

BIPOA

Island CURRENTS

Beaver Island Property Owners Association

Fall 2001

Mission Statement

The mission of BIPOA is to:

1. Represent the combined interests of our membership on issues of mutual concern that may affect the fundamental character of Beaver Island.
2. Support the preservation of the natural resources and beauty of Beaver Island and appropriate environmental conservation policies and/or methods.
3. Work with local government units in support of property owners' shared perspectives, concerns and investments.
4. Foster and support economic growth that is consistent with the preservation of the natural beauty of Beaver Island and the quality of life which is the reason for our original and continuing attraction to Beaver Island.

Important Dates

Spring Newsletter - May 20th

Submission Deadline: April 20th

2002 Annual Meeting - July 29th

7:00 PM at the
Peaine Township Hall

*See Page 2 for current
BIPOA committees, and
page 7 for winter addresses
for the Board of Directors.*

Medical Center Notes

By this time everyone connected with Beaver Island knows that Governor Engler has recanted and given the Beaver Island Rural Health Center 1.5 million dollars in cash. As covered in the Northern Islander, the Beaver Beacon, and last but not least, www.beaverislandtour.com, James Haveman, Director of the Michigan Department of Community Health, contacted Islanders to let them know that funds were available. Many of you may be thinking to yourself, "but with \$500 million going to be axed from the Michigan budget from areas such as education and mental health, are you sure we are going to see it?" Not to fear, in Island style, the money has already been deposited in an account. Ground breaking will take place in the spring. The site for the new Center is to be located on Carlisle Road (near Stoney Acres Restaurant.) The land, nearly 5 acres, was donated by Jeff and Nancy Traudt. Many people are to be commended for their active participation from letter writers to the Beaver Island Lansing representatives.

The Medical Center Board works diligently through all the months of the year to provide for adequate health care on the Island. They recently resolved the milage dispute with Peaine Township which will add approximately \$26,000 to the budget of the Medical Center.

Continued on Page 2, See Medical Center

Interview with Kevin White

by Doris Larson

Property owners have expressed particular interest in zoning ordinances on Beaver Island. To inform our membership of current ordinances and their enforcement, we talked with Kevin White, Zoning Administrator. Kevin is committed to the importance of enforcing ordinances on the island. Ordinances are the means by which we insure "controlled" or "planned" growth. The current Zoning Ordinance for Beaver Island was last amended in May of 1996. The Planning Commission is presently working to amend the ordinance once again. If you attended the annual meeting of BIPOA in August, you know that Fred Hoisington, planning consultant, is working with both townships on this. They are approaching this process with the goal of protecting the natural environment and encouraging proper development of the land.

Continued on Page 4, See Interview

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BIPOA Committees



Rural Health Center
Strategic Planning Task Force
Committee Chair: Joe Reed
(231) 448-2247



Recreation Resources Committee
Committee Chair: Jack Kelly
(217) 352-3801
Co-chairs Sharon Vance, Krys Lyle
(231) 448-2842



Island Clean-Up
Committee Chairs: Doug Hartle
(231) 448-2368 or (248) 585-4818
& Red Rowley



Island Roads
Committee Chair: Paul Glendon
(231) 448-2772 or (734) 761-7232



By-Laws
Committee Chair: Rick Andrew
(814) 355-3756 or (231) 448-2668



Newsletter and Web Site
Committee Chair: Pam Grassmick
(248) 489-0784 or (231) 448-2314
Co-chair: Doris Larson
(616) 243-1037 or (231) 448-2470



Membership, Promotion & Education
Committee Chair: Marty Maehr
(734) 994-8904 or (231) 448-2926
Co-chair: Doris Larson
(616) 243-1037 or (231) 448-2470



Work with Townships' Planner
Committee Chairs E.B. Lange
(231) 448-2568

Medical Center Notes (continued from cover)

Listed below are the BIRHC Board Officers with contact numbers in the event that you may wish to contact these individuals with your questions or input:

President: Gary Damstra
phone: 448-2370
e-mail: archipelago@biip.net

Vice President: Don Spencer
phone: 448-297

Secretary: Anne Glendon
phone: 448-2772
e-mail: aglendon@aol.com

Treasurer: Rick Speck
phone: 448-2393
e-mail: rspeck@biip.net

Board Members:

Audrey Beilman chairs Health Services, Hospice/Auxiliary reports.
phone: 448-2083

e-mail: avbeilman@biip.net
Grace Matela and Rick Speck chair Finance and Proposed Budget.
phone: 448-2568

e-mail: ramgmbi@aol.com

Connie Wojan chairs Human Resources.

phone: 448-2379
e-mail: caw@pclus.com

Anne Glendon chairs Resource Development, securing grants and working with foundations to secure funding.

phone: 448-2772
e-mail: aglendon@aol.com

Joe Reed is involved with public relations for the Board. Joe also worked with federal officials to secure funding through the universal line access fee to cover the very expensive monthly line fee of the telehealth program.

phone: 448-2247
e-mail: marcorjoe@aol.com
The care providers' report is given by Chris VanLooy or Susan Meis,

both staff R.N./Physician Assistants.

Paul Nelson is Peaine Township's representative.

phone: 448-2322

e-mail: pauln@biip.net

Pete LoDico chairs the Housing Committee which is looking at the possibility of building senior non-assisted living quarters near the new Medical Center. Pete relayed that a supportive housing market study was completed late summer with 224 surveys sent out and 127 returned. They are looking at providing affordable housing for independent seniors who may receive services such as meals on wheels or housekeeping assistance. While the infrastructure of the new Medical Center is being installed, a larger-than-needed septic and well will be established for use by this facility. Presently 6 units have been identified as being needed but during the next few years this number may reach as high as 11. They are looking at developing one and two bedroom models that they hope to keep in the \$800/month price range. The financing is being pursued from different angles and will probably be a for-profit venture.

phone: 448-2004

e-mail: lodico@biip.net

As you can see, from this multi-talented, multi-faceted board comes a vast range of individuals who strive to make Beaver Island a better place to live and grow old. This illustrious group meets the third Tuesday of each month at the Beaver Island Community Library. The meetings are open to the public. The Board and members encourage your input in your health care system.

BIPOA Annual Meeting 7-30-01

Meeting was called to order by president, Rick Andrew.

Printed minutes were passed out to the membership and they were accepted as presented.

Rod gave the treasurer's report and it was also accepted as read.

Rick explained the agenda for the evening. The committee chair reports were first.

Membership - Marty Maehr presented a brochure that was passed around for comments from the membership. All seemed pleased with it. He explained that it was to be given to first time property buyers.

Roads - Paul Neihaus did not have anything much to tell us. It was noted by Rick and others that the roads are in the best shape that they have been.

Newsletter & Web Site - Pam Grassmick said that she is looking for old newsletters. She explained that we will be going to 2 newsletters that will contain more information. We are also dropping non-active members. She is also looking for people from different areas of the Island who are willing to write report articles for the paper.

Island Beautification - Doug introduced the new deputy Bill Church. He discussed old cars and road trash and possible ways to get rid of both. Dale Boyles is helping with the project.

Planning - E.B. gave a synopsis of her involvement over the years and asked that others come forward and

get involved.

Trails Report was given after the election, but has been moved here in the minutes for continuity. Sharon Vance informed us that after discussion with property owners the Kuebler Trail will remain open. She told us that the Peaine Twp. has \$12,000 annually for trails upkeep and that they are producing some new maps of Island trails. A map is being made with CMU's GPS system. Port of St. James trails are open only to members and guests and they are also making maps using the GPS system.

Election of Board members was run by Jim Haveman. Counting of the ballots was handled by Molly Resnik and John Martin. Elected were Rick Andrew, Pam Grassmick, Jan Gerson, Marty Maehr, Doug Hartle, Jack Kelly, and Doris Larson. E.B. remains a non-voting member as the past president. E.B. was praised by Anne Glendon for all of her past efforts.

Rick introduced Anne Glendon and Jim Haveman who in turn gave an update on the Visioning Project. Their goal is to build a coalition for the well being of Beaver Island. They listed a number of ways this is to be achieved.

Fred Hoizington, Island planner, was introduced. He basically covered the needs assessment report that he had already given to both townships. He said that a definition of growth boundaries for St. James is needed. We must decide if we want to leave the roads unpaved, if we want larger lots, etc. Then when these things

are decided we have to have the resolve to do what is necessary to achieve the goals. There should be a philosophy that increases agriculture, and we also need the other side which is economic development.

One of the CMU grad students discussed the water quality project which is an old project she has continued. Samples were taken from the harbor, both marinas, and the bathing beach. Also checked were the inland lakes.

There was no old business.

In new business, Paul Neihaus asked the status of a single township. The answer was that it was status quo.

There was much discussion about the water quality and it seems that the membership is extremely concerned about it. Paul moved and Dave Mueller seconded that the Board should look into supporting this water testing.

Joyce Bartels moved that we adjourn. Motion carried. We were adjourned.

A Thank You Note:

The officers and general membership wish to thank Paul Niehaus and Rod Nackerman both of whom gave freely of their time and talents to make the Island a better place to live and vacation. Paul and Rod have agreed to continue being active in the membership. Thank you for your guiding wisdom and talents. Their presence on the BIPOA board will be missed.

St. James Township.

Date of Action	Action Taken	Outcome
21-Jul-99	Violation Notice for hedge above 3 foot maximum height.	Violator's attorney found loophole in ordinance.
03-Aug-99	Zoning Permit denied for garage addition. Appealed to ZBA.	Appeal Denied. ZA decision upheld.
18-Oct-99	Zoning Permit denied. Garage too close to side lot line. To ZBA.	ZBA granted conditional variance.
10-Jun-00	Violation Warning. New foundation built too close to side lot line.	Required foundation be moved 10". Compliance.
21-Jun-00	Violation Notice. Moving building without permit. Considered by PC.	Denied by PC. Removal of building. Compliance.
10-Jul-00	Violation Notice. Moving building without permit. (old rental car office.)	Eventual compliance permit obtained.
19-Jul-00	Violation Notice. Moving building without permit. ("Pat's Shack".)	Building Removed. Compliance.
10-Aug-00	Violation Notice. Fence built in road right-of-way. To PC	PC required fence to be moved. Compliance.
20-Aug-00	Zoning permit denied for guesthouse. Insufficient setbacks.	Appealed to ZBA
20-Aug-00	ZBA variance request.	Appeal Denied. ZA decision upheld.
23-Aug-00	Zoning Permit denied. Proposed addition setback encroachment.	Appealed to ZBA. Denial by ZBA.
20-Sep-00	Zoning Permit denied due to encroachment/non-conformance issues.	Appealed to ZBA.
20-Sep-00	ZBA variance request.	Conditional approval.
18-Apr-01	Violation Warning. New construction encroaching on front yard setback.	Removal of 5 feet of new front porch. Compliance.
26-May-01	Violation. Rear yard setback encroachment.	Appealed to ZBA.
01-Jun-01	Variance request.	Denied. Removal of foundation. Compliance.
31-May-01	Violation Notice. Moving building without permit. Front Yard Encroachment.	Permit obtained. Building moved. Compliance.
15-Jun-01	Violation Warning. Possible violation of Shoreline Protection Strip.	Pending.
03-Jul-01	Violation Warning. Built garage without permit. \$100 fine.	Permit obtained. Fine paid. Compliance.
17-Jul-01	Per Violation Warning letter. Erecting signs w/o permits.	Pending.

Predecessor

02-Jun-97	Erecting sign without permit.	Appealed to ZBA
09-Jun-97	ZBA hearing.	Outcome undocumented.
11-Aug-97	Violation, height of front yard hedge.	Outcome undocumented.
14-Nov-98	Building without a permit.	Outcome undocumented.

**Interview with Kevin White
(continued from cover)**

It is important for every property owner to know which permits are required before building. If a structure is to be built within 500 feet of water, three permits are necessary before excavation:

- 1.) Soil and Erosion
- 2.) Health Department
- 3.) Zoning

These three permits must be obtained before the property owner applies for a Building Permit. Kevin will supply information about where to apply for each of these permits. A wise course of action is to call the Zoning Administrator (Kevin) *before* you plan any building.

Many folks indicate that they observe property under construction with no permits posted. If any dirt is moved within 500 feet of water, permits must be posted. If permits are not easily visible, call Kevin. Kevin is diligent in carrying out the responsibilities of his position but he is not omnipresent. He needs the assistance of observers who can inform him when unauthorized land use is taking place.

The Zoning Ordinance is a lengthy document including 15 Articles, each with multiple Sections and covering more than 90 pages of text. From time to time, BIPOA will publish sections of the ordinance which seem to be of particular concern or interest to members. Kevin would particularly like property owners to be aware of the set-back regulations in both "R-1" and "R-2" Single Family Residential Districts. These regulations are listed below:

	"R-1"	"R-2"
Front Yard	not less than 35 feet	not less than 25 feet
Side Yard	not less than 25 feet on each side	not less than 10 feet on each side except on street side of corner lot where 25 foot side yard shall be provided and maintained.
Rear Yard	not less than 35 feet	not less than 35 feet
Lot Area	minimum of 100,000 sq. ft. with a minimum of 200 ft. at building line.	minimum of 14,000 sq. ft. with a minimum of 100 ft. at building line.

Both "R-1" and "R-2" Districts must comply with the Shoreline Protection Strip Ordinance which reads:

No Building or structure, except docks or launch ramps, shall be erected closer than 100 feet from the shoreline at normal high water level of Lake Michigan or closer than 50 feet from the shoreline at normal high water level of an inland lake or stream or creek within the Township. There shall be no more than 1/3 of the trees and shrubs removed in a strip 20 feet from the shoreline at normal high water on any lake, stream, or creek; stumps may be cut flush with the ground but not removed, and fill material shall be of sand or gravel or other pervious material. Fill material shall not be allowed to enter the water by erosion or mechanical means.

The process of enforcement for zoning ordinances is:

- 1.) Zoning Administrator visits a site to see if it is in compliance with ordinances.
- 2.) If the property is not in compliance, Zoning Administrator talks with the property owner to be sure the ordinances are understood.
- 3.) If compliance is not achieved, the property owner is sent a written warning.
- 4.) If this fails to bring the property into compliance, a Violation Notice is sent to the property owner.
- 5.) If the property owner still fails to comply with the ordinance, he/she is served a Municipal Civil Infraction Citation.
- 6.) The Citation is sent to District Court of Charlevoix.
- 7.) A Court date is set.
- 8.) The Violator appears in Court.

Since Kevin became the Zoning Administrator in 1999, there have been 45 zoning violation/enforcement cases. In almost every instance, compliance was achieved without the violator having to go to court. During 1997 to 1998, there were 4 ordinance violation cases. A copy of this zoning violation/enforcement history is included here.

Kevin encourages property owners to become involved in Island government. He wants to hear from people who have concerns about zoning and he would like to see more folks attend Planning Commission meetings, where these issues are discussed. The Planning Commission meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Peaine Township Hall.

Peaine Township

Date of Action	Action Taken	Outcome
04-Jul-99	Warning. Laying of cement slab at Transfer Station without a permit	Permit obtained. Compliance.
10-Jul-99	Zoning Permit application denial. Insufficient setbacks.	Appealed to ZBA
19-Jul-99	Violation. Footing forms for garage encroaching on side yard setback.	Removal of footings. Replacement. Compliance.
15-Sep-99	Variance request.	Request denied.
20-Feb-00	Violation Notice. New building under min. square footage requirement.	Square footage added. Compliance.
27-Mar-00	Violation/Citation. Fence exceeding max. height allowed of 3 feet.	Appealed to ZBA
27-Mar-00	Violation/Citation. Front and rear yard encroachments.	Work site shut down. Case pending.
12-Jun-00	ZBA variance request. Request denied and case taken to 90th District Court.	Court found in Township's favor. Fence removed.
25-Jul-00	Denial of zoning permit for airport hanger. Insufficient front yard setback.	Appealed to ZBA
11-Jul-00	Violation Notice. Extraction of gravel w/o issuance of Special Use Permit.	PC sent list of requirements for compliance.
25-Jul-00	Variance request for airport hanger lot.	Variance granted.
21-Sep-00	Variance request for airport hanger lots from front yard setback.	Variance granted. (Same situation as above)
13-Oct-00	Warning. Possible height violation.	Compliance.
27-Oct-00	Denial of sign permit application. Internal lighting not allowed.	Appealed to ZBA
20-Dec-00	Denial of Zoning Permit. Lot of insufficient width.	Appealed to ZBA
12-Feb-01	Variance request from two side yards and front yard.	Request denied.
05-Mar-01	ZP application denied. Insufficient high water mark setback.	Appealed to ZBA
05-Mar-01	Variance from lack setback requested.	Conditional approval granted.
26-Apr-01	Building without a permit.	Permit obtained. Compliance.
26-Apr-01	Zoning Permit application denied. Insufficient front yard setback.	Appealed to ZBA
02-May-01	Variance Request for one side yard.	Denied.
02-May-01	Variance Request from front yard requirement.	Partial, conditional approval.
26-May-01	Zoning Permit denied due to encroachment issues.	Appealed to ZBA
06-Jun-01	Citation. Cont. gravel pit violation. Failure to meet PC requirements.	In court. Action pending.
11-Jun-01	Warning. Unlawful gravel pit. Side and rear yard encroachment issues.	Voluntary compliance with PC requirements.

Natural notes

From Time to time during wildlife sightings you hear the comment made "that was just too big to be a coyote." The following is a reprint from the Detroit Free Press (with permission.) It was recently reported by National Public Radio that researchers who have been unable to visually document the existence of cougars in the U.P. now have DNA evidence from feces to support their belief.

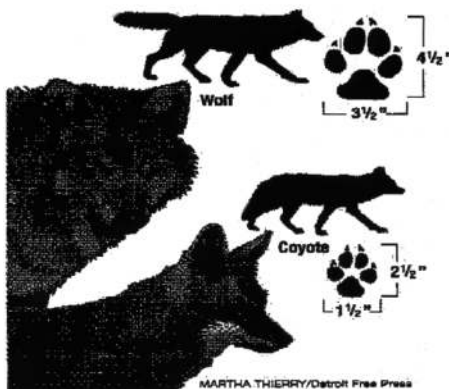
The first coyote sighting was made by Mary Vesty McDonough over 100 years ago, coming across the ice at Sand Bay near the Jordan River. Prior to this, farmers were complaining that someone's dogs were attacking and killing their sheep. Never having seen a coyote prior to this on Beaver Island, she too did not know what to make of her sighting. Those living in the southern half of the Island frequently hear coyotes howling at night. Who knows, maybe we do or will have a new four-legged visitor as the wolf population continues to soar in the Upper Peninsula.

Know the outdoors: Wolves and coyotes by Tim Marcinkoski

One population is thriving while the other hopes to again.

Wolves and coyotes -- Michigan's largest wild canids -- have been maligned throughout history for their ability to strike fear in humans. Visions of howling, hairy beasts with razor-like teeth have been entrenched in our minds since childhood books like "Little Red Riding Hood" and "The Three Little Pigs" became popular.

Wolves nearly disappeared from Michigan in the 1970s



because of habitat loss and bounty hunting. But the population has rebounded as a result of migration from nearby states, reintroductions, educational programs, and protection laws. Wolves, also increasing in neighboring Wisconsin and Minnesota, are protected under the Federal Endangered Species Act.

A survey last winter by the State Department of Natural Resources estimated there were 250 wolves in the Upper Peninsula. Another three packs -- totaling 19 wolves -- were counted on Isle Royale, off the western tip of the UP. As late as 1973, biologists estimated the State's wolf population at six.

Although there have been no confirmed reports of wolves in the Lower Peninsula, some pilots have reported seeing wolves crossing the ice from the UP.

Michigan coyotes have a burgeoning population -- probably too large -- and are found in all of the state's 83 counties. A high population of coyotes also means a higher probability of diseases such as mange, rabies, distemper, heartworm, and tuberculosis.

Adult coyotes -- classified as a game animal in Michigan -- weigh 25-45 pounds and are rarely more than 60 inches long from nose to tail tip (State average is about 50 inches.) Adult wolves weigh 50-

100 pounds and are rarely less than 55 inches long (State average is about 65 inches.) Wolves stride with their tails straight out; coyotes usually relax their tails like a dog. Whitetail deer are an important food source for coyotes and wolves. Coyotes are less apt to travel and hunt in packs, but they do hunt in pairs or family groups. Their deer consumption is mainly young or sick animals, or carrion. Wolves, which always travel and hunt in packs, easily subdue adult whitetails.

Although coyotes and wolves don't coexist well -- coyotes are driven off and intimidated -- both carnivores play an important role in controlling populations of the lame, sick or out-of-control populations of smaller animals.

Your Thoughts

Are you a person who enjoys keeping your Island neighbors up to date on the happenings on your stretch of the Island? Do you have issues and/or concerns around your side of the Island? Then this is the place for you to keep your Island neighbors apprised of the goings on around your area of the Island. We feel it would be an asset to the association to have homeowners aware of issues around the Island. By organizing in this way we can reach a broader area while also zeroing in on specific concerns. Interested individuals will need to submit an article once or twice a year. Area groups will include the North End (town) BIPOA, Eastside BIPOA, Westside BIPOA, and the South End BIPOA. All interested parties can contact Pam Grassmick or Doris Larson.

Recreational Resource Project

A long range proactive plan has been given an enthusiastic go-ahead by both Beaver Island township boards and the Charlevoix County planner. Although this plan is just in its infancy, longtime summer resident and recreational promoter Jack Kelly has been given the go-ahead to pursue this plan. Jack says the aim is to develop a long-term resource plan for the Island that would include recreation projects for the community as well as plans for conservation of the State land. He hopes to secure funding for this endeavor through the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. His plan at this time is to meet with the townships in the spring when a plan of action will be presented.

Following this, meetings will need to take place in Lansing with MSU, the DNR, and others. As you can see, a great deal of work still lies ahead but Jack intends to be in this one for the long run.

When Jack is not championing Beaver Island causes, he is a Professor Emeritus at the University of Illinois. Beaver Island is so fortunate to have individuals who bring a wealth of expertise and caring for the benefit of all Island loving people.

Trails Committee Report by Sharon Vance

Kuebler Trail has remained open this year, and it looks like it will for the foreseeable future.

St. James Township has developed a 1600 foot trail that will follow the tree line around the Gull Harbor Natural Area. They hope to place benches along it.

Peaine Township's Trails Committee meets the third Thursday of the month at 8:00 p.m. John McCafferty chairs the group and

members are Doug Tilley and John Saxton. Peaine Township has budgeted \$12,000 a year to develop and maintain its trails. The public is invited to their meetings.

This year the township has developed a trail map using a sophisticated Global Positioning System (GPS) unit. Small black and white copies will be available in the fall once all the trails shown on it are open. There are copies of the map at the Peaine Township Hall, the Library, the Chamber of Commerce, The Lodge, and the Boat Company.

Peaine Township plans to make trailhead signs with small maps available there. They may build bridges where necessary and develop rustic campsites.

Port of St. James has several trails for the use of its owners and guests. They also are producing a GPS map of them. They hope to have it completed in the fall.

There are lots of reasons to feel optimistic about trails on Beaver Island. However, we still need to show an interest and each of us needs to do our small part to encourage the progress. We know that more "Private Property" signs are limiting access everyday. I heard a swimmer in front of our house say "if I owned property on this bay, I'd put up a big sign saying 'Trespassers Welcome!!'" That's one way to put it.

Heritage Park

The Beaver Island Historical Society has begun work on the long-awaited Heritage Park across from the Library. Thanks to a GLE Grant for \$2,000 and a lot of volunteer help, the BIHS has roofed its initial two exhibits, the Island's first generator and the last thresher. Stop and take a look.

Your B I P O A Board of Directors

We encourage all property owners to contact BIPOA officers or committee chairs with your comments and concerns. Officers addresses during winter months:

Rick Andrew, President

3004 Buffalo Run Road
Bellefonte, PA 16823
(814) 355-3756
Fax (814) 863-4257
e-mail wpa@psu.edu

Pam Grassmick, Vice President

28629 Kendallwood Drive
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 489-0784
e-mail McGrass@ameritech.net

Janice Gerson, Secretary

11105 Big Canoe
Jasper, GA 30143
(706) 268-2002
e-mail janicegerson@aol.com

Doug Hartle, Treasurer

203 E. Sunnybrook
Royal Oak, MI 48073
(248) 585-4818

Jack Kelly

1200 Mayfair Road
Champaign, IL 61821
(217) 352-3801
e-mail jr-kelly@uiuc.edu

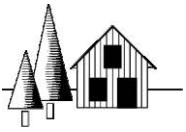
Doris Larson

735 Cambridge Blvd SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
(616) 243-1037
e-mail sanctuary@illinoisalumni.org

Martin Maehr

15 Haverhill Court
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
Office (734) 647-0627
Fax (734) 615-2164
e-mail mlmaehr@umich.edu

Additional contact numbers and addresses available on our website.



B I P O A

Membership Application

Beaver Island Property Owners Association

New Member Renewal Update Address

* 2002 Dues: \$20.00 *

Your Name: _____

Island Address: _____

(Address Line 2): _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: () _____ Fax: () _____

E-mail Address: _____

Mailing Address (if different than above)

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

(Address Line 2): _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: () _____ Fax: () _____

E-mail Address: _____

I would be interested in serving on a committee.

I would like to help with the annual meeting.

I would like to help with special projects:

Please Mail with your Membership Dues of \$20.00 to:

Summer: Doug Hartle
P.O. Box 309
Beaver Island, MI 49782
(231) 448-2368

Winter: 203 E. Sunnybrook
Royal Oak, MI 48073
(248) 585-4818

Are You Interested in the Harbor and Inland Lakes Water Quality?

The past two summers (2000 and 2001), students and myself have been sampling physical, chemical, and biological parameters on Lakes Geneserath, Fox, Font, and Barneys (2001). As well, sites at each marina, the deep harbor area, plus the Jewell Gillespie Memorial Swimming Beach (2001) have been sampled. I was interested in initiating this project since no one has examined the lakes since we quit teaching Limnological Methods (study of inland water) at Central Michigan University Biological Station (CMUBS) in approximately 1984 (this date coincides with the opening of the Beaver Boat-Tique, my summer shop!) Historical data exists since the 1960's on these systems (Matt Hohn, Bob King, and Donna King.) In 2000 an undergraduate (Mandy McGuirk) approached me about an undergraduate research scholar program that paid a stipend to students to work with a professor to gain research experience. I suggested we revisit the water quality of Beaver Island lakes and Harbor. CMU awarded her a \$2,500 stipend. Her results were so interesting that I felt we needed to pursue this project, especially with more reliable nutrient data (CMU water quality lab vs. Hach Kits). Joe Reed was chairman of the Environmental Rural Health Center committee and in conjunction with Anne Glendon attempted to obtain funding for the summer of 2001. When this did not come through, he and Marilyn funded one of my graduate students (Amanda Bosak) to work last summer. The CMU Water Quality Center graciously (for one year only) processed our nutrient samples with the help of Amanda along with our research samples from the outer Islands Cormorant Projects (King, Bosak, and Truhn.)

Since the last water quality samples were taken in October, data are not complete, but it appears that

Proposed 2002 Water Study Budget

Nutrient Analysis (CMU Water Quality Center) PO, TP, NO ₃ , and NH ₃	
6 times - 33 samples	~ \$5,000
2 Water Quality Technicians (Bosak & Truhn) at \$2,000 each	\$4,000
Supplies	\$1,200
Travel (boat/air - samples to CMU)	\$500
	<i>Subtotal: \$10,700</i>
Bacteria (10 sites - 6 times)	
(Total caliform/fecal caliform)	~ \$2,000
	Total: \$12,700

U
db

changes in oxygen levels and nutrients have changed, especially in Lake Geneserath. This pattern of eutrophication should be monitored and addressed as development continues and nutrient levels at the near-shore harbor sites need further investigation. A report from summer 2001 will go to the Reeds and BIPOA yet this fall. I personally feel we also need to test bacteria (total coliform/fecal coliform) levels, but of course this costs more.

If we are going to continue this study, we need financial support for summer 2002. To repeat this basic water quality study would cost approximately \$11,000, and to include bacteria samples, \$13,000. This data would allow us to better evaluate the current status of water quality and to form a plan to protect the lakes and determine how frequently water quality and bacteria studies need to be done. I have two Graduate students (Bosak and Truhn) who are experienced in water quality studies. They will be on Beaver Island this summer, and would like to work on this study. If you have questions about the project, please feel free to contact me at donna.kay.king@cmich.edu or call (989) 774-2381 (office) or (989) 866-2592 (home) or write:

Dr. Donna King
Department of Biology
Central Michigan University
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859

A Beaver Island Water Quality fund has been established at the CMUBS. Tax deductible donations can be mailed to:

Dr. Jim Gillingham, Director
CMUBS
Department of Biology
Central Michigan University
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859

Transportation Authority Update

Barb Schwartzfisher, Executive Director of the Beaver Island Transportation Authority, wishes to extend an open invitation to all individuals who use the boat system as a mode of transportation to participate in up-coming surveys which will address issues related to this form of transportation. A Steering Committee has been formed to hire an independent consultant who will look at such issues as a back-up boat. Barb wishes to point out that there is no hidden agenda or objective. The consultant will be asked to look at passenger service, freight, and State funding avenues. She commented that living on an Island, reliable transportation is not a luxury but a real need. They hope to collect information by way of community-wide public forums and written instruments. The present steering committee includes: Kitty McNamara, Rich Gillespie, Don Vyse, John Works Jr., Margo Marks, and Barb Schartzfisher. At present this board will look at only marine transportation due to the fact that MDOT funding addresses transportation of marine passengers only. Although the new Emerald Isle was never built with the intention of carrying hazardous materials, the reality is that propane, gasoline, and other very flammable materials must be shipped. Funding for a cargo-only hauling vessel would not meet the requirements for funding.

She has heard conversations related to combining *all* Island transportation services but feels that air transportation needs would be better handled though the Aeronautics Airport Committee.

Barb hopes to have the study completed in 9 months to 1 year. She encourages all to participate since future transportation direc-

tives will impact the Island as we know it.

Other activities in which BITA has been involved include securing funding for the new 142-vehicle parking area for the Beaver Island Boat Company off the Donegal Bay Road. This lot will be paved and has an additional 15 spaces for cars outside of the fence for area workers. Entrance to the lot will be secured by the Island's first electronic gate. The old St. James downtown lighting will be used to light the parking lot. She says they intend to be good neighbors to Montage, the School, and the Library by addressing light pollution problems as they may arise.

She can be contacted at (231) 448-3049 daily.

BITA meetings are held at the St. James Township Hall at noon on the second Tuesday of the month. She hopes to have a new office in the BIBCO building next to Beaver Island Realty this summer.



The Boat Company Parking Lot on the Donegal Bay Road under construction in mid-November.

New Members

We wish to welcome our newest members:

Richard and Dorothy Prawat

Scott and Merrilee

Hill-Kennedy

Jeff and Mary Read

Don and Carol Seelye

Board Note Updates:

While the board may be physically away from the Island, our hearts and work continue. We heard the plea from property owners to address the issue of protecting water quality on Beaver Island. Marty Maehr has taken steps to work with Jim Gillingham and Donna King at C.M.U. to provide information through a summertime lecture series. Other topics are being considered also. Doug Hartle and Jan Gerson are pursuing

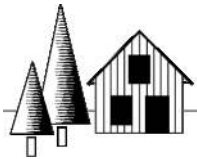
placement of roadway signs to remind our summer visitors to "take only photographs... leave only footprints." BIPOA wishes to support the efforts of the Beaver Island Community School in their attempt to keep our Island beautiful. We will be looking for groups of individuals to help keep various sections of the Island free of debris along the beaches and highways. Stay tuned... more in the Spring Newsletter.

Moving? Please Keep Us Updated

Anytime that you do not receive your BIPOA newsletter, there is a reason. The most common are that either you moved and did not notify us, or that your dues were not paid and

we had to remove your name from the mailing list. We have received several newsletters back over the past year with no forwarding address. If you would clip off your name from the

address area and return it to us when you are moving, we will attempt to get the newsletter off to you promptly. You may also e-mail us via the BIPOA website - www.beaverisland.net/bipoa.



B I P O A

Beaver Island Property Owners Association
30330 East Side Drive
Beaver Island, MI 49782