you can call Vessel Recording

at (906)635-3224 to hear the schedule. This is highly recommended so you can time your visit to fully appreciate the operation of the locks and the enormous size of the ships passing through the locks.

The US Army Engineering Research and Engineering Laboratory/Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (ERDC/CRREL) maintains the Soo Locks Webcam at Soo Locks Live Web Cam. The old web site has been disabled recently but a new Soo Locks Web Cam site is in the works. Check it out and you may see one of 1000 foot freighters 'locking' through.

Better yet, take a Soo Locks Boat Tour. Several popular cruises are available. One is a two-hour cruise that takes you through the locks – often in the company of a huge freighter nestled in the lock with your little tour boat. Quite a visual! Another tour is the St. Marys River Lighthouse Cruise, about a 4.5 hour trip through the American locks, past several historic lighthouses, a view of Whitefish Bay and Lake Superior, into Canadian waters and a view of the Laurentian Mountains. For details, schedules and passenger rates see <http://www.soolocks.com/soo-locks-sightseeing-tours-8/> or call (800)432-6301.

Not able to get to the Soo for Engineers Week-end? Not to worry, the Soo Locks, Visitors Center, Boat Tours and some shopping in Sault Ste. Marie are available all summer. Roughly an hour from Douglas Lake, it's an easy day trip with attractions for the whole family.

Written by *Mary Ellen Sheridan*

Rivers are places that renew our spirit, connect us with our past and link us directly with the flow and rhythm of the natural world. - Leo Tolstoy

## HISTORY

# RITTENHOUSE RUSTIC FURNITURE

CHEBOYGAN, MICHIGAN

*Do you, or a neighbor, have any Rittenhouse furniture?  
Many Douglas Lake cottages still contain some!*

Summer cabins on Douglas Lake, among other lakes, were the getaway of choice since the late 1910's during the great "Timber Era" of Northern Michigan when the first automobiles and improved roads brought families up north in search of fresh air, scenery and serenity.

When it came time to outfit a cabin, one simply looked for a sign, either tacked to a tree or staked in the ground, painted with the words "wooden furniture" and an arrow. Later called "Rustic Furniture", these predominantly wooden pieces were solid, reliable, comforting, and strong. They could be abandoned for months at a time without ill effect, standing up to hard use during the warm months, sub-zero winters, and the damp, humid thaws of spring.

Having come from Mt. Morris, New York, when John C. Rittenhouse was 20 years old in 1899 he was stocking inventory for his grocery store/post office then a mill at Mullett Lake. John was the oldest of seven, two of whom died of diphtheria. An older sister, Jessie, went on to become a very successful poet and editor in Chicago, Boston and New York. In 1902 John took over his father's successful lumber business in Cheboygan, producing cedar railroad ties and telephone poles. Within another three years, he had purchased two more businesses that manufactured cedar shingles and siding. His holdings grew rapidly. He was a two time Mayor of Cheboygan and had a Studebaker, Packard and Hudson dealership.

Shortly after his 50th birthday, Rittenhouse noticed the exponential increase in Michigan summer cottagers, so he turned some of his telephone poles into furniture. The earliest pieces, in 1928, were constructed from bark covered red cedar with a brass label underneath and manufactured by local craftsmen, many of them Native Americans. John was very impressed and influenced by the Native Americans in this area. Later, stripped native premium white cedar logs, kiln dried for two months with a three coat varnish finish would become typical for Rittenhouse Rustic Furniture, creating pieces that were strong and substantial. Table designs often incorporated the wood's natural rounded edges on the under side.

The first catalog titled "Indian Maid" included stools, bedroom furniture, lamps, cupboards, coat racks and picture frames. Many of the resort lodges built in the land known to the Chippewa Indians as Michilimackinac are of log design and used Rittenhouse cedar log furniture to complete the rustic motif. By the mid-1930's Rittenhouse furniture was in great demand as customers realized the exceptional quality of the products, and sales rapidly moved beyond Michigan. The furniture became especially popular after Americans learned that songstress and movie star Kate Smith ( of "It's

not over till the fat lady sings" fame) had outfitted her Lake Placid cottage "Camp Sunshine", with Rittenhouse furniture. Rittenhouse furniture was displayed at the Chicago Merchandise Mart as well as shows in Grand Rapids, Detroit and Cleveland.

The J. L. Hudson Company distributed a line intended for suburban homes until the early 1950's. Rittenhouse furnishings were also manufactured for restaurants, taverns, and motels. John Rittenhouse died in 1951 at 74. His company was eventually sold to

Donald Deinzer in 1955, who was part of the oldest furniture company in Detroit and continued Rittenhouse until 1964 when bankruptcy was declared with remaining inventory reputedly being burned. It was no longer popular in favor of "modern/contemporary" chrome and formica sleek motel and cabin furnishings. Also, due to the fact that Cheboygan, and the Deinzer created "Cedar Shop" store, was no longer a "Route Town" due to the completion of I-75. Rittenhouse had been the most prolific rustic furniture maker in the U.S. and Canada.

Authentic Rittenhouse furniture has a blue foil label affixed to the underside of pieces. Deinzer changed to a brown foil label. It is now very valuable and somewhat rare! An example would be the ladder back chair which was listed in the 1948 catalog for \$7.35 and could now sell for about \$150. The largest seller of Rittenhouse is, and has been, Mary Marks and her late (1996) husband Chuck Copeland at Levering Antiques and Rustic Furniture originally in the historic clapboard Walker building which was once a general store with a lady who handled the switchboard. The Walker building was completely destroyed by fire in April, 2006. Mary reopened her business a year later next door. She is now open seasonally beginning on Mother's Day or at 537-4972.

Some information for this was gathered at the Cheboygan County History Center which is a local treasure. It is located at 427 Court Street and open June 15 through mid-October, Tuesdays to Saturdays. You can tour Spies Heritage Hall, the 1880's Sheriff's residence and jail, the 1912 jail addition and Victorian gardens.

Researched by *Linda Orlow*



## DOUGLAS LAKE'S COMMON SNAPPING TURTLES

Researched by *Frank Beaver*

How would you describe one of those large turtles seen around Douglas Lake and known familiarly as “snapping” turtles? Distinctive? Pre-historic looking? Ugly? Scary? Whatever, they are rather special inhabitants of our area, and many of them hang around for decades. They’re a member of the “common snapping turtle” family, a term that distinguishes them from the larger and less prevalent “alligator snapping turtle.” In Latin terminology the snapping turtle is labeled “*Chelydra serpentina*.” The *serpentina* refers to the reptilian snake-like characteristics of the species. Its shell harbors a head and neck - usually tucked away - that is capable of a surprising extension, especially when reacting to perceived threats.

The species is a freshwater one, and around Douglas Lake its major habitats are the muddy wetland marshes and shallow streams which the area provides in great abundance. When mobile they can be seen traveling, most often in or at the edge of roads around the lake. A familiar sighting area on our side of the lake has been on Ingleside Road opposite the Judson pike breeding field. A snapping turtle’s mobility is slow and languid, but it does like to emerge from time to time from its sunken marsh bed and move about. Often it’s to search for new habitats or a sandy nesting site to deposit eggs for reproduction.

Last summer two of the turtles appeared at the edge of our back yard. The first had a shell (carapace) covered in green mossy-looking camouflage - a combination of algae and mud. Two days later a second appeared - its shell sparkling clean - and remained for a couple of hours in the area where the first had been seen. If a pair, we don’t know when or where they might have reunited. The female deposits several dozen eggs a year, making a hole and covering the eggs with her hind feet. The year before last we observed that turtle eggs had been buried in the sandy mound of a septic field off Reinhardt Road. Two days later a scraped empty hole in the sand revealed that the eggs had fallen victim to predators. (Maybe there’s a bit of justice here as the snapping turtle is also known to prey on the nesting eggs of other wildlife.) The on-going challenges for successful reproduction among snapping turtles is well known. Scientists tell us that a female can retain sperm for extended periods of time before producing eggs.

We have sometimes seen a snapping turtle swimming in the lake. Once we spotted a massive one resting under our dock. It fled quickly, persuaded by the startled reaction of our grandkids. In actuality observers have noted that a swimming snapping turtle is relatively docile and will move away and hide when confronted by

humans. Out of water turtles can be quite aggressive in protecting themselves against predators. This feisty temperament results from the fact that the bulky heads and legs of a snapping turtle can’t be fully withdrawn into the hard shell when threatened. Hatchlings and younger turtles are especially vulnerable to predators.

The following is a list - by no means a complete one - of some other facts about the common snapping turtle.

- The common snapping turtle can be found in southeastern Canada, the northeastern United States and south to Florida, westward to the edge of the Rocky Mountains.
- Snapping turtles in the wild are known to live 30 years or more. In captivity they have lived decades longer.
- For food the snapping turtle gravitates to marshy areas rich in vegetation, and feed on a variety of wildlife and amphibians.
- Raccoons, foxes, great blue herons, and skunks are among the wildlife that prey on nest eggs and hatchlings. Once fully grown—around age 15 and a weight of approximately 30 pounds—the snapping turtle remains fairly safe from predators.

The Douglas Lake environs were said to be at one time a popular trapping area for the snapping turtle whose meat was used in soups and stews.



The common snapping turtle is not considered an endangered species, but many have been accidentally killed by vehicles when they venture on to roadways. When coming upon one on or near a road, don’t try to move it to safety by picking it up by the tail. This can cause serious damage to the turtle’s body, and it can be dangerous if the turtle becomes aggressive. The same is true if trying to lift the turtle by the sides of its carapace.

For instructions on how to safely move a snapping turtle view the 3-minute video called “How To Help a Snapping Turtle Cross the Road” produced by staff members of the Toronto Zoo and available on YouTube.

For snapping turtle information for children see the “Kids Inquiry of Diverse Species, *Chelydra serpentina*. Common Snapping Turtle Information” on the University of Michigan site [www.BioKIDS.umich.edu](http://www.BioKIDS.umich.edu).

And for a classic children’s story about the journey of a snapping turtle down the Mississippi check out Holling C. Holling’s Newbery Honor book *Minn of the Mississippi*, (1951).



### Interesting Apps? Will you share any apps that are of area interest?

One example is the app FLIGHT AWARE. Have you ever been on the lake or walking and see a jet trail overhead and wondered what its origin and destination are? Due to our location many very interesting flights cross us. Dubai to Houston, Abu Dhabi to Chicago... On Flight Aware select the search icon in the upper left corner, then “nearby me”. You should then see a blue dot for your location with little planes and trails. Select a plane and it will give you codes, click on the codes and it will tell you the origin, destination, airline, type of plane, time of departure and arrival, speed, altitude... all but the passenger list!

## Shoreline Survey Results Soon

During the summer of 2015, the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council (TOMWC) surveyed the entire shoreline of Douglas Lake as part of the Burt-Sturgeon Watershed Management Plan. The purpose was to assess four conditions that impact water quality of the lake.

1. Lakeshore erosion
2. Presence of a greenbelt
3. Shoreline alterations (e.g., seawalls, riprap)
4. Nutrient pollution (from sources such as fertilizers or sewage)

Together the DLIA and TOMWC are sending letters to each shoreline property owner in early June. The letter will contain shoreline information and instructions for viewing the survey results for your property. A unique ID is listed for each property. You will enter your unique ID on the Watershed Council's website to retrieve the results of your survey. If you

do not have access to the website, a phone number will be listed that you may use to get the information.

If your shoreline needs improvement, the TOMWC includes a questionnaire that will help assess if there are shoreline conditions that affect water quality. Your participation will lead to the determination of corrective actions.

It is alarming that over 50% of greenbelts on shoreline properties were found to be in poor condition and, in many cases, completely devoid of vegetation except for turf grass. There is also evidence of nutrient pollution from sources such as fertilizers, storm water runoff, and malfunctioning septic systems. The good news is that 32% of the properties were in good or excellent condition.

If you received an excellent or good greenbelt score and would like to showcase your greenbelt in publications or for lake tours, please let us know at [info@douglaslake.org](mailto:info@douglaslake.org). We are particularly interested in successful greenbelt restoration projects.

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## LOON UPDATE *By Dave Thompson*

Spring has arrived and the loons are returning to Douglas Lake. The loon nests have been placed and this year we have added a fourth nest to Nuttings Bay to go with the existing ones in Marl, Maple and North Fishtail Bays. We have also added eagle guards to two of the nests. At the end of the summer we will evaluate how the nests and guards worked out.

As a reminder, please respect the loons and keep a reasonable distance from the nests. If you witness someone harassing the loons or other wildlife contact the DNR at 800-292-7800 and provide as much detail as possible. You can also contact our Loon Ranger Rich Gedert at 231-537-3269. Here are a few interesting facts about loons:

- Loons only sport their famous red eyes during the summer. In winter they have gray eyes,
- To help digest their food, loons will swallow small pebbles which help grind up the hard parts of the food they eat.
- Loons have relatively small wings for their size. The shorter wings mean they have less resistance while diving, and can make lightning fast turns in pursuit of fish and other prey.
- The smaller wings mean they cannot soar or glide. To fly, they must beat their wings fast and steady.
- Loons are more closely related to penguins than to any North American Waterfowl.



If you would like to read more about loons, the Michigan Loon Preservation Association has a good website at [www.michiganloons.com](http://www.michiganloons.com). Also, see local area loon activity at [www.LoonCorps.org](http://www.LoonCorps.org).

## Good Neighbor Practices

*Please:*

- Pets – Pick up after your pet on private property and public walkways. Remember that a constantly barking dog irritates neighbors.
- Lights – Outdoor lights should be shielded and aimed downward. They should not shine in your neighbor's windows.
- Household waste – Recycle. Wait until your assigned trash pickup day to put out bags. If you have to leave, ask a neighbor for help.
- Beach Fires – Be aware of DNR's fire level and attend a fire at all times with a means of extinguishing the fire on hand.
- Fireworks – Restrict fireworks to the appropriate holidays between dusk and 11 p.m.



## We Will Miss . . .



### David Murray Gates, 94

Physicist, ecologist, and Professor Emeritus of Biology, University of Michigan and DIRECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN BIOLOGICAL STATION AT DOUGLAS LAKE 1971-1986 died on March 4, 2016 in Ann Arbor.

Dr. Gates was an internationally renowned scientist and was recognized as the developer of the new discipline “Biophysical Ecology”. He was born in Manhattan, Kansas on May 27, 1921, the adopted son of Frank and Margaret Gates. David spent his first 19 summers in Northern Michigan at the University of Michigan Biological Station where his father, a distinguished Plant Ecologist at Kansas State University, did research and taught Plant Ecology each summer for 40 years starting in 1911.

Young David enrolled in physics at the University of Michigan in 1940, but his academic life was suspended for several years during WWII while he worked for the government on the top secret “proximity fuse”.

Professor Gates received his BS, MS and PhD in physics from the University of Michigan, graduating in 1948. From 1947-64 he carried on research in radiation properties of atmosphere and climate while with the Office of Naval Research, the University of Denver, the National Bureau of Standards in Boulder and as Professor of Natural History at the University of Colorado. It was during this period he established the new discipline “Biophysical Ecology” and published the definitive original text. In 1965 he became Director of the Missouri Botanical Garden leaving Boulder for that highly distinguished institution. While there he became an outspoken and effective environmentalist and was one of the very first to become concerned about the climatic greenhouse effect now termed “Global Warming”. In 1971 he became Professor of Botany and Director of the University of Michigan Biological Station. He always loved this region and especially the Biological Station on Douglas Lake. It was a lifelong dream to return to the institution and site where he spent childhood summers and where his father taught.

His leadership was instrumental in developing the sponsored research, modernizing the course program, receiving grants for student training and upgrading the physical plant. After his term as Director, David built a cottage on Douglas Lake and spent summers there for the rest of his life, 65 years in total spent on Douglas Lake!

David was active all his professional life and was on numerous boards, offices and other positions in the scientific world. He received many awards and medals for his leadership and accomplishments. He found time to publish fifty research papers and six books. David was a great traveler visiting all 50 states and 55 countries.

He married his childhood sweetheart, Marian Penley Gates, in 1944, having a wonderful marriage for 62 years. Marian died in 2006. He is survived by his four loving children; Murray, Julie, Heather and Marilyn, their spouses and four grandchildren. His cottage is left in trust to the family.

Memorials may be made to the Marian P. & David M. Gates Scholarship for Non-Residents at the University of Michigan Biological Station.

\*A celebration of his life will be held at the station on Sunday, July 10, 2016 at 2pm. It will be followed immediately by a reception. All are invited. Please R.S.V.P. to Irene Crum at 231-539-7272 (by mid June) 734-668-7272 or irenecrum34@gmail.com or Mark Paddock at 231-539-8952, markleyp@umich.edu.

### Diane Ellman, 69

Diane Ellman, known for her grace, kindness, courage, dignity, and sunshine smile, died at Hiland Cottage in Petoskey, February 8, 2016.

Diane and her husband, Jerry, moved to Petoskey in 1971. They owned and operated Mitchell Street Pub for 29 years, and the Douglas Lake Bar for 5 years in the early 1980's. Diane looked forward to the seasonal move from Petoskey to Douglas Lake for a summer of biking, kayaking, and sharing her love of Douglas Lake with friends.

Diane enjoyed reading and playing pickleball and mahjong. She was active in and served on the Boards of DLIA and DL Womenade. She will be greatly missed by the DL Book Club; as an avid reader, she particularly relished a lively discussion of a good non-fiction book.

\*\*\*Please join Jerry and family for a memorial service at Stone Funeral Home, June 18, at 11 a.m. with a visitation starting at 9 a.m. with refreshments following at the Bay View Inn. The family suggests memorial donations in Diane's memory to Karmanos Cancer Institute or Hospice of Little Traverse Bay.

### Margaret Caldwell Gilbertson, 74

Margaret Gilbertson had a rich family history on Douglas Lake. She was one of five sisters who each had/have her own cottage/home along the north-east shore for many years. Margaret spent seasonal, then permanent, time on the lake since her birth. She and her sisters Ann Butler, Katie Haensel, Treva Breuch and Joan Caldwell were very close. She was preceded in death by Ann and more recently Katie. Margaret married Howard Gilbertson in 1961. They enjoyed a loving, nearly inseparable relationship with both being very involved in the construction of their permanent home in Manitou Shores which was completed in 1994 upon their retirement from Appleton, Wisconsin. Margaret had an adventurous personality and a deep love for her family – children Thor and Katie, grandchildren Taylor and Christopher and her many friends. She had a keen sense of humor and was involved in, and supported, DLIA in various ways. She enjoyed gourmet cooking and entertaining, birding, Douglas Lake Book Club, playing Mahjong, taking long daily morning group walks, the Wisconsin Badgers, Green Valley, AZ and the Anasazi ruins in Utah. She died of cancer at the Cheboygan Hospice House on Oct. 19, 2015.

### Mary-Martha (Nichols) Beierwaltes, 97

Two years ago on a beautiful, sunny, Douglas Lake morning, my 95-year-old mother announced that she was going to hike down to The Gorge one last time. Eight family members ranging from age 2 to 95 headed to The Gorge for a walk that we expected to take 45 minutes. It was 80° and we were sweaty and thirsty after the 3 hour hike. It was then that my mom confessed that she only wanted to hike down the stairs a little way, look at it one last time, and come right back up. She was always a trooper.

Mary-Martha passed away peacefully on January 12, 2016. She was born in New Haven, Connecticut June 12, 1918. Mom's love affair with Michigan began forming at the age of 2. Each summer our family of 6, packed a steamer trunk, and boarded the train from New Haven to Pellston, Michigan. Upon arrival we piled into a little metal cabin with a pot-bellied stove on beautiful Douglas Lake at the University of Michigan Biological Station affectionately known as “Bug Camp”. Her father taught Botany for the summer and the whole family fell in love with Michigan's natural wonders. A child's paradise she called it.

Mary-Martha met her husband, William, at the U of M. He was a physician and she was involved in the vibrant Ann Arbor community as an artist, a costume designer, seamstress, community volunteer, and member of the church choir. She and William had a summer cottage on Douglas Lake. In retirement years, they traveled throughout the world and moved to Petoskey in 2002 to be near us and their beautiful Douglas Lake cottage.

*Lovingly submitted by Martha Maloney*



P.O. Box 472, Pellston, MI 49769



**Douglas Lake Improvement Association**  
[www.douglaslake.org](http://www.douglaslake.org)

Membership Dues: \$25 a year  
Mail to DLIA, PO Box 472, Pellston, MI 49769

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can be found at [www.douglaslake.org](http://www.douglaslake.org)

### DLIA Anniversary Request for Information



Next year marks the 50th anniversary of the creation of the Douglas lake Improvement Association; 1967- 2017. To commemorate the occasion, the DLIA Executive Board is planning a booklet that will highlight the work and achievements of the DLIA since its beginning. We are looking for information that reflects the role played by the DLIA within the lake and nearby communities.

Short historical pieces, anecdotal memories, photographs and bio sketches of DLIA volunteers, zone reps, board members and officers will be greatly appreciated.

If you have any of these items or you can help prepare the booklet, please notify me at [fbeaver@umich.edu](mailto:fbeaver@umich.edu) or Holly Gedert at [president@douglaslake.org](mailto:president@douglaslake.org).

*Thanks for all you have done and do.*  
**Frank Beaver, Vice-President, DLIA**



**LAST CALL** In the November newsletter we requested book or DVD titles about our area. This may include historical, environmental or cultural related topics of the area north of Traverse City. Please send titles, authors, date of publication, fiction or non-fiction and a sentence description (if desired) to [LindaOrlow@gmail.com](mailto:LindaOrlow@gmail.com) by Nov. 1 so we can publish a list in the fall newsletter.

