Bruce Pelletier is working with Greg Goudy, Environmental Quality Analyst with the DEQ and the MDEQ Water Resources Division to enhance and finalize the 2019 Hamlin Lake water testing program. Every five years Hamlin emerges as a “target watershed” which means that the WRD will target a majority of its monitoring resources on our lake and others in the Basin Year 1 Watershed Map. It is our best opportunity to work with professionals to identify current conditions on the lake, understand changes from the past, and to identify emerging water quality problems.

Your HLPS board is working with CI BioBase Maps to update the Bathymetry of Hamlin Lake. You may have observed Jim Clark’s pontoon boat running transits of the lake during August and September. He has been getting close to fishing boats and the shore taking sonar readings. Files of these sonar transits are uploaded to CI BioBase Maps where contour maps are generated showing the depth, vegetation, and condition of the bottom. Preliminary results are showing the submerged meandering river-bed including an 80-foot-deep valley that looks like it may have been left by a glacier. Some preliminary results are available which can be shared on a limited basis. When completed, all current condition results will be shared with users of the lake and will be used for future reference in ongoing studies.

By January 2019, we intend to have the “Watershed Plan” updated on our Hamlinlake.us web site. The plan is intended to present in an organized fashion a data driven “snapshot” of the lake. In reviewing data, we would expect all concerned citizens living on and using the lake to be able to employ this data in doing their part to preserve and enhance this resource we hope to enjoy for many generations to come. The plan will include data and resources (web sites and surveys) which can be utilized by all to help better understand our possible roles in improving and maintaining the Watershed in support of the lake.

We also intend to post a simple survey designed to help us all understand our specific use, available lake support, issues, recommendations, etc. in working to enhance our Hamlin experience.

Speaking of resources; Peggy Haverberg and David Windsor had the opportunity to attend the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership Conference in Grand Rapids, Oct 4 and Oct 5, 2018.

*The Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership (MILP) is composed of a broad range of organizations and agencies that have a common interest – protecting our inland lakes.*

At the conference Dave and Peggy were able to divide their time and together managed to attend about 80% of the offered seminars. Peggy and Dave will continue working together to make the conference information available in presentation format on our website. Additionally, when the Board con-
OFFICERS
President, Wayne Andersen
andersenwayne@gmail.com
Vice President, Ruth Crompton
rkcromp@msn.com
Recording Secretary, Peggy Haverberg
Peggy.haverberg@gmail.com
Treasurer, Kathy McGill
tkmcgill@yahoo.com

DIRECTORS
Jim Clark
Denny Lavis
Steve Begnoche
Wayne Andersen
Mark Otto
Gin Hluchan
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Peggy Haverberg
Bruce Pelletier
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Membership—Gin Hluchan, Jim Clark
Newsletter—Wayne Disegna
Karen Disegna
Special Events—Ruth Crompton
Fish—Wayne Andersen
Water Quality—Bruce Pelletier, Joe Muzzo
Memorials—Kathy McGill
Watershed Plan—Peggy Haverberg

Hamlin Lake Currents
is published three times-a-year
by the
Hamlin Lake Preservation Society
P.O. Box 178
Ludington, MI 49431

Our educational objective is to present articles on current concerns, history, and activities pertaining to Hamlin Lake.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS NEWSLETTER ARE WELCOME!
Please address letters to:
Wayne Disegna
6647 W. Jackson Road
Ludington MI 49431
Phone: 231.843.6841
wdisegna@frontier.com

Your comments are welcome! E-mail Wayne Andersen, President,
andersenwayne@gmail.com
or write to the
Hamlin Lake Preservation Society,
P.O. Box 178

All opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and are not necessarily the opinions of the Hamlin Lake Preservation Society.

Hamlin Township Transfer Facility on Dewey Road

WINTER SCHEDULE
October 1—April 30
Wednesday and Saturday
9 A.M.—5 P.M.

SUMMER SCHEDULE
May 1—September 30
Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday,
10 A.M. - 6 P.M.

HLPS has 2 websites thanks to Jim Clark and Matt Geelhoed. Take a look at www.hamlinlake.us and www.hamlinlakepreservation.org
Welcome to autumn in the Hamlin Lake / Big Sable Watershed. Truly a great time of year to enjoy the tranquility and colorful landscape the area has on display.

This past summer was very busy on Hamlin Lake. The Ludington State Park had all time record camping days and day visits. From my observations boat traffic on the lake seemed to be steady throughout the summer season.

The primary concerns/complaints I have heard this year are the algae bloom and nuisance aquatic vegetation. Upper Hamlin Lake experienced a significant algae bloom again this summer. This seems to have become a regular occurrence in recent years. Aquatic vegetation on the upper lake was heavy throughout water depths of less than ten feet.

Upper Hamlin Lake is becoming eutrophic in nature. Both algae bloom and excessive aquatic weed growth are indicators of this aging process of lakes. There is no inexpensive, quick fix for this issue. The accepted body of authority for this issue is a Lake Improvement Board. Hamlin Lake has no Lake Improvement Board.

Hamlin Lake Preservation Society (HLPS) continues to monitor and address issues within its means. Hamlin Lake Preservation Society is not a Lake Improvement Board and has no intention of becoming a Lake Improvement Board.

Each year MDEQ issues permits to individuals and groups of individuals to chemically treat nuisance aquatic vegetation in Hamlin Lake. This seems to be a viable solution without the presence of a Lake Improvement Board. Any chemical or mechanical treatment of aquatic vegetation is a permitted activity through MDEQ.

There is currently a group of riparian owners on the upper lake working together to develop a shared navigational path to permit motorized watercraft on the east end of the upper lake. The thought being that by motorized watercraft using a common marked path of travel this would maintain a weed free pathway to the open waters of the lake. I think this idea is a valid solution worth a try. If successful, this plan would provide access with minimal cost and minimal environmental impact.

Some of the projects and activities under consideration in 2019 include.

Completion of the initial Natural Shoreline Demonstration Project at the Ludington State Park. We are also asking the Ludington State Park to identify other eroding shoreline areas that we can consider projects to restore the shoreline to a natural state. We would use additional projects as educational displays to encourage natural shorelines.

A youth fishing derby to be held on Hamlin Lake. The idea is in planning. It has been suggested to hold this event on “Free Fishing Weekend” in June of 2019. The focus would be on family fishing for kids and boating safety. Your ideas and input would be appreciated.

A creel survey conducted by Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Fisheries on Hamlin Lake. There are past creel surveys of the Hamlin Lake Fishery. A 2019 survey would compare catch rates of fish to past surveys to help determine the current status of the Hamlin Lake Fishery.

As you will note in this newsletter other ongoing projects and activities are also in progress. They include water quality sampling and updating the Hamlin Lake Watershed Management Plan. These two activities are very important to the future of Hamlin Lake.

While duck hunting near the Hamlin Marsh this past weekend I had an interesting experience. On Saturday morning, opening day of duck season, I harvested a mature male wood duck. When my Labrador, Hope, retrieved the bird I noticed it had a metal leg band. On Sunday morning I harvested another mature male wood duck. When Hope delivered the bird, I noticed a metal leg band. I couldn’t believe 2 banded birds in 2 days. When I reported the banding information on line I discovered that on one of the wood ducks was banded spring of 2017 in Calloway County, Kentucky. The other wood duck was banded summer of 2017 in Stoddard County, Missouri.

It seems the Hamlin Lake Watershed has become a destination for traveling waterfowl throughout North America. I can’t blame them I also think the area is very special!

Your thoughts and input are appreciated on how best to protect, preserve and enjoy Hamlin Lake.

Best Regards

Wayne Andersen, President
Hamlin Lake Preservation Society
Cell; 231-843-4618
Email; andersenwayne@gmail.com
venues in April 2019 we will discuss opportunities to make some of the materials and handouts available to HLPS members.

Peggy Haverberg

Watershed signs

We want to extend a big thank you to Rick Rolston at the Mason County Road Commission for all the assistance with installing the watershed signs. All watershed signs for county and national forest roads have been installed by the Mason County Road Commission. (Signs for US 31 and M116 have not been installed because we could not get anyone from the Michigan DOT to return my numerous calls. We plan on contacting Representative Vanderwall to get a response from MDOT.

In all, 37 signs have been installed along roads entering the Hamlin Lake/Big Sable watershed. Extra signs are on hand at the Road commission to manage repair/replacement and for installation in locations that may have been missed.

The intended goal of the signs is to educate and enlighten visitors and residents about watershed boundaries and to stimulate thoughtful consideration of the impact people may have on our beautiful lake, river and streams.

Based on what little feedback we have already received, people have seen the signs and are coming to the realization that what happens within the watershed, eventually impacts the lake.

Ken and Joe Muzzo

Currents Deadline is April 20th, 2019

HLPS Meetings April 16th & May 14th
6:30 pm @ the Hamlin Township Hall
WATER QUALITY

Update on the boating channel thru the wild rice bed in the upper lake was reviewed; Dave Winstead will get quotes for channel buoys and bring buoy recommendations to the April 2019 meeting.

Wayne suggested to Victory Township that HLPS would support the purchase of a more substantial dock at the Victory Park boat launch / Waiting for recommendations from the Victory Township team.

Bruce Pelletier reviewed the floating weed situation on the lake (primarily wild celery) explaining that the abundance of weeds is a result of the propagation process. Peggy will include a question about floating weeds in the online survey to better understand how many riparian owners deal with this issue.

Jim Clark is continuing to work on the Bathymetry (contours of the lake bottom mapping) and intends to have maps available for purchase in the spring of 2019.

MISC

All the Watershed Signs (except for two) have been installed.

The contract for the LSP Natural Shoreline signage has been released and the signage will be installed in the State Park this fall.

Spring 2019 HLPS will make available decals with the Watershed sign logo as well as decals with the HLPS Logo.

Hazardous Waste Day was very successful with 17,000# of waste (not including electronics, batteries and oil) collected, and 140+ volunteer hours were donated.

Jake Crawford, Mason Lake Conservation District Conservation Technician, visited the meeting to better understand where he can work with the HLPS team.

2019 ANNUAL DINNER --- JUNE 21, 2019 at the Hamlin Township Hall.

TOTAL HLPS MEMBERSHIP – 331 members

Next Meetings are April 16th & May 14th
In my last contribution to South by Southwest I promoted our summer sailing series on Hamlin Lake, and this piece will continue that thrust. I noted that to continue a lively competitive season we need to develop interest among folks new to sailing, be they kids or adults. Up here on the north shore of the upper lake we have had a large influx of new families, mostly relatively young (compared to me), and some with kids of just the right age to start sailing. I suspect this is true all over Hamlin Lake. I intend to direct the next few articles to these welcome newcomers with reviews of sailboats that are perfect for our sailing conditions and fun to take out for a leisurely sail, or become active in our racing activities.

The perfect entry level boat is the classical Sunfish. The Sunfish is the most popular recreational sailboat ever, with over 200,000 having been built. It is one of the easiest boats to rig and sail. It is very stable and safe for even novice sailors. Mast, sail, and hull construction is robust, and little maintenance is required. The signature triangular 'lateen' sail is easy to store and easily rigged by anyone. The boat requires little training to sail and control, even in gusty winds. If an upset occurs, the boat is easily righted and sailed away. The Sunfish is shown in a line sketch below, and again in the photograph that gives a good feeling for the relative size.

The Sunfish has an over-all length of 13 ft. 9 in. and a beam of 4 ft. 1 in. The sail area is 75 sq. ft. The boat has a dagger board (pulled up or pushed down) and kick-up rudder, and is easily launched from the beach. The hull weighs 120 pounds and can easily be loaded on top of a car by two people. The Sunfish is the most fun to sail single-handed, but two good friends can go together. A fully equipped, new Sunfish can be purchased for under $4000. With the huge number having been built, it is probably easy to obtain a good used boat for well under that figure. I have seen several Sunfish sailing on both the upper and lower lake, and it looks like there may be families with more than one. These wonderful little boats are about as nearly bullet proof as any boat could be. My own kids started on Sunfish and Starfish (a Sunfish clone), I highly recommend that you have a look at this boat if you want to get your family into sailing in the easiest way. If we could come up with a half-dozen Sunfish we will have a single-class racing series separately from the bigger boats, and that would be lots of fun.
## Hamlin Lake Preservation Society
### Treasurer’s Report
Oct. 7th, 2018

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HLPS Support of North Country Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (NCCISMA)

HLPS donated $1,000 in 2018 to sponsor NCCISMA Ludington High School Outreach Program. Vicki Sawicki coordinated this outreach program with Ludington High School AP Environmental Science teacher Mark Willis. Two classes were held, NCCISMA was able to reach 81 students at Ludington High School with this program. Quick Reference ID Guides of invasive plants were used by students to identify invasive plant species. The students were challenged to identify invasive plants in the area. A contest was held and prizes will be awarded to students.

Moving forward Ludington High School AP Environmental Science Teacher Mark Willis has asked NCCISMA to host a field exercise with his students where they will learn to identify and participate in the removal of garlic mustard in Mason County. This activity will take place in spring of 2019. NCCISMA would like to extend a big Thank You to HLPS for supporting our outreach efforts with area students!

HLPS Supports 2018 Mason County Hazardous Waste Collection

HLPS donated $1,000 to the 2018 Mason County Hazardous Waste Collection that was held August 18th at the Mason County Road Commission in Scottville. This is an annual collection of hazardous waste materials that residents of Mason County are able to drop off to be properly disposed of by professionals. This collection is proactive in the prevention of hazardous material being released into the Hamlin Lake/Big Sable Watershed.

Hazardous Wastes collected include chemicals, oil, batteries, electronics, light bulbs and prescription medications.

Hamlin Township is one of the major contributors to the collection. All the other Mason County Townships in the watershed also participate.

Sixty-one households in Hamlin Township participated by disposing of 34 pounds of chemicals and 19 pounds of oil. Forty-nine other households within the watershed disposed of 21 pounds of chemicals and 14 pounds of oil. Other hazardous waste material was collected from these households within the watershed.

The 2019 Hazardous Waste Collection will be held on the third Saturday of August. If you or others you know have chemicals, oils or other hazardous wastes please consider the responsible disposal of these materials. Even small amounts of hazardous materials can have a negative impact on water quality within our watershed.

HLPS Scholarship

HLPS recently established an endowed/scholarship account with the Community Foundation of Mason County. We will be granting our first $500 scholarship through the Foundation in May of 2019. We are pleased to partner with the CFMC with the common goal being to help make our community a healthier, stronger and more vibrant place to reside. For further information regarding scholarship application visit: https://mason-foundation.org>scholarship.
Hamlin Lake Preservation Society
Memorials for 2018

Clifford Badendick
By Steven & Deborah Wendell

Milo and Jane Beman
By Milo & Emma Beman III

Fred and Mildred Benseman
By David & Sally Dierks

Al Boulee (Water Quality)
By Donna Boulee

George & Charlotte Boz
By Dr. Joe & Charlene Jarabek

Raymond Brock
By Charles & Roberta Nebus

Jeffery Dorrell
By Steve & Pat Jackson

Ellen Hegg Evensen
By Ginny Hluchan

Bob Ferguson
By Caryl Ferguson

Les & Ethel Gravesen
By the family of Les & Ethel Gravesen

Carol Boardman Hittle
By Helen & Bowie Duncan and Max Hittle

Terry Huycke
By Mike and Cindy Burky

Harry E. Jacobs
By Barbara Jacobs

Sharon Krone
By Joanne Krone

Leo J. and Nano J. Lindbloom
By Rita Ward

Irv Lovato
By Kenneth & Luella Lovato

Les Mortensen
By Jeff & Marianne Johnson

Cecil Moyer
By Christopher & Sandy Moyer

Gloria K. Nitz
By Wade Nitz

Ray & Neoma Purtell
By Jack Purtell

Patty Scatena
By Jim Scatena

Margaret & Jerry Scherer
By Larry & Barb Scherer

Delavan Sipes
By Jean Christensen

John & Kay Stephens
By Bruce & Virginia Terlep

Bruce Terlep
By John & Carla Stephens

Dorothy Thorsen
By Charlene Jarabek

Roy Thorsen
By Roy & Dorothy Thorsen

Jack & Edith Turner
By Jack & Judy Turner

John A. Wendell
By Marilyn Wendell & Brian Tibbot

The Windsor Family
By David Windsor
Griswolda was a Hamlin Lake Resort Community that existed from 1902 until the 1930's located on the West side of Indian Pete Bayou. Griswolda extended from the west shore line of the bayou across to Lincoln Road. In 1902 William and Mary Bridge had this land on the West side of Indian Pete Bayou surveyed and named it Bridges Resort. This carefully plotted resort included roads and right-of-ways which led to the lake, providing access for those residents who did not have lakefront property.

Bridges Resort which included an apple fruit farm was purchased by George C. Griswold of Princeton, Illinois, in 1903 and he changed the name of the resort to Griswolda. Griswold began to clear the lots of timber and build cottages with his goal to make Griswolda a self supporting summer rendezvous for teachers, people of the arts and their students. He planned to attract teachers and professional artists from the greater Chicago area to spend their summers at Griswolda. Income from the Griswolda apple orchard and the fees for the classes offered at Griswolda would support the resort. He planned that teachers would sell the products from the apple orchard.

The main landing pier was at the Griswolda store. Here you could purchase supplies, get your mail, and use the phone. Wagons pulled by horses came out from town with supplies for the store. If ordered in advance, lunches would be provided for picnic parties. The store was located in a small building at the waterfront with a long pier. The Griswolda Library was housed here and teenagers could get a summer job working in the store to earn a few dollars scooping ice cream and delivering messages to cottagers. In August of 1913 lightening hit the store causing a fire. According to the Ludington paper of that time, the residents of Griswolda formed a bucket brigade and managed to put the fire out. This building still stands and is now a private home.

One of the cottages in Griswolda was the Brunswick Studio. This cottage housed an art academy where people could enroll in classes of outside sketching, decorative design and pottery. The clay of Griswolda proved to be excellent.

By 1913 Griswolda consisted of 30 cottages, 50 acres and 2,000 feet of Lake Frontage with a smooth, sandy bathing beach with a gentle slope. As well as clearing the land and building cottages, Griswold also sold individual lots to families who built their own cottages. By 1918, as many as 20 families had built cottages on their own lots in Griswolda. These families then came back year after year and along with those renting cottages, to take part in Griswolda activities.

Griswolda Day was an annual summer event. The activities consisted of a tennis tournament, a ladies ball game with 100 spectators, three legged race and potato race, swimming and diving contests, blue berry pie eating contest and a boat regatta. This fun event which brought people from the surrounding area was postponed during the years of WWI. Following the war, the Griswolda Regatta was revived with free transportation arranged to get people from Ludington out to the lower lake and then aboard a launch to take them to the Griswolda Pier. One year they advertised a log rolling contest and stated in the Ludington paper that several area Indians were coming to participate. The next day the paper reported that the log rolling contest had been canceled. I'm guessing the Indians didn't attend and no one else was skillful enough to try to compete. There were canoe and motor boat races and dances in the evening to bring a fun filled day at Griswolda to an end.

A carriage ride to Ludington from Griswolda took an hour and a half. Grace Avenue was called Griswolda and it did not go through to Shagway. You had to come down Lincoln and around to get to the Inn. There was no bridge over the end of Indian Pete Bayou like there is now. You had to drive around the bayou on a dirt two track road and attempt to get up the very steep hill which was not always possible, depending on the weather. A man could leave work in Chicago, board a steamer on Lake Michigan and arrive the next morning in Ludington in time to have breakfast with his family who were spending the summer in one of the Griswolda cottages.

Griswolda Apple Orchard
Have you been wondering about what you might be able to do to help maintain and improve the water quality in these watersheds?

Well, Mason-Lake Conservation District has added a new member to their team this fall to focus on improving the health of the Lincoln and Sable watersheds by mitigating sediment and nutrient inputs over the next three years. Jake Crawford is the new Conservation Technician at the Mason-Lake office and will be working alongside Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to provide technical assistance to any interested landowners and help to link them up with cost-share assistance for conservation activities. He will be available for property visits and can discuss options for conservation practices such as cover cropping, filter strips, stream bank restoration, habitat improvement and forest stand improvement. If you have any questions regarding your property and potential for conservation activities, feel free to contact Jake at (231) 757-3707 ext. 5 or jake.crawford@macd.org

Have you seen the fishing cabin at White Pine Village?

If you haven’t, place a visit on your To Do List to see this wonderful display.
What’s Inside?

Watershed Update  Page 1  Treasurer’s Report  Page 7
President’s Letter  Page 3  Did You Know??  Page 8
Watershed Signs  Page 4  HLPS Memorials 2018  Page 9
Dates to remember

HLPS Board Meeting Minutes  Page 5  Griswolda  Page 10

South by Southwest  Page 6  Cabin @ White Pine Village  Page 11

New Guy in Town  Page 11