



# Douglas Lake NEWSLETTER

November, 2020

Douglas Lake Improvement Association • [www.DouglasLake.org](http://www.DouglasLake.org) • P.O. Box 472, Pellston, MI 49769



## DLIA President's Message

Why can't we just cancel the rest of 2020 and jump ahead to 2021? It doesn't seem too much to ask given the way 2020 has been putting us through the wringer. One of the best features of being a year-rounder at Douglas Lake has been the regular gathering of the winter "left overs" at local restaurants. Sadly, that's not happening this winter. What are you looking forward to at Douglas Lake in a COVID-19 vaccinated 2021? Drop your thoughts to [president@douglaslake.org](mailto:president@douglaslake.org).

On the plus side, our Douglas Lake loons had a pretty successful chick season. Three nesting couples produced a total of 5 chicks. Perhaps you spotted some of them swimming around the Lake. The Loon Committee is planning to relocate the 4th nesting platform for the 2021 season, to see if a fourth couple can be coaxed to make Douglas Lake their family home.

Unfortunately, 2020 was a dreadful summer for swimmer's itch (SI). The DLIA funded an assessment of the prevalence of the parasite likely responsible for the majority of swimmer's itch on Douglas Lake. While the incidence of swimmer's itch varies from summer to summer, and there is no known solution that would be 100% effective in eliminating swimmer's itch, the DLIA Executive Board believed that this issue merited polling the DLIA membership about options that could reduce the impact of swimmer's itch. These include, (1) trap and relocate several broods of mergansers to other lakes in the region, or (2) preserve mergansers as a species native to Douglas Lake, and do more education about proactive and behavioral steps humans should take to minimize their risk of exposure to the offending parasites. Stay tuned.

Hats off to Kelly Davis for a spectacular inaugural summer as Merchandise Chair. The new items were big hits, the shirts and tees have great colors and designs, and the cooler mugs and bags were fun additions. Kelly and her sales team deserve "star volunteers" recognition. The on-line store is open for business and ready to solve those holiday shopping uncertainties! Check it out.

The DLIA Membership Directory is printed every other year; 2021 is a Directory year. In recent years, the Directory has generated advertising revenue that covered the cost of printing the Directory, and a surplus that allowed the Association to put aside funds for emergency purposes, such as dealing with environmental invasives. We recognize that COVID-19 has placed serious economic constraints on local businesses. Consequently, the DLIA Executive Board has determined to go, "Directory-lite" in 2021, printing only membership data, and Association-relevant information, such as Bylaws. We will not conduct an advertising sales campaign until the 2023 Membership Directory. The annual winter dues mailing will include a membership data form – please update your information so your data are accurate in the 2021 Directory.

Your Executive Board has met via Zoom over the summer. But, we all miss gathering with friends from around the Lake to share happenings while we conduct the business of the DLIA; we look forward to reconvening in the Pellston Airport Conference room as soon as allowed next year. The approved budget for the DLIA 2021 includes funds for a celebratory gathering - probably in conjunction with the Annual Meeting next August. Here's a new volunteer opportunity: We're looking for some DLIA members who would relish planning a festive event.

The DLIA is a volunteer-driven organization. I thank you for your support, and your participation in our diverse volunteer opportunities the DLIA thrives on. In addition to the Executive Board (made up of the officers, past President, Directors, and 16 Zone Representatives), the DLIA benefits from many Committee Chairs and members who share their time and expertise to assure that we meet the goals of the Association, and accomplish our annual priorities. Interested in knowing who these folks are? Check out all the various Committee Chairs and members at the DLIA web site: <https://www.douglaslake.org/wp-content/media/DLIA-BoardCommittees-20201018.pdf>.

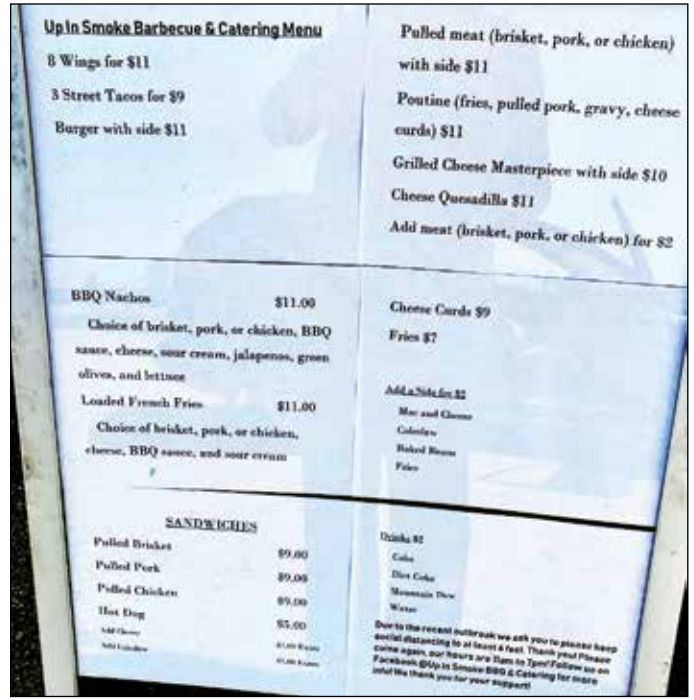
Have a healthy and enjoyable winter.

*Mary Ellen Sheidan*

# UP IN SMOKE BBQ & CATERING

While the Up in Smoke BBQ & Catering food truck is in “moth balls,” behind Beach’s Up North Tavern (former Crash Landing bar on US 31) for the winter, their delicious food is available at Beach’s by ordering from the menu at 231-539-8611. They are open Tuesday through Saturday, from noon to 8PM. You can pick up your order inside the tavern, or have it brought out to your car, whichever you prefer.

*“Food has been amazing - ribs are the best we have ever had, flavorful, moist and reheat well. Pulled pork and chicken is also great for the same reasons. I’m usually not a fan of coleslaw, but theirs is very good, not too vinegary. Smoked mac and cheese, is just that - smoked and good. Staff have always been helpful and extremely friendly - COVID conscious!!!!!!”* - Laura Hannaford



# Death, Taxes, and Roads

by *Bill Hartwig* Retired, Michigan Department of Transportation

Roads don't fix themselves could be added to the other well-known truisms of death and taxes. In making road maintenance, repair, and reconstruction decisions, it is prudent for road agencies to compare the roads under their control, and to allocate funds based on the road's condition – generally, those in the worst shape are repaired first. Funding and allocation requirements are controlling considerations.

The Cheboygan County Road Commission uses the Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating (PASER) system to compare paved road conditions and to direct road funding decisions. The PASER system rates all paved roads on a scale of 1 to 10 according to surface conditions of the pavement. A 10 rating is a new road needing only routine maintenance, and a 1 rating means a failed road requiring total reconstruction. Similarly, gravel roads are evaluated using the Inventory-Based Rating (IBR) system. A 10 rating is a new gravel road with good width, structure, and drainage, while a 1 rated road needs all of the above corrected, usually total rebuilding.



Munro is one of the 19 Townships in Cheboygan County. There are three classes of county roads in the Township – Primary, Local, and Seasonal. Omitting County Primary and Seasonal roads, the Township must by law, contribute to County Local roads. To aid in funding allocation, paved County Local roads are evaluated using the PASER system. Munro's ratings are

shown on the Road Commission's web site, along with the other 18 Townships. Thus, it is possible to compare each Township's County Local roads ratings.

When the PASER data is analyzed an interesting observation can be made. Munro Township's PASER rating for paved County Local roads is 2.30 compared to a select group of 8 Townships, which have an average rating of 4.66. The major explanation for this difference is the amount of road funding available. The 8 select townships all have a road millage (ranging from .5 up to 2.0 mills), while Munro has no dedicated road millage. Munro Township must rely on its general tax base to fund Local roads, competing for funding with other public services and needs.

So, what is the likely result? Roads will continue to deteriorate at an even a faster rate, especially with the increased traffic as retirees and those working at home convert vacation dwellings to permanent homes. Potholes, surface cracking, and shoulder edge degradation and unraveling will become much more prevalent, leading to safety issues, due to swerving vehicles. In addition, as this continues, repairs become more expensive because eventually total reconstruction is needed. We see this already happening.

Is it time to begin thinking and discussing, “What can be done?” Eight townships have already decided they didn't like the eventual outcome, and to enhance safety and mobility, they passed a millage. Should Munro Township join them? It's up to you!



## A DESTINATION: PARADISE, AND THE WHITEFISH BAY AREA - IN THE UPPER PENINSULA

by *Linda Orlew*

**PARADISE** – The name certainly sets a high bar for this village on Lake Superior, known as the Wild Blueberry Capital of Michigan. This small (population 293) community is only an hour and twenty minutes north of Douglas Lake – I-75, exit #352 to M-123 (with a nice scenic rest area just south of Paradise).

Among the things to do in Paradise include the rather extensive, well known Village Fabrics and Crafts, which is a very short distance west on M-123 - open seven days a week year-round!! They have quilting fabrics, yarn, and all needlecraft materials. My favorite destination is Wild Works at 10094 N. Whitefish Point Rd, open May 1 to Oct. 31. You will be greeted by artist Barb Erickson's beautiful garden ON the Superior coast. She can answer all questions about her plantings. She is a talented nature artist who specializes in using unique natural, and common items, as her base.

Places to eat include Brown Fisheries Fish House on M-123 West, known for only fresh fish; Fresh Coast Café in a small, new log building on M-123; Berry Patch on M-123; Paradise Pizza Factory (beside/behind Fresh Coast); Catch of the Day food truck with fresh whitefish on M-123; and Ebby's food truck with a large wooden replica of a freighter on M-123 West.

### LODGING

- Magnuson Grand Hotel Lakefront in Paradise
- Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum lodging, Whitefish Point
- Many area cabins for rent

For lovers of mystery fiction, tiny Paradise also has something to offer. Paradise and its environs have been widely popularized by novelist Steve Hamilton, in a series of books featuring ex-Detroit police investigator Alex McKnight, who has traded his badge for a cabin, and settled in Paradise. A Cold Day in Paradise (1998) received both the Shamus, and Edgar awards for Best First Novel by a mystery writer. There are now thirteen novels in the Alex McKnight series, published by Minotaur Books. Fun reads for exploring Paradise before, or after a visit. (Thank you, Frank Beaver, for this addition.)

**MORAN** – This small town is just about exactly half way between here and Paradise. King's Fish Market is a nice log building on the west side of M-123 in Moran. They have fresh and smoked fish, Pinconning cheese wheels, pasties, take-out meals, and a variety of specialty items. There is also a display of mounted old outboard motors! Open till 4 or 6 pm daily - closed Sundays.

**WHITEFISH POINT** is 11 miles north of Paradise. The very impressive Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum; Lake Superior beach; and Whitefish Point Bird Observatory, are all enjoyable on the Point. In addition to the Museum building, the campus includes the Light station, Lifeboat station, and the museum store and lodging. Among others, it features the sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald – which happened only 17 miles away. You should allow 1½ to 2 hours for the whole museum, and another hour for the beach and bird sanctuary, via a boardwalk. Lake Superior agates (red, orange and yellow banded agates) that were formed about a billion years ago have been found on this beach. Museum cost is \$13 adults, \$9 under 17, under 5 free.

**TAHQUAMENON FALLS** is 11 miles west of Paradise. It includes the Upper (largest east of the Mississippi), and Lower Falls, the State Park, Tahquamenon Riverboat Tours, a Trolley, and the Brewery & Pub. To walk from the lower to upper falls takes 2 ½ hours. You can also drive to each of the Falls, and there are accessible overlooks. The state park cost is \$9 for an out of state day pass. A Michigan resident can purchase a yearly Recreation Passport for \$12 when renewing your license, or \$17 for MI vehicles at the park.

### CRISP POINT LIGHTHOUSE

– This is a beautiful, classic 1904 Lake Superior Lighthouse. It is in a remote location, which is accessed by CR 412 - a challenging gravel county road. It was one of the first four lighthouses on Lake Superior. It is only 13 miles west of Whitefish Point, yet takes 1¼ hours to

reach since there are no roads along the shoreline. Lake Superior agates have also been found along this beach area.

**POINT IROQUOIS LIGHTHOUSE** is north of Brimley, one hour 15 min from Douglas Lake, and 40 min east of Paradise. It's fourth-order Fresnel lens covers 16 miles. The 72 steps up the tower give a picturesque view of Lake Superior, and possible freighter traffic. There is a bookshop, west wing exhibit, and the restored assistant keeper's apartment. Open year round.

**OSWALD'S BEAR RANCH** is 1 hour 45 min from Douglas Lake, north of Newberry. This 5-STAR rated refuge has about 40 bears in two habitats. It is an educational facility that is dedicated to teaching youth about rescued cubs, and the care needed to protect black bears and their environment. Memorial Day to 9/30, \$20 per vehicle.



### DLIA NEW MEMBERS 5/1/20 THRU 9/30/20

Zone 41 Eric & Kim Hayhurst, 8509 Silver Strand Rd

Zone 71 Alan Sachs & Jennifer Foes, 9580 Silver Strand Rd

No Zone:

Charles Antkoviak (No Lake Address)

Kurt & Liz Hagemeister (No Lake Address)

# LIVING AT DOUGLAS LAKE DURING THE PANDEMIC OF 2020

by *Jayne Morse*

Every year in early spring, Douglas Lake summer residents anticipate hearing "the ice went out.....," from their year-round resident neighbors, because those familiar words signal the moment when preparations for the year's first trip "up north" can begin. But this year, unfamiliar words like "corona," "covid-19," and "pandemic" were also heard. March 2020 marked the beginning of "social-distancing" and a "lockdown" that everyone thought would last a couple of weeks. People debated whether to immediately come to the lake where they might be safer, or to stay in place waiting to come later, or to not come at all. Following are two stories that reflect opposite decisions. The first, a tale of three generations quarantining together, is from the journal of Silver Strand resident Leigh Mattin, wife of Dr. Michael Mattin, emergency room physician at Toledo Hospital.

We feel very lucky that we were able to quarantine at Douglas Lake from March until August. Although the pandemic brought the people of our country many hardships, for the Mattins it provided the **SUMMER OF OUR LIVES!** Let me explain.

Our four boys range in age from twenty-two to fourteen. The two older are students and wrestlers at the University of Michigan. The two younger, also wrestlers, attend high school in Ohio. Due to the nature of Mike's work, we knew about the possibility of the virus coming. As we were preparing to go to Columbus for the OHSAA wrestling tournament, word of its postponement came, and the same day UM's campus was shut down. A family discussion concluded that we would take my mom, who lives alone, and head to Douglas Lake, an ideal place to quarantine. Thinking the isolation would not last long, we arrived with food for two weeks. The snow-covered ground not a hindrance, we settled in quickly and the boys began their online schooling, filling their free time playing wiffle ball and football on the ice, splitting and stacking wood, and building new dock sections. My world revolved around food! When I wasn't in the kitchen my mom was. She baked banana bread, chocolate chip cookies, and snickerdoodles. Sitting down to breakfast and dinner every day as a three-generational family was unique! After the first week, Mike had to go back to the ER, and, because of

virus concerns, wasn't able to return to the family for five long, and very difficult weeks. But our good friend and neighbor Mike Robinson was always available for anything we needed.

When the weather began to break, the boys worked out in the garage, and outside when they could, but needed something more. So, they started a handyman business doing docks, landscaping, spring clean-up, and painting - work which continued all summer, and resulted in amazing new friendships. If they didn't know how to do a project, they YouTubed it----- what a sense of purpose! As the work was outside, social-distancing was never an issue. Finally, warmer temperatures came, and small groups were allowed, so we began to gather with other families. At night, the kids played basketball, cards, and watched movies. During the day, they wake-boarded and tubed. We tried to stay positive, and I frequently reminded the kids how lucky they were to have this opportunity. Many other people were not so lucky.

Mike was finally able to begin driving back and forth, and with everything continuing to cancel, we decided to stay at the lake. I am grateful that Mike was able to stay healthy while treating those affected. We were granted family time we otherwise would not have had. There was no rat race, nowhere I had to be. I paddle boarded, walked, and did yoga every day. I read books I had been meaning to read. It was the same with my mom.....

she baked, walked, and spent quality time with all of us. I feel for those who were alone, or who lost loved ones, but we truly were granted a gift.....**THE SUMMER OF OUR LIVES** at our favorite place in the whole world.

**The second story is shared by Pells Island resident, Janet Huntley:**

Not being at the lake during the summer of the Covid-19 Pandemic was an unthinkable situation for someone such as myself who had been there every year since 1946. Multiple factors kept me away. The danger posed by the virus was the most significant initially, followed by an unfortunate accident at home that further foreclosed a visit. I have felt lonesome for the sights, the smells, the sounds of the gentle waves lapping up along the shoreline, and the haunting calls of the loons in the evenings. The lake has always been a sensory experience, bringing tranquility and leisure, enhanced through the fellowship of friends, some of whom have been a part of my life for 70+ years. In ways that I didn't anticipate, my cell phone brought me glimpses of summers past through pictures and videos of some of my favorite places, and of warm days of previous years spent in the company of children and grandchildren. I could not even imagine that I would not be at Douglas Lake during the



# HISTORY

## Great Lakes Travelers and the Names They Left Behind

© 2020 *Janet Taylor Huntley*

Those of us now residing in the various northern Michigan counties bordering the Straits, and the northern portions of Lakes Michigan and Huron, find ourselves surrounded by colorful linguistic and historical reminders of those earlier travelers in the place names that can still be found on our maps, and along our coastal roadways.



So many of those place names have come to us through the languages of the Native Americans who originally

inhabited this region. Some of them, to include the name given to our state, represented terms used by them to describe the physical characteristics of their territories. The designation, “Michigan” for example, was derived from the Native American word “Michigama” [or, “Mishigami”], said to mean “great” or “large” lake or “large body of water,” a direct reference to the Great Lakes themselves. It is also said that the name for Mackinac Island [and by extension, the Straits of Mackinac and Mackinaw City] came from the Native American designation, “michilimackinac” meaning “land of the great snapping turtle.” It was also the name later given to the French fort constructed on the Straits of Mackinac.

Other local place names were said to have similar origins. A noted example would be the modern-day name given to the Cheboygan River, the narrow channel descending from the northern end of Mullett Lake to Lake Huron/the Straits of Mackinac. Two main phonetic versions of the original terms used by Native Americans to describe this narrowed 7-mile water passageway between the two larger bodies of water were: 1) “zhiibaanonan,” said to mean “the channel for a canoe to pass through,” or 2) “zhaabonigan,”

either a reference to the elongated narrow shape of a sewing needle, or, to “a place or ore.” The city of Cheboygan, situated at the mouth of the river, was in turn named for the river flowing through it and into Lake Huron. Three other such places having names associated with specific locations are Ponshevaing [“peaceful waters” or “winter home”]; Wequetonsing [“at the head of the little bay”]; and Petoskey [“where the sun shines through the clouds,” or “Petosega” in the Odawa language].

A third category of place names represented the names of individual Native Americans who had lived in the region. The most familiar one to most of us would be Petoskey. Although the word appears to have been at one point associated with the specific location, it may have later been adopted as the surname of the Odawa chieftain Ignatius Petosega [1787-1885], who succeeded in purchasing land near the mouth of the Bear River, where it flowed into Little Traverse Bay.

In addition, two adjacent counties in our area were likewise originally named for Native American chieftains: 1) Tonedagona County, first named after an Odawa chief of that name but later renamed Emmet County, honoring Robert Emmet, an Irish nationalist who had been executed for high treason after rebelling against the English king; and 2) Keshkauko County, originally named after a Saginaw Chippewa chief, was shortly thereafter renamed Charlevoix County to honor the French Jesuit Priest, Pierre Francois Xavier de Charlevoix [1682-1761], who had overnighted on a small island near the present day city of Charlevoix while exploring Lake Michigan, on his quest to discover an east-west waterway passage to the Pacific Ocean.

<sup>1</sup> The former seems more likely given the geographical configuration of this particular body of water

*continued from page 4*

summer of 2020, but that is how things turned out. I miss the lake and my friends, but I know that come next summer, I will be there once again.

Thus, while some found opportunities, and others faced obstacles this summer, Douglas Lake remained a constant. DLIA members Larry and Molly Cassidy discovered that their many days of boating on the lake created a sense of normalcy hard to experience elsewhere. They also noticed

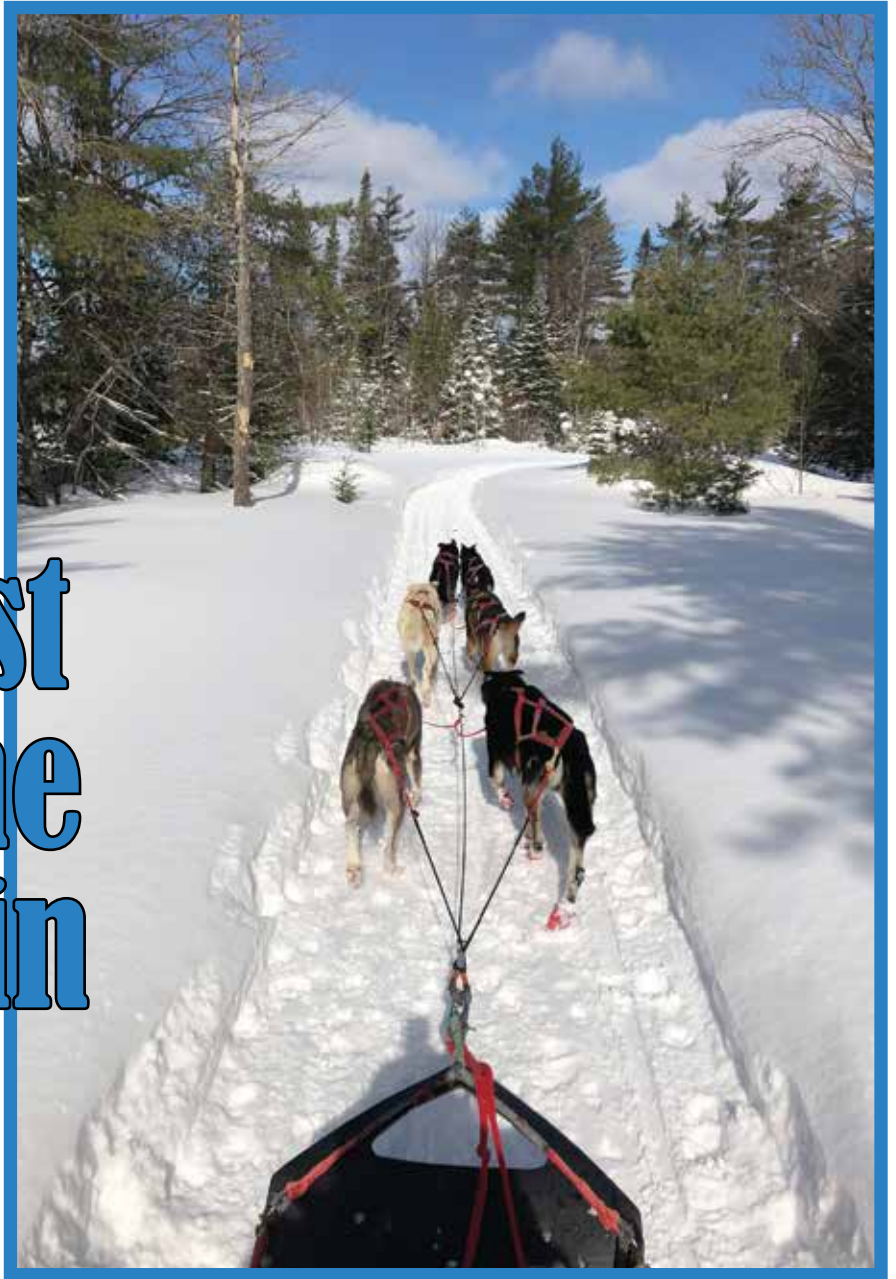
unusually friendly interaction among the increased number of boaters, perhaps showing signs of gratitude for the ordinary pleasures taken for granted in the past. Other lake residents said that by not going to restaurants, shopping unnecessarily, and mingling in large crowds, they were able to enjoy the beauty of the lake and a new sense of relaxation and peace through being together at home. The good fortune to be comfortable during an uncertain time has kept Douglas Lake residents feeling secure and hopeful for the future.

*we can do this*





# Bucket List Wintertime Getaway in the U.P.



by *Kelly Davis*

In late February of this year (just before the world shut down because of the pandemic), my sister-in-law, Wendy Vaughn (also a Douglas Laker), and I, journeyed to Nature's Kennels in the U.P. for the trip of a lifetime! A 40 MILE, TWO DAY, OVERNIGHT, DOG SLED TRIP!

Our first morning began by packing our snacks, and donning warm clothing and toasty boots. Then our guide, Dane, introduced us to our "crew" for the next two days. Wendy and I each had 6 dogs pulling our individual sleds. Pictured here is my crew, Fargo and Madison (Lead dogs), James and Patty (Team dogs), and Prairie and Sherpa (Wheel dogs, the ones who actually do the bulk of the pulling). All 6 were friendly, happy, and very energetic. It was amazing to watch the dogs, even those that were not going with us, become more and more excited as the moment of our departure neared. By the time we were ready to pull out, all the dogs

around were barking and howling! What a chorus that was! Our first day was absolutely gorgeous with clear blue skies, and "moderate" temperatures in the mid 20's. A fresh foot of snow had fallen the day before, so our path was also perfect! "Driving" the sled was not as difficult as I thought. I just had to stand on the skis and step on the brake when needed. Stopping the dogs, who only desired to go as fast as they could, required a little more strength and heft by jumping on the brake! I can't tell you how peaceful the trip through the forest was ... the soft sounds of the dogs' feet, the light dragging of the sled through the snow, and the BEAUTIFUL scenery. There were times I actually felt like drifting off to sleep (of course that did not happen!). When we got to the campground, we made pallets of straw for our dogs to lie on, fed them, and gave them lots of love before saying goodnight. We stayed overnight in a rustic cabin consisting of one room with a loft, and a wood stove for heat. There were



no problems with being warm, as the wood stove heated up our cabin so much that we had to open the door in the middle of the night to let some of the heat out! Dane, our guide, made us a delicious dinner over the campfire, and we stayed up late enjoying the fire and camaraderie. In the morning, breakfast and coffee were heated over the campfire, prior to taking off for the trip back.

For me, this was the perfect combination of pristine forest, hiking, camping, and DOGS! What could be better! If you would like more information, you may reach out to me, or look online at

[www.Natureskennel.com](http://www.Natureskennel.com)



## IT'S SO WONDERFUL WHEN A COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER!

by *Marilyn Kelemen*

Mid-summer of 2020, a significant financial need was brought to the attention of the Douglas Lake Womenade board. Subsequently, the need was passed on to the entire Womenade membership who have always been amazing with their heartfelt generosity. Additionally, the need was passed on to the entire DLIA community.

Pellston Elementary School was to be opening soon, and the teachers were hit with an almost insurmountable problem. Covid-19 created huge challenges regarding classroom supplies and teaching methods. This need was particularly felt in the pre-school, and kindergarten through 5th grades. In past years, pre-school and elementary teachers have collaborated, sharing supplies and teaching items back and forth. No go in the 2020/2021 school year! Students would no longer be allowed to share supplies. Because sanitizing was to be required throughout the day, hard surface items were mandatory. Items that couldn't be sprayed or wiped down were not allowed.

The financial burden for the teachers was unbelievable. As we have all heard, teachers often use their own money to buy needed supplies for their classrooms. For the 2020/2021 school year, the school system gave each grade level a small amount of money for supplies. Each grade level has two classrooms, so the money given to a grade level had to be split between the classrooms.

The Womenade board contacted Emily Matelski, one of the kindergarten teachers, to ascertain the needs of the teachers for the approaching school year. Because of the uncertainty

of Covid-19 and the incumbent restrictions, the teachers felt as if they were running in circles with one foot nailed to the floor. The "new" environment was daunting and required creative thought and implementation. Each year, parents of elementary students are asked to donate items, and many do. Typically though, the donated items are pencils, glue sticks, whiteboard markers, etc. Although these items are definitely appreciated, the need went much, much further.

Once the need was identified, the Womenade board reached out to the Douglas Lake Womenade membership in a fundraising effort. Subsequently, the effort was stretched to include the entire DLIA community.

With extreme awe and gratefulness, the fundraising campaign was met with enthusiasm and success. A total of \$7,150.00 was raised. The Pellston Pre-School and Elementary School teachers were given \$5,500.00 of the total for purchasing the supplies needed for the start of the school year. The remaining funds have been set aside for future school needs.

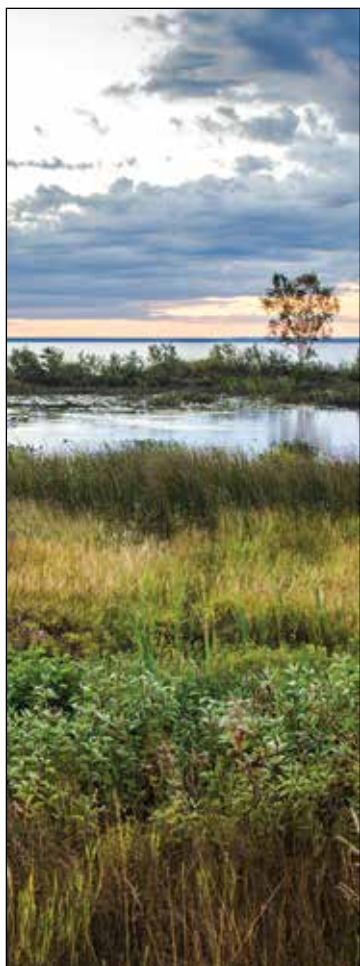
Thank you seems inadequate to express the profound feelings created by the goodwill and support of the Douglas Lake Community. But...THANK YOU!!

*There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature – the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after winter.*

- Rachel Carson



# Inland Lakes Winter Course



by the Michigan State University Extension, and former participant, *Holly Gedert*

Inland lakes are complex ecosystems and are impacted by both the people that live near them, as well as the water that drains into them. Michigan alone is blessed with over 11,000 inland lakes, each providing unique recreational, scenic, and environmental benefits. You selected Douglas Lake for your part-time, or year-round home. Learning how to maintain your lake escape is an adventure. Adapting to the differences from what you are used to will take time. Whether you are new to the lake, or you are a long-time laker, a place to learn more, is with an online course provided by the Michigan State University Extension – Introduction to Lakes.

The 2020 program ran from mid-January to mid-March. There were 190 people enrolled from 16 states, and from the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Nova Scotia! Everyone who completed the course was eligible to receive a free one-year membership to the Michigan Lakes and Streams Association, including four issues of The Michigan Riparian magazine. If you were already a member, you received a free, one-year extension on your membership.

You can earn credits for an eligible Continuing Education program, if you are a current participant of the program. The programs include Master Gardener, Master Citizen Planner, Michigan Conservation Stewards, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Pesticide Applicator Recertification, and The Wildlife Society Category I of the Certified Wildlife Biologist® Renewal/Professional Development Certificate Program.

Introduction to Lakes explores the many dimensions of inland lakes—including riparian rights, shorelines, ecology, aquatic plants, citizen involvement, and much more! The course outcomes are:

- Understand the ecological and economic values associated with inland lakes
- Recognize that inland lake management is multifaceted
- Use federal, state, and local resources to help improve water quality

The details of the 2021 program are yet to be announced, but the MSU Extension website encourages interested individuals to sign up to be notified of the next course offering. Consider doing it to broaden your understanding of the surroundings. The \$95 cost is worth the knowledge gained. The participant works at their own pace and must complete each topic within each week. Keep an eye on eNews for course availability. The only prerequisite required is a passion for inland lakes! <https://www.canr.msu.edu/outreach/>

## New Director at University of Michigan Biological Station

The University of Michigan Biological Station (UMBS) is pleased to introduce Dr. Aimée Classen as its new Director. Dr. Classen is jointly appointed in the U-M Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

Classen earned her undergraduate degree at Smith College and her doctoral degree at Northern Arizona University. Most recently, Dr. Classen served as Associate Professor in Environmental Sciences at the University of Vermont Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources. Her robust research program investigates the effects of climate change on a wide range of ecosystems, from fungi and soil microbial communities, to wetlands and alpine environments. Classen is a big supporter of field stations, having done research and served on the board at Rocky Mountain Biological Lab. Additionally, she is editor-in-chief of the Ecological Monographs journal.

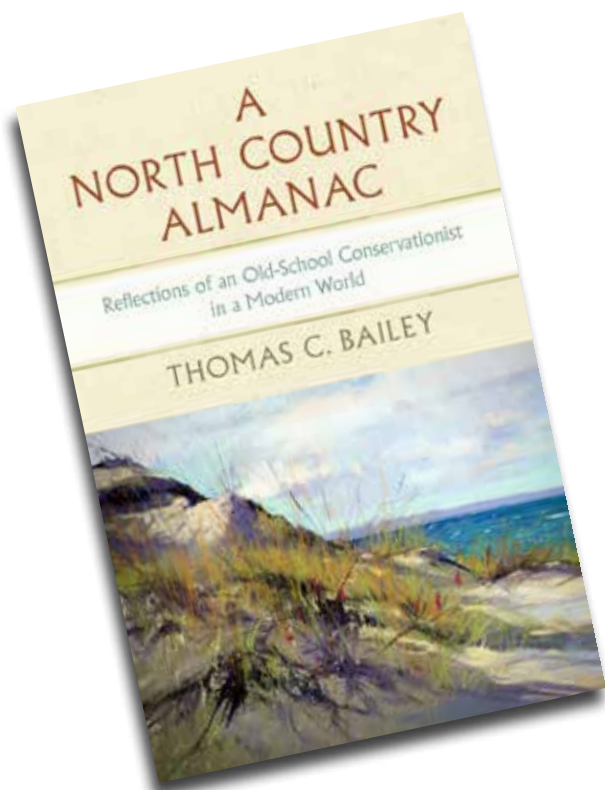
“I am thrilled to be directing UMBS, and to be part of the northern Michigan community,” says Classen. “At no time in history have biological field stations been more important in helping researchers, students, and the community understand, answer, and find solutions for important environmental and scientific questions. UMBS is a world-leading station and I’m looking forward to exploring its history and that of the local area. I’m eager to hear people’s ideas for how to leverage the power of UMBS in innovative new ways.”

Classen and UMBS staff and researchers look forward to continuing a close partnership with friends and neighbors on Douglas Lake.



*Dr. Classen at the top of the AmeriFlux Tower, a UMBS research site off of Bryant Road*





## A NORTH COUNTRY ALMANAC

A Short Review by *Frank Beaver*

As we were preparing to head north to Douglas Lake back in May, an unexpected and timely gift arrived in our mailbox: a copy of Thomas C. Bailey's book, *A NORTH COUNTRY ALMANAC: Reflections of an Old-School Conservationist in a Modern World*. The book is a collection of essays written by Bailey during his 34 years as Executive Director of the Conservancy, 1984-2018. I read it shortly after arriving at the lake, and thoroughly enjoyed it. It is rich in both information and nostalgia.

In its prelude, Bailey says emphatically, "The outdoors is my passion." An early essay recounts how his love of "the outside" grew from playing along the shores of Lake Superior, fishing, backpacking, and traipsing along behind his father on pheasant hunts in the Upper Peninsula, where the family had settled. Bailey describes how, as a 17-year old high school student in Marquette, his advocacy on behalf of land conservation and environmental rights took hold.

Bailey learned in 1969, that significant areas of land in the UP's cherished Isle Royale National Park were to be excluded from wilderness designation under the federal Wilderness Act of 1964. Young Bailey got environmentally active, and in 1972, testified before a Senate Interior Public Land Subcommittee. Four years later, in 1976, Isle Royale's park status as Federal Wilderness was signed into law.

Following an MA degree from MSU in resource economics and environmental law, Bailey returned to the UP where he worked as a park ranger before joining the Department of Natural Resources offices in Lansing in the late 1970s. In 1984 he began his remarkable career at the Little Traverse Conservancy (LTC).

The essays in *A NORTH COUNTRY ALMANAC* were chosen from Bailey's columns written for LTC's Quarterly newsletters. Far from being just well-argued "conversations" on environmental policy issues, government regulations, and conservation economics, many of the essays are heartfelt, personal musings about experiencing nature while working in it. Laced throughout the almanac are discussions about the pleasures of encountering bald eagles, elk, moose, ruffed grouse, sandhill cranes, and enjoying winter snowfalls.

Bailey discusses with candor a number of issue-oriented conservation subjects: natural resources and sustainability; wetland protection; property tax reform; the value of public land, and many more.

In an article on the close association of the Little Traverse Conservancy with Emmet County's Dark Sky Park, Mary Stewart Adams' key role as a lecturer at the Park is highlighted. Douglas Lakers will remember that a few years back Adams was the featured speaker at the DLIA's annual August meeting.

Tom Bailey's 34 years at the Little Traverse Conservancy brought impressive growth at the land trust. In the five-county expanse of the Conservancy's jurisdiction over 60,000 acres of Northern Michigan land were protected for public enjoyment, 110 miles of trails have been groomed and maintained, and over 300 land preserves created. All this came through the diligent pursuit of conservation easements, family land donations, grants and monetary gifts.

There are 34 essays in *A NORTH COUNTRY ALMANAC*—each compelling, as are the book's beautiful plein air Northern Michigan-inspired artwork by Heidi Marshall. The publication of the Almanac was funded by Ian and Sally Bund, with all proceeds from sales going back to the Conservancy. Copies can be ordered online at [www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org) or by phone at 231-347-0991. The \$25 purchase price constitutes a donation to the LTC.



Front cover design by Erin Kirk New; Artwork by Heidi Amenda Marshall. [heidiamarshell.com](http://heidiamarshell.com)

# Douglas Lake Improvement Association

## ZONE REPRESENTATIVES



**Linda Alexander** is currently the Zone Representative for Zone 101. She finds it interesting that there have only been a few Zone Reps since the position began in 1967. She began by assisting Betty Young, one of the founding members of the DLIA, and the original Zone Rep in that area, in 1998. At that time, the Zone covered from Manitou Trail all the way to North Fishtail. (It has since been split into two zones.) In addition to being Zone Representative, she held the position of Vice President of the DLIA from 1998 - 2000. When she became President in 2000, she relinquished the Zone Rep responsibilities to Margaret Gilbertson, but then happily took them back in 2004. Linda says that one of the great things about being a Zone Rep has been the opportunity to meet, and get to know her neighbors. She also has enjoyed the many projects and committees that she has been a part of in all of her time with the DLIA.

Linda has been coming to Douglas Lake since 1967 when she and her first husband learned about the lake by visiting family here. They rented a cabin many summers until they purchased property and built their current house 33 years ago. She and husband Steve spend most of their time at the lake, with some time spent in Florida during the wintertime.



**Gail Beaver** began coming to this area with her husband Frank, and their children, to visit Camp Michigania, a University of Michigan family camp, located on Walloon Lake. Faculty members would be invited for a week where they would give lectures and hold a coffee hour, while the family would enjoy lodging, meals, and many activities. In the summer of 1980, two of their daughters were scheduled to attend Interlochen, so they decided to rent a cabin. They answered an ad in the Ann Arbor News for a rental on Douglas Lake, and rented it thinking that the drive to Interlochen would not be too bad. The following year they contacted the owner of the rental hoping to use it again, but it had just gone on the market for sale. They ended up purchasing it that year, and have been there ever since.

Gail has been the Representative for Zone 81 about 7 years, taking over for Neil Leighton. She enjoys the opportunities she has had to meet, and get to know her neighbors, as well as the other Zone Reps. She loves the times that she has had to catch up with different neighbors, looking forward to hearing their stories as she has come to visit, and collect their dues.

Gail and Frank are here from May to October, spending the rest of the year in Ann Arbor. Gail has assisted the Pellston School System in setting up and opening their new library; helping them determine appropriate books to keep; and helping them decide what new books should be purchased. Gail and Frank are devoted morel mushroom hunters, enjoying the hunt, and enjoying their time getting to know the local woods.



Meet **Cheryl Krehbiel**, the new Zone Rep for Zone 41! Cheryl's house on Douglas Lake has been in her family for about 60 years. Cheryl spent her childhood coming to Douglas Lake on weekends, and during the summer. She took full advantage of her job as a teacher to share the joys of Douglas Lake with her daughters. After her husband's death in 2017, Cheryl made the house on Douglas Lake her year round residence. Cheryl delights in sharing information with the other residents in her Zone, and hearing their concerns and ideas to communicate back to the DLIA Executive Board.

A social butterfly, Cheryl enjoys sharing her culinary masterpieces and extensive wine collection with friends, family, and neighbors. Cheryl is an avid swimmer, usually one of the first to brave the chilly waters in early summer, and the last to give it up in the fall. Naturally, this makes the clean and fresh water of the lake a priority. When she's not swimming, Cheryl can often be found reclining in her favorite zero-gravity chair, enjoying a good book. While Cheryl doesn't consider herself a tech person, she generally knows her way around a computer, and loves engaging with the online Douglas Lake community. Cheryl looks forward to working with the Executive Board to make bold plans for the future. She wants to ensure that the lovely community that she has known at Douglas Lake for most of her life, continues.



**Jayne Morse** is the representative for Zone 15. She has been filling this position for the DLIA since 2005. Jayne started coming to Douglas Lake as a child in 1947 with her family. They came yearly from NW Ohio to vacation for two weeks at a rented Timber Lane cottage. She has very fond memories of her time spent here. She developed friendships and had many new experiences that she believes contribute to at least half of her identity.

In 1971, her parents bought property on Douglas Lake, which is where she and her husband, Dennis, live today. After retirement in 2013, she and Dennis made Douglas Lake their permanent home. They currently split their time enjoying 7 months a year on Douglas Lake, and the remainder of their time in their New Zealand home.



*continued from page 10* Jayne is very active and enjoys life. She loves to read, bike, walk, kayak, and embrace the beautiful morning views we have on the lake. But, at this point in her life, her number one priority is being with her grandchildren as much as possible.

As the Zone Rep, she is the liaison between the DLIA organization and her neighborhood. Her favorite part of being a Zone Rep is getting to know her fellow Zone members, and visiting with them. She utilizes email to communicate, and update her Zone with pertinent DLIA information. She says her job as a Zone Rep is easier now that the DLIA appointed a Membership Chairman to manage the yearly dues collection. She believes the DLIA is doing a great job and is doing what needs to be done to protect the quality of life on Douglas Lake.



**Evelyn Schulte** has been the Zone Representative for Zone 91 since 2016. She started coming to Douglas Lake as a child with her family. They came up from Detroit during the summers to visit her father's family farm on MacArthur Road. Her father and uncle owned the land where her Douglas Lake home is today. In 1972, Evelyn and her husband bought the property on Douglas Lake from her father and uncle. Her husband then built their house and garage on this property. Twenty-five years ago, after retirement, they relocated from Detroit to their Douglas Lake home. Evelyn now splits her time enjoying 6 months at Douglas Lake and six months in Fort Meyers, FL.

Evelyn loves cooking, entertaining and spending time with friends. She is an avid Mahjongg player both here and in Fort Meyers. Evelyn's two daughters, and grandchildren love spending time with her at Douglas Lake.

As the Zone Rep for her neighborhood, she signs up new members, collects dues that have not been mailed, and provides DLIA information to her neighbors. Her favorite part of being a Zone Rep is meeting new members, and attending the DLIA meetings. Evelyn utilizes email to communicate, and to update her Zone throughout the year. She says her job has gotten easier since the DLIA implemented the organization of dues collection. She believes the DLIA is doing a good job to improve the quality of life for the residents on Douglas Lake.

## We Will Miss . . .

### PATRICIA BUSARD

Patricia Nelson Busard, of Douglas Lake, passed away surrounded by her loving and close-knit family. Born in Morristown, Indiana on December 3, 1927, Pat was welcomed home by the Lord on July 1, 2020.

Pat was born in Morristown, Indiana on December 3, 1927, to Brainard and Alta (Pitts) Nelson. Brainard was a highly regarded farmer and tomato packer in the community. Brainard and Alta raised four children, who became respected teachers, a medical doctor, and a scientist.

While attending the Rush County (Indiana) Fair near her hometown, an 18-year-old Rushville high school graduate spotted Pat from across the American Legion dance tent. Otto Busard was taken aback by, "the most lovely girl I'd ever seen." After a two-year stint in the U.S. Army during WWII, Pat and Otto were married on August 6, 1949. Their marriage was more than a seventy-year love affair.

Pat was a highly respected teacher in Rushville, in a career lasting thirty-four years. It's been said that a great teacher takes a hand, opens a mind, and touches a heart. Literally hundreds of students, fellow teachers, and administrators, felt that way about Pat. Her knowledge, instruction, and wisdom, touched them deeply, and her impact on students far exceeded her years teaching.

Pat and Otto, along with their two daughters, Teresa and Susan, began coming to Douglas Lake in 1958, after learning about the lake from great friends Emy and Bob Waggener, cottage owners on Pell's Island. They spent many summers renting wherever they could find a vacancy, and in 1973, bought a cottage named, "Little Red" in Maple Bay - sight unseen. After many summers the cottage was sold and moved, and they built their current home, "8 Spruce Lodge" in 1993, and became permanent residents shortly thereafter.



Douglas Lake became a focal point for their family. Pat's two brothers, Dr. Phil (Sue) Nelson, and Dr. Harold (Joan) Nelson, as well as Pat and Otto's daughter, Teresa (David) Crouse, all purchased cottages. The lake has long served as a gathering place for four generations of their family. To the grandchildren, the lively cottage of Geema and Grandpa became known simply as, "Camp Douglas!"

During her life, Pat served on many committees, and supported numerous organizations, including the Douglas Lake Improvement Association. In lieu of flowers, the family welcomes a memorial contribution to the Douglas Lake Improvement Association: ([www.douglaslake.org](http://www.douglaslake.org)).

### KAY ANN SPRINGER

Kay Ann Springer, of Haslett, Michigan, age 79, died Thursday, July 23, 2020 at McLaren-Flint hospital.

Kay was born in Petoskey, Michigan on March 26, 1941, the daughter of David G. and Katherine (Reichert) Croff. Kay loved being a teacher and was a classroom, gifted, and reading teacher for 25 years with the Okemos School District. She was a member of the Douglas Lake Improvement Association, enjoyed lunch with friends, her beautiful gardens, and was passionate about her family and grandchildren.

Surviving are children, Jonna (Mike) Bopp, Amanda (Korey) Reynolds, and Erika (David) Nemer; grandchildren, Cameron, Conner, Chloe, Carson, Stefanie, Stacy Robillard, Timothy, Maya and Evan; mother, Katherine Croff; boyfriend, Joe Shaheen and his family, Val, Steve, Joey and Tina; sisters, Marcia (Bill) Pagel and Sharon (Bill) Foster; many nieces and nephews; and dog, Lily. She was preceded in death by her father, David G. Croff, and granddaughter, Candace Bopp.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Douglas Lake Association at: [www.douglaslake.org](http://www.douglaslake.org).



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

**President** – Mary Ellen Sheridan, [president@douglaslake.org](mailto:president@douglaslake.org)

**Vice President** – Bill Foster, [vice-president@douglaslake.org](mailto:vice-president@douglaslake.org)

**Treasurer** – Suzanne Witthoff, [treasurer@douglaslake.org](mailto:treasurer@douglaslake.org)

**Secretary** – Barbara Huey, [secretary@douglaslake.org](mailto:secretary@douglaslake.org)

**Newsletter Team** – Joan Hartwig (Chair), Frank Beaver, Holly Gedert, Jan Huntley, Margie Ladzick, Jayne Morse, Linda Orlow



### **Spring 2021 Newsletter Deadline** **The deadline for submissions April 1, 2021**

Email news articles and obituaries to [info@douglaslake.org](mailto:info@douglaslake.org)

Membership updates to [membership@douglaslake.org](mailto:membership@douglaslake.org)

Send your terrific photos to

[pictures@douglaslake.org](mailto:pictures@douglaslake.org) for the calendar

Add [info@douglaslake.org](mailto:info@douglaslake.org) to your contacts

## **MERCHANDISE SALES THIS SUMMER AND NEW ONLINE STORE!**

by Kelly Davis, Merchandise Manager

After a slow start due to the virus, our summer merchandise sales season was great. The new insulated tumblers were such a hit I had to reorder two times! Also, our 2020 designs made by Douglas Lake family were also quite popular. Thank you to Jordan Carroll (Bill and Marty Foster's son-in-law) for the sailboat design on the unisex shirts and cooler bags and to Lauren Conklin (Kelly Davis's daughter) for the lake landscape design for one of the women's shirts. If any of you would like to share your designs or have family that have that talent, please let me know.

I would also like to thank my great volunteers – Marty Foster, Betsy Naumer, Gail Beaver, Barb Huey, Kim Grant, Denise Bosin, Carol Kaprosky, Karen Spezia, Cyndi Wolak, Zach Vaughan and Sarah Vaughan. These are the folks that set up each sale, help you find your size, help you find that perfect gift, and help make each sale a success! THANK YOU! Being a sales volunteer is lots of fun so consider it for next summer, even if you are only here for one sale.

And now for the news everyone has been waiting for... **THE ONLINE STORE IS OPEN!** *The deadline to order before Christmas is December 15.* Quantities are limited so shop early to be able to get what you want. December 15 will be the FIRM cutoff date to allow me to get everything mailed by Christmas. To shop online follow the link in the "Merchandise" section on the Douglas Lake Improvement Association website:

<https://www.douglaslake.org/>.

*Thanks to all of you for your support of our lake association  
and your show of pride in our GREAT DOUGLAS LAKE!*