

ISLAND CURRENTS

Beaver Island Association Newsletter - Spring-Summer 2016

Supporting Environmental & Economic Sustainability

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Sharing Solutions between Beaver Island, Michigan and Maine Island Communities - Building Local Capacity through Community Exchanges.

For many of us, this whole community exchange experience began with a visit to Beaver Island by two representatives from the Maine Island Institute in September 2015. In actuality, it began more than a year before that, when John Allen walked into the headquarters of the Main Island Institute in Rockland. John is the Director of the Michigan Office of the Great Lakes (OGL), and he was interested in getting a coalition of Great Lakes islands started. He reached out to the Beaver Island Association, and thanks in large part to the efforts of Pam Grassmick and Matt Pressier of OGL, a grant was secured from the Charlevoix County Community Foundation to help facilitate the island exchange.

Fast forward to the September visit by the Institute's Karen Burns, the Institute's Community Development Director, and Heather Deese, Vice President of Research and Strategy. The Beaver Island community was introduced to the Institute's exciting work on behalf of the Maine islands, and discussed the benefits of collaboration and exchange with other islands in the Great Lakes and across the country. The attendees helped to determine a list of priorities for our team of Beaver Island representatives to focus on while in Maine. It was agreed that the following issues are all critical for the island's future:

- Broadband / cell service
- Healthcare / EMS
- Quality K-12 education
- Workforce housing (affordable/yearly rentals)
- Improved Marketing

Following the trip to Maine, another well-attended community meeting was held in January 2016, at which the "away team" reported to the community on its experiences, and discussions took place to plot a path forward. The five key issues identified at the community forum were discussed, along with several other important topics that had emerged from the trip to Maine:

- Aging in place
- The Institute's Island Fellows program
- Early childhood education (birth—pre-K)

A brainstorming session followed, during which the issues and ideas listed above were discussed in small groups, after which each group reported back on what they had discussed. Work groups formed around individuals' interests, with folks committing to work together toward progress on the various issues. All in all it was a tremendously positive gathering centered on securing the future of the island.

Patrick McGinnity

The Beaver Island community is invited to an Open House on Thursday, April 28th from 3-5:30 p.m. at the Community Center.

The objectives for the meeting are 1) Information sharing-to summarize the major project activities to date, including progress towards advancing the Beaver Island priority issue areas and longer term coordination opportunities; and 2) Engagement-to seek support, interest, and involvement by Beaver Islanders and others to assist with project components going forward.

The Office of Great Lakes (OGL) and Maine's Island Institute will return to Beaver Island in late April as part of the collaborative knowledge exchange funded through the Charlevoix County Community Foundation and the OGL. The purpose of this week-long effort is to continue the dialogue on the areas of improvement identified by our island's community at previous meetings. We will share with Maine islands those projects where Beaver Island has excelled. While there is no silver bullet, the lessons learned from Maine and the network of professionals in Michigan are aligning to assist us to tackle complicated issues.

Jon Allan, Director of the Office of Great Lakes; Matt Preisser, Lake Coordinator for Lake Michigan, and other OGL staff are also participating during the April trip as we continue to exchange information to strengthen Maine and Michigan island communities. The delegation from Maine's islands include: Karen Burns, Director of Community Development at the Island Institute; Shey Conover, Islesboro resident, Islesboro School Policy Board member, and Vice President of Programs at the Island Institute; Mr. Andy Dorr, Vinalhaven Island Manager; and Yvonne Thomas, Education Director at the Island Institute, small business owner, and Board Member in Partners in Island Education.

Pam Grassmick

Beaver Island Birding Trail - 2016. The 2016 Beaver Island Birding Trail *Warblers on the Water* birding event is scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend, Friday, May 27, through Sunday, May 29. Registration for field trips, presentations and demonstrations are free to participants, but field trips are rapidly filling up, so register soon if you wish to participate. Activities start on Friday with Darrell Lawson, one of the expert field guides, helping passengers identify pelagic birds (ones that spend a majority of their time on the water) as the 11:30 Emerald Isle crosses Lake Michigan to Beaver Island. Field trips to various island birding locations are planned for both Saturday and Sunday. This year, the Charlevoix Transit Authority is generously lending their vans for the field trips. On Saturday, May 28, three field trips start at 7:30 am, and a fourth evening trip is planned for 6:30 pm. Please check the Beaver Island Birding Trail website: (<http://www.beaverislandbirdingtrail.org/wowschedule.html>) for details and availability of each field trip. Three field trips are scheduled for Sunday, May 29, including one with a demonstration by Dr. Nancy Seefelt of mist-netting, a technique used to capture birds to secure metal bands on their legs for later identification. Darrell Lawson will present Birding 101 which will cover many topics of interest to beginning

birders as well as seasoned experts. Visit the Birding Trail website for more information.

This year marks the third year of celebrating the Beaver Island Birding Trail with an event filled Memorial Day Weekend. Since the trail's inception, hundreds of birders and nature lovers have spent time on the island enjoying the tranquility and all-around natural beauty of Beaver Island. Even if you are not an avid birder, we welcome your participation in the 2016 celebration of island bird life and hope you can join us for a weekend of enjoyable educational activities. An outstanding group of expert field guides and trips are planned. Field trips, demonstrations, and presentations are free to registrants due to the generosity of island businesses and organizations. For more information visit the Beaver Island Birding Trail's website: <http://www.beaverislandbirdingtrail.org> Registration for birding events has already been brisk, so register ASAP.

With the success of the birding trail, the BIA has been asked to make a presentation on its development and conservation in action during the Michigan's Audubon Tawas Point's Birding Festival, May 19th-22nd.
Beth Leuck

Update on Beaver Island Waterways Trail:

Beaver Island's coast line would be a fascinating water trail for kayakers, canoes, paddle-boarders, and others who enjoy non-motorized water activities. Mark Engelsman from the Happy Paddle, Bill McDonough, Dan and Carol Burton from the St. James Boat Shop, Rachel Teague, and Pam Grassmick met last year to begin discussions about how to pull together a waterways trail for Beaver Island.

Each of the public sites selected will either be designated as a portage, rest stop, or camping spot. Interpretive signage placed along Beaver Island's Water Trail will give paddlers a unique understanding of our natural resources, such as: our spectacular night sky, plants of cultural significance, site specific natural attributes, and more. Paddlers will be asked to identify and report on the location of invasive species.

After obtaining support from the Wildlife Division who manages the island's state property, Matt Preisser with the Office of Great Lakes referred us to the Land Information Access Association (LIAA) which developed the Michigan Waterways Trail initiative that covers 3000+ miles of what is known as the Sweet Water Sea. More information can be found at: <http://www.michiganwatertrails.org> With LIAA's assistance two grants have been submitted. The first was to the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) division of the Office of Great Lakes for planning of each proposed site. CZM grant recipients will be notified later this summer.

The second grant was submitted for Peaine Township with LIAA's assistance to Charlevoix County's new grant program to fund recreational projects. This grant will be used as "match" for the CZM grant funding. Simply put, "match" is the share of costs that Peaine Township is required to contribute to accomplish establishing the water trail. With over 10 enthusiastic letters of support from various organizations, the plan is to move forward next year with the Beaver Island Water Trail.

Pam Grassmick

Note: the Beaver Island Association sent a supportive letter to Harry Burkholder, Executive Director, Land Information Access Association in Traverse City. In the letter, three members of the BIA board offered specific help moving the project forward:

- **Ken McDonald agreed to** provide for logo development and signage
- Two board members will contribute time on the planning, execution, and development of grant proposals associated with the trail; the designated board members on the Beaver Island Water Trails Committee are **Mark Engelsman and Pam Grassmick.**

Invasive species control. For over a decade guided by BIA, island property owners have benefited from collaboration with respect to the control of invasive species. With the assistance of many organizations, Beaver Island's environment is healthier than its mainland counterparts.

control and education. C.A.K.E. has recently hired a new administrator, Tom Clements.

The newest Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA) in the State of Michigan has been established for Charlevoix, Antrim, Kalkaska, and Emmet counties. This group is known as C.A.K.E. Their mission is "To protect the natural resources, economy, and human health in Northern Lower Michigan through collaborative outreach and management of invasive species." As a regional invasive species organization, they will be assisting Beaver Island Archipelago to secure funding for continuing invasive species

Through further collaborative efforts with Shaun Howard of The Nature Conservancy, Beaver Island will be receiving \$20,000 for building the island's capacity to control invasive species. Shaun has also secured funding through the Sustain Our Great Lakes fund for additional assistance with invasive species control on Great Lakes' coastal marsh sites for Garden and Hog islands for 2017 and 2018 treatment.

Currently, no Phragmites Administrator has been hired by the townships to replace Cindy Ricksgrers. The BIA is most grateful for the fine job Cindy did for the archipelago during the past two years. We look forward to working with the township's representative.

Pam Grassmick

Update from the Beaver Island Community School-

by Mark Engelsman, school board member and parent.

The Beaver Island Community School is changing. The new board, new administrator and teachers are working together to improve the education and student enrichment experiences. New goals have been added and expectations are higher about what students can learn and achieve with the resources we have.

Our goal is to transform our school into a showcase for higher learning. We started the school board with a new board and new administrator. After the summer resignation of our previous administrator, we were fortunate that Judy Lanier Gallagher was willing to step in as interim administrator; work with a unified board; and help create an education team (community members, parents, board members, and teachers) to re-envision what is necessary to support high standards and multiple educational avenues for our students.

Dr. Gallagher has a wealth of experience in education. While she started teaching in a one-room school house, she is best known for her scholarship and leadership as the dean of Michigan State University's College of Education, where she led a partnership of universities with ed. schools that became the professional development school model. Initially appointed to a one-year term as interim head of BICS, the board recently approved a one-year extension. Our immediate goal is to have a solid system in place as we work to recruit a strong candidate who can build on the strengths we have in our community and further strengthen opportunities for students. The wheels of change are turning.

Currently our students perform somewhere in the middle of the pack (approximate 50%); in fact, performance is "average". For the future, we have set a goal to move the school to rank in the top 25% of schools in Michigan. With small classes and strong resources, this is achievable. One of the tools to achieve this is to increase teacher professional development, collaboration and planning time from the current 5 hours per week. High performing countries typically have teachers engage in 20 hours or more of professional learning, work with experienced teachers, or co-planning and evaluation (see the great book by Linda Darling Hammond, *The Flat World & Education*). Further, Judy Gallagher and the board have been extensively researching additional "best practices" to improve schools.

The increase in professional development time this year has been focused on writing instruction and aligning writing goals across grades. Teachers still have their 1 hour daily planning time but we have added an additional hour each day for working together under the leadership of Judy and a head teacher in elementary and secondary education. An outside consulting firm (School Rise) has been hired for the next two years to assist and advise the staff on effective use of time, on learning outcomes, and goal setting.

The next tool the board identified was to create individual learning plans for each student that include careful monitoring to ensure no student slips through the cracks. The teaching staff is reviewing and updating the curriculum, the textbooks, other materials, and the grading system, as part of this

approach to establish high expectations and individualized progress goals for all students.

The first task of the administration and board was to negotiate new contracts. Salary caps were put in place for top salaries, with identified cost of living increases, and salaries for beginning teachers were raised (necessary to recruit and retain new teachers, acknowledging that Beaver Island is an expensive place to live.)

For some time the school has struggled to fill critical teaching slots. This year, under Judy's leadership, we have been able to make some solid new hires to strengthen the curriculum. We filled the elementary slot for first, second, third grade classroom; and an early childhood classroom for preschool and kindergarten students was created. An energetic new English teacher, with Michigan roots, but experience teaching in Alaska was hired. In the fall, a secondary science and French teacher with 20 years of experience will be moving to the island. He purchased a house and he and his wife are excited about making Beaver Island the next phase of their life as their own children move off to college. Because of needs in special education, we hired two new special education assistants. We have been fortunate to retain staff who have been strong contributors for a number of years to our community and school.

As part of the schedule reorganization (especially to include time for professional development) and from a commitment to bring in new learning experiences for students, we have been drawing on the expertise and talent from island residents to provide electives to students. Robotics, photography, and radio broadcasting electives were added through the incredible knowledge and support of island residents. Our new robotics team has done so well that they are going to the state finals in their first year!

In addition, we have established a new cost effective approach for students to develop fluency in a foreign language (the state requires 2 credits). For some years our students have been meeting the foreign language requirement with an online program, which did not achieve competence. We have now allocated funds to send high school students to a Spanish immersion program in Costa Rica (Conversa) this spring where they will spend 2 weeks in classroom instruction (4 hours/day formal study), afternoon practice through volunteer work in the local community, and living with host families (2 students/family) where they will share meals, experience local culture, and practice language skills. Our hope is to send high school students every 2-3 years for this experience so that students will have opportunities to gain stronger language skills and experiences off the island and outside the United States.

These new changes have cost money. However, our budget is adequate to support it. In previous years the school board has kept a fund balance at about 40%, which, in our eyes, is not a good use of tax payer dollars. We believe that these funds should be used this year for the education of students now, while also being fiscally responsible to maintain adequate "rainy day" or emergency funds. Right now we project a 24% fund balance. We believe the students' education has improved greatly through strategic use of these funds. The school is being transformed into a more interesting and engaging learning environment with evidence of strong results.

Property tax assessments. The table below shows State Equalized Values (equal to 50% of Appraised value) and Taxable Values (which are adjusted downward reflecting the price index caps included in Michigan property tax laws). While

Appraised values (and therefore State Equalized Taxable Values) are still down 25% from 2009, the decline has stopped, with a 1% increase for Beaver Island as a whole, compared to somewhat higher increases for the rest of Charlevoix County.

<u>State Equalized Values</u> <u>(\$millions)</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>% Change 2015 versus</u>	
							<u>2009</u>	<u>2014</u>
Peaine Township	123		111	94	87	87	(29%)	(0%)
St. James Township	76		71	63	60	61	(19%)	2%
Sub-total Beaver Island	198		182	157	147	148	(25%)	1%
All Other Townships	2869		2330	2169	2180	2273	(21%)	4%
Total Charlevoix County	3067		2513	2326	2327	2421	(21%)	4%
Taxable Values (\$millions)	2009	2012	2013	2014	2015	2009	2013
Peaine Township	72		72	69	68	68	(5%)	0%
St. James Township	47		48	47	46	47	(1%)	2%
Sub-total Beaver Island	119		120	116	114	115	(3%)	1%
All Other Townships	2023		1899	1855	1870	1913	(5%)	2%
Total Charlevoix County	2142		2019	1971	1984	2028	(5%)	2%

Source: Charlevoix County Equalization Dept.

Mil-rates and Property Taxes (2015). The table below summarizes 2015 Beaver Island property tax rates and associated taxes. It is interesting to see the amounts assessed by Charlevoix County for various purposes (County Roads, Grandview and the Senior Citizen levies, for example). Additional research is required to determine whether the amounts taxed are used to provide services of similar value to

Beaver Islanders. In total, taxes to support education amount to about \$2.7 million, but about \$0.4 million (roughly 20%) of that is used to support mainland education administration and schools. Overall property taxes are a little more than 4% of taxable property values, or slightly more than 2% of Assessed Values.

Beaver Island Property Taxes (2015) - \$ in Thousands					
	St. James		Peaine		Total Tax
	Mil-rate	Tax Raised	Mil-rate	Tax Raised	
Charlevoix County Gov't					
Ops.	4.70	\$ 220	4.70	\$ 320	\$ 540
Transit	0.25	\$ 12	0.25	\$ 17	\$ 29
Grandview Nursing Home	0.75	\$ 35	0.75	\$ 51	\$ 86
Senior Citizen	0.10	\$ 30	0.10	\$ 44	\$ 75
Recycling	0.15	\$ 7	0.15	\$ 10	\$ 17
Parks	0.65	\$ 7	0.65	\$ 10	\$ 17
Veterans	0.15	\$ 5	0.15	\$ 7	\$ 11
County Roads	1.00	\$ 47	1.00	\$ 68	\$ 115
Total County Taxes	7.75	\$ 362	7.75	\$ 528	\$ 891
BI Township Governments	11.94	\$ 559	8.05	\$ 549	\$ 1,108
School Primary Residents	8.00	\$ 89	8.00	\$ 111	\$ 201
School Non-Primary Res.	23.79	\$ 750	23.79	\$ 1,149	\$ 1,899
School Personal Property	11.79	\$ 2	11.79	\$ 2	\$ 4
Intermediate School Distr.	2.78	\$ 130	2.78	\$ 190	\$ 320
BICS Debt Retirement	2.00	\$ 94	2.00	\$ 136	\$ 230
Sub-total School		\$ 1,065		\$ 1,589	\$ 2,654
Library	0.99	\$ 46	0.99	\$ 67	\$ 113
Total		\$ 2,032		\$ 2,733	\$ 4,765
Memo: taxable Values		\$ 46,774		\$ 68,157	\$ 114,931
Tax % of Taxable Value		4.3%		4.0%	4.1%

Source: Charlevoix County Apportionment Report (2015) dated October 28, 2015

Update on St. James Township Finances. The Township of St James continues to make progress on addressing the issues associated with the Sewer Fund.

A billing clerk was hired to perform the required billings, investigate past due accounts and make suggestions on how to collect the monies due. At the St. James Township meeting March 2nd a summary of the efforts to date was presented to the township board. Summarized below is an excerpt from that report.

New County Building – a reality! An initiative started in October, 2012 with the announcement of a much-needed replacement of the County Road Commission garage. In January, 2013 the County Commissioners agreed “in principle” to provide a multi-use facility to properly house the three county-level functions of the sheriff’s office, transit operation, and road commission vehicle and maintenance facility. A working committee consisting of the three users and the county administrator evaluated options and costs. After more than three years of study, the County has purchased the lumber yard building from Jeff Powers (the lumber inventory and equipment were sold to Ernie Martin and Ben Fogg). The three county departments will be working on the modifications

For the month of January the billing clerk processed and mailed invoices for February, summarized the unbilled/uncollected accounts for the Clerk, continued the work on a study of sewer rate fees and studied the issue of additional connections to the sewer. Future action items include recommendations on how to repay money borrowed from other funds, establishment of a 6-year Capital Improvement Program as mandated by the State of Michigan and a review of the existing rate structure. (Bob Tidmore.)

Many issues remain to be understood & resolved. (Peter Igoe)

needed to meet their individual needs: appropriate office space; indoor parking and work space for transit vehicles; indoor parking for sheriff vehicles and equipment, and two temporary holding cells meeting Department-of-Corrections standards; and indoor parking and maintenance space for Road Commission vehicles and equipment. For now the existing Road Commission garage will be retained for potential additional storage. As many have commented in the past, a comparison of the facilities for the three county departments on our island compared to those on the mainland make it clear this was needed, and it is great to see it finally become a reality. Bob Anderson

Beach Clean-up 2016. Every year volunteers who love Beaver Island and its beaches spend a Saturday morning cleaning litter from the beaches. For 2016 the annual Beach Cleanup, sponsored by the Beaver Island Association, will be held on Saturday, September 10. Please arrive at the

Community Center by 9 am to pick up your trash bags and data sheets and get your beach assignment. Then return to the Community center by noon with your haul to enjoy a free lunch and the companionship of your fellow volunteers.

Ken McDonald

CMU cooperation. The following letter was sent to CMU hoping to receive a positive response.

The Beaver Island Association
Supporting Environmental and Economic Sustainability

Mr. Ian Davison, Dean
CMU College of Science & Technology

December 26, 2015

Re: Beaver Island Association initiatives

Dear Dean Davison:
We appreciate your consideration of our request to use the vans (for Warblers on the Water), but we understand CMU's concerns and will make alternative arrangements.

I thought you might be interested in the work in which the Beaver Island Association has involved itself and I have enclosed copies of our last two newsletters which describes recent initiatives.

The economy of the island is struggling and we are working on a variety of economic and environmental projects to draw more families to the island, both visitors and permanent residents. The Biological Station is a major asset and if you can suggest areas where we could work together in this regard we would be interested in seeing if we could be helpful.

The ongoing Island Institute collaboration process, described in our newsletter, identified five areas of the greatest importance to the Beaver Island Community.

1. Establishing broadband connectivity for the internet, available to all businesses, households, the Beaver Island Community School, and health care organizations; along with good island wide cell phone coverage;
2. Island health care and emergency services;
3. Maintaining and improving the quality of K-12 education;
4. Assuring the availability of affordable housing for the island workforce;
5. Effectively marketing Beaver Island as a wonderful place to live and work.

Any suggestions for how we might work together on these priorities would be appreciated.

Sincerely, Peter Igoe, President; for the Beaver Island Association Board of Directors

In a follow-up conversation with **Geoff Bartlett, Director of Development, CMU College of Science and Engineering**, the BIA board offered the following ideas for how the Biological Station might contribute to Beaver Island educational, economic and environmental development. We'll report on CMU's response in our next newsletter.

High Speed Internet. At an open meeting last fall Beaver Islanders were asked to identify the most pressing needs to improve the economy of the island. The number one identified need was universal access to high speed internet in order to allow full time Beaver Island residents to engage, from the island, in high value economic activity. We understand that CMU is in the process of establishing a high speed network to include the Biological Station and possibly, the Beaver Island Community School. CMU's involvement in expanding this capability to provide universal access would be enormously helpful.

New Waterways Trail. To further encourage the development of eco-tourism, the BIA, with the State of Michigan and other forward looking partners, is working to establish a Waterways Trail that will allow small craft, such as kayaks, to circumnavigate the island. The trail, in planning for a 2017 inauguration, will include multiple landing sites and perhaps camping areas. The Biological Station might enhance the trail with sites at the Biological Station, a series of educational lectures, field trips or other efforts appealing to eco-tourists. The Biological Station could be helpful in the creation of ecological and cultural concepts for the interpretive signage.

The Beaver Island Community School, under new leadership, has set aggressive goals to raise the academic achievements of its students, targeting itself to move from average into the top quarter of all schools in Michigan. In addition, with resident volunteers, extra-curricular activities including robotics design, photography, radio broadcasting, and foreign language immersion have been added to the curricula. There may be opportunities for the Biological Station to further enhance the curricula, during the summer, when the Station is operational. Or even better, it might be possible for CMU staff to visit the island during the academic year to offer additional electives related to its research efforts, or scientific/technical expertise.

The Beaver Island Birding Trail has been successful in drawing visitors to the island. It has received state and national recognition and there are opportunities to leverage this into additional visits. In the past, the Biological Station has been supportive. With the increase in visitors, more might be done to help with the logistical strains from the increase in visitors, trail guides and birding experts. The Biological Station could be helpful in the improving the ecological and cultural concepts for the current interpretive signage.

CMU summer students could be helpful in support of Beaver Island's summer cultural programs: including involvement in theater arts programs, or assisting in the organization of Community Center programs.

Update on Natural resource focused organizations.

For the past 15 months, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife Division has been meeting with organizations, tribal entities, and island property owners to collaborate on how to sustainably use and manage our archipelago's natural resources. The framework for the Northern Lake Michigan Islands Plan was compiled after several public meetings held on the island. The plan's vision is to "Maintain ecological and cultural integrity of Northern Lake Michigan Islands while providing island-appropriate recreational opportunities, as part of a broader natural resource-based economy, and effective administration of state-owned properties". This plan builds on previous work in the island's Master Plan, Recreational Plans, and the NRESC Recommendations for the Management of Natural Resources. Six goals address partnerships in:

1. Governance
2. Ecological protection
3. Cultural preservation
4. Recreation
5. Natural resource-based economy
6. Effective administration by the Wildlife Division.

The planning approach will engage organizations, tribal entities, and island property owners to collaborate in the sustainable use of the archipelago's natural resources to support the island's economy while protecting, enhancing, and restoring public lands for future generations. The BIA supports this collaborative process and will work to ensure that the archipelago retains its healthy ecosystem. NLMI meeting minutes and plan will be posted on Peaine Township's website.

In the past, island property owners have benefited from this type of collaboration with respect to the control of invasive species for over a decade guided by the BIA. With the assistance of many organizations, Beaver Island's environment is healthier than its mainland counterparts. The newest Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA) in the State of Michigan has been established for Charlevoix, Antrim, Kalkaska, and Emmet counties. This group is known as C.A.K.E. Regional invasive species response will be assisting Beaver Island to secure funding for continuing invasive species control. Through further collaborative efforts with Shaun Howard at The Nature Conservancy, Beaver Island will be receiving \$20,000 for building the island's capacity to control invasive species.

Forest Management: Island property owners will be invited to a public meeting the first week in June at the Community Center to meet with Mike Merriweather from the Antrim County Conservation District. Mike is a forester who works with private land owners who are seeking information about how to manage their wooded acreage or are contemplating selling timber. He will discuss how to write a good contract and maintain your timber sale to ensure your forest remains productive. Mike works with individuals on wildlife habitat improvement, wetland enhancements, tree and disease identification, Qualified Forest Programs, and forest stewardship. **Mr. Merriweather has agreed to come to Beaver Island on Thursday, June 2nd and will make a presentation on these subjects from 3-5 p.m. at the Community Center.**

Pam Grassmick

2016 Beaver Island Association Annual Meeting.

Monday, July 11 – 4:00-6:00pm at the Community Center -

Agenda:

- Approval of 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes
- BIA financial Report & Election of Officers
- Community School Update
- Birding Trail Update

- Waterways Trail Update
- Maine Island Institute collaboration
- Northern Michigan Collaboration (CAKE)
- 2016 Invasive Species control action plan
- Refreshments after

Beaver Island Association Membership 2015-2016

Maureen Abele	Dana D'Andraia	Peter Igoe	Ken McDonald	Sherry Schrottenboer
Keith Albin	Mark Engelsman	Ruth Igoe	Deb McDonald	Thomas Sell
Christy Albin	Kailonnie Dunsmore	Jonathan Igoe	Bill McDonough	Patricia Sell
Bruce Allen	Harris Fawell	Kathleen Igoe	Tammy McDonough	Bob Simpson
Bob Anderson	Ruth Fawell	Bruce Jacobson	Patrick McGinnity	Sandy Simpson
Alana Anderson	Jon Fogg	Leonor Jacobson	Larissa McGinnity	Nancy Smith
Paul Armstrong	Sally Fogg	Clyde Johnson	Lori McSweeney	John Starr
Nancy Armstrong	Bill Freeman	Nadra Johnson	Gene McSweeney	Leigh Starr
Tim Barrett	Janice Freeman	Ronald Jakubus	Sandra Michelson	Evan Steger
Jodi Plummert	Jack Gallagher	Helen Jakubus	Joe Moore	Suzu Steger
Elwood Baker	Judy Gallagher	Jim Jones	Phyllis Moore	Matt Stewart
Phyllis Baker	Jim Gavelek	Judith Jones	Charles Morris	Suzi Peterson
Banghart Family Property	John Gerrish	Michael Kamrin	Sandra Morris	James R. Stout Sr.
Joyce Bartels	Sandra Gerrish	Katie See Kamrin	Janet Nank	Kenneth Jay Taylor
Royce Beers	Ken Gitersonke	Cheryl Kane	Bob Neff	Don Taylor
Margie Beers	Pat Gitersonke	Phyllis Kayne	Julie Neff	Judy Taylor
Raymond C Becker	Paul Glendon	Jack Kelly	Harriet Nelson	Diana Taylor
Priscilla Becker	Anne Glendon	Ruth Kelly	Florence Neumann	Tom Thieme
Narin Bhatia	Tim Gonyeau	Donna Kieselbach	Seamus Norgard	Nita Thieme
Nishta Bhatia	Kathie Gonyeau	Andy Kohls	Scott Osborne	Bob Tidmore
Jim Birdsall	Jeanne Graham	Jacque LaFreniere	Margaret Osborne	Kathy Tidmore
Sandy Birdsall	Brad Grassmick	Mark LaFreniere	Ann Partridge	Don Tritsch
Eric Blalock	Pam Grassmick	Lars Larson	Fred Payne	Nancy Tritsch
Kathryn Blalock	Jan Gerson	Doris Larson	Theresa Payne	Ed Troutman
Glen Borre	Emory Griffin	Greg Lawson	Pete Peterson	Linda Troutman
Betsy Borre	Marjorie Hammond	Mary Jane Lawson	Sheila Peterson	Craig Turnbull
Kevin Boyle	Larry Hansz	Ed Leuck	Nancy Peterson	Karen Turnbull
Judy Boyle	Maureen Hansz	Beth Leuck	Carey Johnson	Alan Vicstein
Frederick J. Boyles	Nackerman Harborfront LLC	David Lucas	Louis Post	Bev Vicstein
Barbara Boyles	Jim Haveman	Jim Luteyn	Clare Collins	Jack Wayne
William Boyles-Visel	Sarah Haveman	Barbara Lucas	Taffy Raphael	Barbara Wayne
Janee Boyles-Visel	Tom Hawkins	Claude A. Lucchesi	Marilyn Reed	Paul Welke
Keith Brothers	Susan Hawkins	Ruth Lucchesi	Joe Reed	Angela Welke
Janet Brothers	Tom Herbert	Greg Lucchesi	Richard Ries	Ed Welter
Dan Burton	Henry Hill	Linda Lucchesi	Kris Ries	Willy Welter
Carol Burton	Kirsten Roberts	Dan Lynch	Randy Roberts	Ronald Wierenga
Marg Charbeneau	David Howell	Rosemary Lynch	Carol Roberts	Elisabeth Wierenga
Mike Charbeneau	Sandy Howell	Marty Maehr	Pat Rowley	Verle Wiita
Carolyn Charbeneau	Carolyn Hricko	Jane Maehr	John Rowley	Trish Wiita
Carol Creasser	Gary Huard	Art McCaskey	Larry Seiford	Annalda Worsfold
Charles Creaser	Carol Huard	Debbie McCaskey	Bev Seiford	
Annette Dashiel	Mike Igoe	John Martin	Bill Schneider	
Frank D'Andraia		Molly Resnick	Craig Schrottenboer	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Anderson, Treasurer
Kevin Boyle
Keith Brothers
Mark Engelsman
Pam Grassmick

Peter Igoe, President
Jim Jones
Andy Kohls
Beth Leuck
Ken McDonald, Vice President

Patrick McGinnity
Taffy Raphael, Secretary
Craig Schrottenboer
Bob Tidmore

MEMBERSHIP TOTAL – 211

LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS. The Beaver Island Association is an organization of dedicated volunteers who seek to represent the interests of all residents and visitors on Beaver Island. From Phragmites and other invasive species control, to township governance, to support of the Community School, and everything in between, the BIA is working to support environmental and economic sustainability. If you have friends or neighbors who are not members, send the BIA their names and addresses and we will send them a copy of this newsletter.

Write: The Beaver Island Association, P.O. Box 390, Beaver Island, MI 49782.

Email: beaverislandassociation@gmail.com

*The Beaver Island Association
Supporting Environmental and Economic Sustainability
P.O Box 390
Beaver Island, Michigan 49782*

*The Beaver Island Association
Supporting Economic and Environmental Sustainability*

If you do not see your name as an active member in the preceding list, please consider joining to support our efforts and to continue to receive the BIA newsletter. Our membership year runs from July 1 to the following June 30. Please join us by sending a check for \$20 to Bob Anderson, Treasurer, The Beaver Island Association, PO Box 390, Beaver Island, MI 49782.

*******Yes, please renew our Beaver island Association membership for 2015-2016 *******

Name(s)

Mailing Address

Email address (important)