

ISLAND CURRENTS

Beaver Island Property Owners Association Spring-Summer 2005

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.

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BIPOA Annual Meeting set for July 25th

BIPOA's Annual Meeting is set for **July 25, 2005 at 7:30 p.m.** at the Peaine Township Hall.

Please join us as we hear committee reports, Island area reports, and the election of our officers. Then there will be a brief presenta-

tion by Ms. Jamie Morton from the Alliance for the Great Lakes. She will discuss our participation in the September shoreline cleanup coordinated with the Ocean Conservancy in Washington D.C. (See page 3 for more information.)

Nature Lecture Series

The Nature Lecture Series is a joint partnership between BIPOA and Central Michigan University Biological Station. All lectures take place at the Peaine Township Hall from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.. The presentations are appropriate for all age levels and are a wonderful way to see science in action. Light refreshments are available, and nature lectures are open to the general public, free of charge. The Nature Lecture Series is scheduled for:

Wednesday, **June 29, 2005**, Dr. Nancy Seefelt, from Central Michigan University, will present "**Cormorants and Smallmouth Bass in the Beaver Archipelago.**"



Wednesday, **July 27, 2005**, Dr. Staci Goetz, from Central Michigan University, will speak to us on "**The Geological History of Beaver Island.**"

Walking the Shoreline

"Landowners want to bar neighbors from shoreline," read the headlines in southeastern Michigan. The disputes are now before the Michigan Courts. Hopefully, Beaver Island will not be witness to NO TRESSPASSING on the beaches. I can't imagine limiting walkers past my house. A wave is always welcome and a great way to start the day. The Michigan Supreme Court ruling will decide in July whether owners control the beach into the water line. Riparian rights will take into account the 11,000 inland lakes and the four Great Lakes. Stay tuned for an interesting summer.

DNR Land Disposal

The current Land Consolidation Strategy recommends the DNR dispose of 14 individual Donegal Bay subdivision lots, including one with Lake frontage. Recommendations go before the DNR director at the June 2nd NRC meeting in Petoskey.

Current Efforts



Rural Health Center Planning

Chair: Joe Reed
(231) 448-2247



Recreation Resources Committee

Chair: Jack Kelly
(217) 352-3801 or (231) 448-2524



Master Plan for Peaine Twp.

Chair: Paul Glendon
(231) 448-2772



Property Owner's Manual

Chair: Ron Stith
(231) 448-2001 or (706) 268-2022



Island Clean-Up

Chair: Doris Larson
(616) 243-1037 or (231) 448-2470



Trails Committee

Chair: Krys Lyle
(231) 448-2149



Newsletter and Web Site

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



Membership, Promotion & Education

Chair: Ron Stith
(231) 448-2001
Co-chair: Marty Maehr
(231) 448-2926



Planning/Zoning Liaison:

Krys Lyle (231) 448-2149

Master Plan Update

The St. James and Peaine Township Planning Commissions have been busy this winter putting the final touches on the Master Plan. Additional joint meetings for the Master Plan are scheduled for June 7 and June 14. The regular Planning Commission meeting in July will make a recommendation to adopt the proposed plan, at which time a comment period will take place. The comment period must extend for a minimum of 75 days and a maximum of 95 days. No changes can be made to the Master Plan during this time. Comments are advisory. The Planning Commission determines the merits of any potential changes.

After the comment period, Gosling Czubak will facilitate a public hearing, which is anticipated to take place in October. After the Master Plan has been adopted by the Planning Commission, it goes before the Township Boards. Although it is not required to have township approval, it is highly recommended. It would be commendable to see property owners participate at the above listed meetings.

Upcoming Island Events

The Beaver Island Rural Health Center Fashion Tea is scheduled for 2 p.m. on July 8, 2005 at the Holy Cross Parish Hall.

The BIRHC will also hold an Open House on August 7 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

And on September 5, the BIRHC will hold a Truck Raffle Drawing, 7 p.m. at the Shamrock. Tickets are available at McDonough's Market beginning Memorial Weekend.

Share Your Knowledge

Beaver Island property owners come from a variety of interesting backgrounds. You or a friend may be willing to share your life's expertise such as starting a credit union, a specific business, grant writing, environmental education, mental health, civic and/or governmental backgrounds—the topics are endless. If you wish to share your time and talent with residents of Beaver Island, perhaps we can help you find a forum. Please contact any of the BIPOA board members with your suggestions and we will see where it leads.

Museum Week July 11-16

This year will mark the Historical Society's 25th Museum Week, beginning with Music on the Porch on Monday. The Lighthouse School will give tours of the Beaver Head Light as they continue restoration. Antje Price will open the Protar Home Tuesday and Saturday. Tuesday, GLLKA volunteers will talk about the Whiskey Point Light restoration program, with a work party on Wednesday. The Emerald Isle Repertory Theatre will stage *Wives of an American King*. CMU Nature Walks start on Wednesday. The Art Show should be the best yet—if you'd like to show your work or help, contact laurapratt32@earthlink.net. Thursday, Jim Gillingham and staff will present Amazing Reptiles and Amphibians. And on Friday notorious Barbershoppers will perform.

For a full schedule of events, see www.beaverisland.net/history

Beaver Island Joins Shoreline Cleanup

Scheduled for September 17, 2005

The Beaver Island Community School has joined with BIPOA to participate in the upcoming Shoreline Cleanup on Saturday, September 17, 2005. It is an exciting time to join together as a community in this international event which is being coordinated here in Michigan by the Alliance for the Great Lakes.

Please contact any of the BIPOA board members (page 7) to discuss participation in data collection along our beaches. Weather permitting, we will enjoy a wonderful day collecting data along the shores of Lake Michigan. Hope to see you there!

The Alliance for the Great Lakes (formerly the Lake Michigan Federation, and now after 35 years, the oldest citizens' Great Lakes' organization representing local stewards of the region's waters) is delighted to welcome Beaver Island to the September shoreline cleanup. It's fun! It's easy! And it's a great excuse to get out to the beach!

The annual statewide cleanup is part of the Alliance's Adopt-a-Beach Program and is also linked with an international event coordinated by the Ocean Conservancy in Washington D.C. Volunteers who participate remove trash from shoreline areas and record their findings to be



used in pollution prevention and education in the region and around the world. Since the first event in Michigan in 1991, 20,000 volunteers have removed over 109,000 pounds of trash from the shoreline.

Preliminary numbers from the 2004 annual event in Michigan are:

53% Smoking-Related Items: Cigarette butts, cigar tips, tobacco packaging, and lighters account for the largest category of trash found along Michigan shorelines. Cigarette filters in particular are of concern because they can take up to five years or more to begin to break down. Since they are made of plastic, some experts estimate it can take hundreds of years before they completely break down.

31% Food Waste: This includes items such as beverage containers, food wrappers/containers, straws/stirrers, etc. Food waste is a concern because it can draw excess numbers of wildlife to the shoreline. Wildlife waste can contribute to beach bacterial pollution and closures.

4% Balloons: Although balloons make up a small percentage of the items found, they are a concern because they pose a threat of entanglement and ingestion

to wildlife. Last year during the event volunteers picked up 4,081 balloons.

12% Other: Of the 43 total items monitored, this category is comprised of the remaining 28 items recorded on the card, not mentioned above. This category includes items such as toys, clothing, fishing gear, tampons, etc.

Beaver Island will be the first island in Michigan to join the cleanup. It will be a great opportunity to find out if the trash from the mainland differs from the type of trash found on the Island.

Can't wait until September to be involved? The Alliance also coordinates a year-round Adopt-a-Beach program in which schools, businesses, and community-based groups commit to cleaning up their local beach on an ongoing basis. They also conduct water quality sampling and enter their data into an online database.

These programs are supported by Michigan Coastal Management Program and the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration.

To find out more or to register for the September cleanup, contact Jamie Morton at (616) 850-0745 or e-mail Jamie at jmorton@lakemichigan.org or visit www.greatlakes.org. Morton will visit the Island on July 25 for the annual meeting of the Beaver Island Property Owners Association.

Help protect Island's ash trees from Emerald Ash Borer

By Elaine West

The following is a reprint from the NorthernIslander. Thank you to Elaine and Steve West for their contribution.

It's only about 1/2 inch long and 1/8 of an inch wide. But this little insect is responsible for killing at least 8 to 10 million ash trees in Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana, with most of the devastation in southeastern Michigan.

Yet the Emerald Ash Borer's realm is widening, with 20 Michigan counties now under strict quarantine and 16 other areas under watch - one in nearby Emmet County. Michigan has established an Emerald Ash Borer Task Force and is working to eradicate this pest and control the damage. They are also

conducting research on the insect and testing insecticides for their effectiveness.

Prior to 2002, the Emerald Ash

Borer (EAB) had never been seen in North America. Experts believe that it arrived in ash wood used for stabilizing cargo ships, or in packing crates. This invasive species originated

from Asia, but quickly found its way into six counties in southern Michigan. It has also been detected in Canada.

Counties under quarantine may not move ash trees, branches, fire-

wood, or woodchips that are larger than one inch in diameter. The Michigan Department of Agriculture issued a statement on the need

for all to help control the spread of the insect: "...While firewood may appear healthy and not visibly infested, it may carry the EAB larvae in its dormant stage. Don't further the spread of EAB by

moving ash trees and products outside of these affected counties by taking firewood on vacation with you."

The Emerald Ash Borer destroys tissues under the bark of a



Heavily infested ash trees



Vertical split in bark above larval gallery



Larval gallery



D-shaped exit hole

tree which are essential for conducting water and nutrients. It has a one-year life cycle, with the adults emerging in early summer and going through several stages before it bores into the tree. It spends its winter there and pupates in the spring. Adult beetles leave a D-shaped exit hole in the bark when they emerge. Woodpeck-



Green ash killed by emerald ash borer

ers are fond of the larvae, and heavy damage from the birds may indicate an infestation. The ash trees are the only trees susceptible to the EAB. When first infested the upper canopy begins to

thin and then die. The remainder of the canopy will die during the following year. Often, a thick circling of sprouts will rise below the dead trunk area of the tree. Sometimes vertical splits will be found in the bark and S-shaped tunnels can be seen under the bark. The larvae is a pale, cream color, and the adult beetle a bright emer-



Newly emerged emerald ash borer

ald green. 2003 tests of chemical insecticides (usually a combination of soil and trunk injections) show some sign of effectiveness when applied at the proper time. The matter of controlling fire-

wood being transported to Beaver Island was brought up at the January Transportation Authority meeting. It is hoped that summer visitors will not bring firewood to the Island this year.

If you suspect infestation, call the EAB Hotline: 866-325-0023. For more information about the insect pest, visit the following websites:

www.michigan.gov/eab and www.emeraldashborer.info

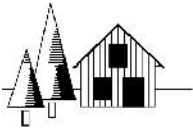
Photo credits: Howard Russell, Andrew Storer, Deborah G. McCullough, and David L. Roberts, courtesy of the USDA.



Late stage larva



Adult beetle



B I P O A
M e m b e r s h i p A p p l i c a t i o n
 Beaver Island Property Owners Association

New Member Renewal Update Address

* 2005 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:

Beaver Island Property Owners Association

Box 390

Beaver Island, MI 49782

Beaver Island Rural Health Center Plans for Long Term Financial Stability

In the summer of 2003 the Beaver Island Rural Health Center (BIRHC) Board came up with a long-term plan to replace lost annual operating funding from the State of Michigan. That funding had averaged \$75,000 per year and was eliminated due to the budget crisis in Lansing. The plan was based on the concept of an endowment fund developed years ago by Dr. Philip Lange, long-time president of the BIRHC Board and tireless advocate for the Health Center. Through consultation with the Charlevoix County Community Foundation, the BIRHC Board determined that if the BIRHC Endowment Fund's balance could be increased to 2 million, it would generate enough income to fill the gap in revenue needed for operations.

After totally overhauling business operations and completing the new building, the BIRHC Board formally launched its drive to vastly increase its endowment in June of 2004. Under the superb leadership of co-chairs, Joe Reed and Bill McDonough, the fund balance was increased from \$111,000 to \$337,000 as of December 31, 2004. Additional pledges receivable over the next three years bring the total current BIRHC Endowment Fund assets to just under \$700,000, a sevenfold increase in less than one year.

Despite this very impressive start, the need to reach the target endowment of 2 million has become extremely urgent: Surplus building grant funds, which have been used to supplement operating expenses over the past few years, will be exhausted in the next six months. Donations of all sizes to the BIRHC Endowment fund are deeply appreciated. Donations of \$10,000 and above will be prominently recognized in the handsome BIRHC Legacy Tree wall sculpture, which is located in

the lobby of the new building. Custom inscriptions on BIRHC Legacy Tree leaves, acorns, and boulders can permanently honor living and deceased friends and family members. Pledges can be paid over three years and fulfilled through the donation of certain securities as well as cash. Donors will have the satisfaction of knowing that their gifts will “do good forever” by ensuring stable funding for the delivery of high quality, cost effective health-care on Beaver Island.

We invite all Beaver Island residents and visitors to stop by and view the tree, and to contact: Joe Reed (231) 448-2247; Bill McDonough, (231) 448-2733; Connie Wojan, (231) 448-2379, or the BIRHC office at (231) 448-2275 for further information on how to make a donation to the BIRHC Endowment Fund.

Beaver Island Services from the Charlevoix Commission on Aging

The Charlevoix Commission on Aging’s Director, Susan Bergmann, met with the Board of the Beaver Island Rural Health Center to clarify services that are available to all taxpayers in Charlevoix County. The Commission is encouraging people to contact Donna Kubic to discuss services such as the Homemaker Program, which provides light-duty housekeeping or Personal Care services which can assist elderly with bathing, and nail care. Donna can be reached at the BIRHC to assess potential care services at (231) 448-2275. Jean Palmer is the Island representative and should be contacted for delivery of meals, snow removal, lawn care, and Dining Out Vouchers for Dalwhinnie. Jean’s number is 448-2915.

Your B I P O A Board of Directors

Pam Grassmick – President

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

30710 East Side Drive
Beaver Island, MI 49782
(231) 448-2314

Jack Kelly – Vice President

1609 Windward Pt.
Champaign, IL 61821
(217) 352-3801
e-mail Jkelly8269@aol.com

35227 Bonners Landing
Box 382
Beaver Island, MI 49782
(231) 448-2524

Doris Larson – Secretary

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

30480 East Side Drive
Beaver Island, MI 49782
(231) 448-2470

Annette Dashiell – Treasurer

2343 North Oak St.
Falls Church, VA 22046
e-mail annetted@biip.net

30225 Green's Bay Dr.
Beaver Island, MI 49782
(231) 448-2542

Ron Stith

30970 Eastside Dr.
Beaver Island, MI 49782
(231) 448-2001
e-mail janiceg@biip.net

P.O. Box 11105
Big Canoe
Jasper, GA 30143
(706) 268-2022
janiceggerson@aol.com

Paul Glendon

18 Southwick Ct.
Ann Arbor, MI 46555
e-mail pglendon@yahoo.com

29390 Betsy Smith Trail
Beaver Island, MI 49782
(231) 448-2772
Fax (231) 448-2350

Krys Lyle

28385 Eagle Hill Road
Beaver Island, MI 49782
(231) 448-2149
e-mail krysl@biip.net

Martin Maehr

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

29210 South End Road
Beaver Island, MI 49782
(231) 448-2926

Rick Andrew – Past President

3004 Buffalo Run Road
Bellefonte, PA 16823
(814) 355-3756
Fax (814) 863-4257

37785 Kings Highway
Beaver Island, MI 49782
(231) 448-2668
e-mail wpa@psu.edu

Information Center

BIPOA's *Property Owners Manual* was mailed last summer to members and placed at various areas around the Island. Off-Island conservation groups and property owners associations were requesting copies; therefore we have now placed a downloadable version on our website, where you can also find all old newsletters archived. New material relating to property maintenance is available in the Beaver Island District Library in the file cabinet marked "BIPOA." We hope you find these sites helpful.

Moving? Please Keep Us Updated

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

We want to hear from you

The goal of the BIPOA newsletter and website is to promote greater communication between all Island property owners. We welcome opinions, stories, informative articles, or issues that you feel would be of interest.

The Deadline for the Fall Newsletter is October 15th, 2005; the earlier we receive stories to include, the better. Please submit all articles or comments to: Pam Grassmick either via fax number (248) 489-1263 or from our web site: <http://bipoa.beaverisland.net>

were not paid and we had to remove your name from the mailing list. Please clip off your name from the address area and return it to us when you are mov-

Welcome New Members

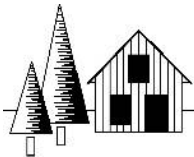
Thanks to all BIPOA members and welcome to our newest members:

Ruth Lucchesi
Mark Lynn and Tova Kopperud
Ken Taylor
Suzanne Peterson

BIPOA board members send a BIG THANK YOU to our yearly supporters.

Your membership enables us to accomplish projects identified by your comments.

ing, so we will be able to get the newsletter off to you promptly. You may also e-mail us via the BIPOA website:
www.beaverisland.net/bipoa



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