

## HIAWATHA NATURE & HISTORICAL SOCIETY REPORT

The Hiawatha Nature and Historical Society would like to thank Mr. Bob Laraway for building the new message boxes and Gus Hasenrick for helping place them around the club this summer. When you see these green boxes, please feel free to stop, raise the top and pull out the club's weekly calendar of events. We're hoping that these sign posts will raise awareness of activities the club and the historical society are sponsoring.

Our first evening program was actually a 3 in 1 shot. We had 6 folks from the Michigan DNR five of whom discussed the lamprey eel and its metamorphosis and its effects on our waters; these presenters actually followed up their presentation with a field trip on the 15th on Club property. They showed the actual poisoning of the newly formed lampreys. Prior to their presentation Darrin Kramer, discussed the veritable health of our lake in regards to fishing populations, birth rates, sizes over the years and average fish catches for northern, walleye, perch and blue gill over the years; and then a relatively unknown local guy, our very own Jim Rutledge shared his secrets on fishing Lake Millecoquins. He included lure types, times of day and fishing spots. If you weren't present you are totally out of luck. About 60 fortunate people attended. They were rewarded with cookies baked by our very own librarian, Mrs. Sharon Evans. And of course, inside fishing tips. I'm pretty sure the fish populations will be depleted shortly after hearing all those fabulous secrets. Fortunately, DNR people are considering restocking in the very near future. For those of you on the fish and game committee, I would encourage you to have Darrin for a follow-up discussion at one of your meetings. He is very interesting.

We are still in preparatory stages for the grand opening of our 1930's replica cabin and the dedication of our new storage building. Years in the making, our restored cabin replica and new storage building are the products of hours and hours of volunteer labor by many members. We are hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony on July 19th. At 2:30 on the 19th we will be announcing the winner of the Name our Museum area, so get those applications from the office and write down your suggestion. We'd like to extend a big congratulations and thank you to Betty Ann Glascock for her continued dedication and hard work on this project. We invite all of you to attend this major club event!

We encourage you to mark August 15th on your personal calendars. At 5:00 pm we will be hosting the HNHS pig roast, along with Manager Livermore. We plan on having at least 2 large pigs and the event will be catered by a local member, Mr. Ted Maier. It will be held right here in our Activities Building. Please plan on attending.

We encourage all club members to support our museum and the mission we have established, which is: "Preserving the Heritage and Nature of the Club." We believe that with your help, support and contributions we can continue to be an outstanding arm of the club. We have had numerous volunteers this summer assist with trail maintenance and hostess and hosting the museum for which we are very grateful. We encourage and invite all members to join us in membership of the museum. If you haven't paid your dues yet for this year, please see me or Ann Elms after the meeting, to become a true "Friend of the Museum." Dues are \$5.00 per family or \$3.00 per individual.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Pentecost, President

## ART REPORT

The Art Club is underway for the season, starting with the very successful, filled to capacity, Helga Flower Water Color Workshop. It was held June 18 - 20<sup>th</sup> at our Activity Building. As a result of this workshop we have two new Art Club members, Midge Jones and Ellen Cartwright. So many people showed up for our Tuesday open studio (to finish their workshop projects) that the addition of an extra table was necessary, thanks again Lester.

Thank you Barb Hobbs and Gen Cousineau for a very successful start regarding ART CLASSES 2009 A.M. 7-12 year olds with Barb focused on back to the basic in drawing, fun portrayals and classes emphasized color mix-ins and composition in water color. Materials have been ordered and our new storage areas utilized.

ART AND HOBBIE SHOW 2009 chaired by Marlene Beck and Neta Mills. Pre-registration has begun, with Flyer preparation and job sign up in progress. BREANNA RIZZARDI PAINTIN ON SILK Workshop, August 11 through 13<sup>th</sup>, Paintin' Place. A \$50 pre-registration fee is required, with total payment due August 1<sup>st</sup>. All silk dying materials to be supplied by Brenna. The workshop will include stretching your own silk and three different size projects in line resist with varied subject matter. All dyes are earth friendly i.e. non toxic. Special note Brenna is also one of our Art and Hobby show 2009 featured artist. **Council Fire article to be written by Barb Hobbs, upon completion of this workshop.**

### ITEMS for Future Consideration/Evaluation

- Workshop 2010
- Art Club Stationary - how to promote
- Library usage
- Old TV with VCR/DVD for viewing art tapes
- Completion of 2009 roster update and E-mail.

For More Information regarding Art Club Activities call (906) 477-6755 summer or (517) 339-9671 winter - Francie or visit [www.hiawathaclub.com](http://www.hiawathaclub.com)

Faithfully Submitted,  
Francie Dittrich, President

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Governors;

The nominating committee for 2009/10 at the present time is composed of myself as chair, Dennis Goerke, Gene Beaudoin and Greg Retzlaff and one more member to be named.

We are in the early stages of looking at possible candidates for governorship to be elected next year.

Any member in good standing wishing to be considered as a candidate may contact either myself or a member of the committee. In considering possible nominees a short resume and willingness to be interviewed will be required.

Sincerely,  
Robert Laraway,  
Chairman Nomination Committee

**RANGE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Our annual Turkey and Championship shoots were held on July 11<sup>th</sup> 2009 with 14 turkeys won by the shooters.

The Eastern U.P. Championship trophies were awarded to:

Ladies division - Jude Hamilton

Men's division - Jeremiah Wileman

Club Championship trophies were awarded to:

Women's  
1<sup>st</sup> Place - Jude Hamilton  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Pat Mack  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Rachael Miller

Men's  
Jeremiah Wileman  
Brent Vallier  
Matt Brouwer

Open shooting on Tuesdays from 5:30 to 7:30 thru August

Open shooting on Sundays from 3:00 to 5:00 thru August

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis D. Goerke, Chairman

## **TAX, LEGAL AND AUIT REPORT**

### **TAX:**

The Hiawatha Sportsman's Club Summer Property Tax Bill is \$54,056.18 and will be paid by due date.

### **LEGAL:**

No Legal Matters at this time.

### **AUDIT:**

No Audit Issues.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Edward Middleton, Chairman

## **Garfield Millecoquins Lake Improvement Report**

The committee met recently and has decided no to go forward with weed treatment at this time. Chemical treatment was ruled out because of its very high cost. It would cost approximately \$100,000 annually for chemical treatment. This would have to be done each year. We also have found that the required permits are very hard to get and quite restrictive in their scope. Also, because of the type of weeds present, there is a very short window when we can treat that is very late in the season. Our local DNR fish biologist has suggested that treating the weeds could have a serious, negative effect of the fishery in the lake. Weed cover is used by many species of fish for cover and to spawn on. Mechanical treatment, or cutting, has also been ruled out because of its limitation and cost. It would cost about \$20,000 a year to have someone cut. Mechanical cutters can only cut to a depth of five feet. Weed density in five foot plus water has been too sparse for harvesting. We would be restricted by the state to 100 acre maximum, if we can even get a permit. There is also a very short window when we can cut in this lake so we do not spread the weeds. This timing does not make mechanical treatment a feasible solution for most of the lake. We have decided to monitor weeds in the lake and could revisit these solutions in the future if conditions warrant.

Some people on the committee will be attending Garfield Township meetings to keep them abreast of the situation. We also have an open meeting scheduled in Naubinway September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Pavilion. The meeting is to keep everyone informed. Darren Kramer, DNR Fisheries Management Biologist, has agreed to speak. We are also working with Mr. Kramer to plan another bullhead removal next year. He has agreed to evaluate the effectiveness of or previous efforts to see if we can get permits for another removal. He also recently gave us some suggestions on shoreline structures that we are exploring. Kramer recently spoke about the lake at our Museum and showed some very positive data on the Lake Millecoquins fish population. We are on the list for more walleye plants as soon as the state solves its VHS threat to their fish planting operation. Mr. Kramer suggested that we "accept the lake for what it is and not what we wish it to be". He said that this lake has always been weedy but has a very healthy fishery. The lake provides an excellent opportunity for fishing for pike, bass, walleye, and bluegill. Just a final note, lately fishing on Lake Millecoquins has been just great!

Respectfully submitted,  
John MacFarland  
Jim Hayes  
Jim Wileman

## NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

Tour with Forester Gerald Grossman:

Jerry took the following committee members, John MacFarland, James MacMeekin, Dan Crandall and I on a tour of some of the clubs property. Jerry explained the practice when planting Pine trees that the first two rows be planted parallel to the trail to eliminate the appearance of long straight rows of trees. He showed us a 12 acre Aspen site that will be harvested next week. He showed us one of the Aspen stands currently being harvested. He explained how he purposely marks certain Pine trees to be left for not only their aesthetic appeal but also that some of these trees will be blown over when we get our high winds and that these blow downs can become preferred drumming stands for our grouse. It was interesting to hear how the grouse prefer to drum near the root ball. This was just one more example of how in nature all things interact with one another.

Aspen harvest: Members will continue to witness an aggressive program of harvesting Aspen. Our objective is to harvest 400 acres per year over the next several years.

Quality Game Management: The winter cut of 2008 needs to be cleaned up. Once the grounds have dried up the site will be cleaned up and trails leveled out. Anticipate this will be completed by August 15, 2009.

Oak Plantings: Dan Crandall has agreed to continue the program of transplanting Oak trees. He will pick a date in October 2009 and will be looking for volunteers to assist in getting this job completed.

Carbon Credits: We currently have 66,057.98 tons available for sale. At this time the market is very soft.

The Natural Resources committee will be making two motions under new business to renew the contracts with New Page and Grossman Forestry.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Hopper, chairman  
Natural Resources Committee

## FISH REPORT

As of this Wednesday most of our fish plants have been completed. We have planted brook, rainbow, and brown trout in all of our streams and ponds and hybrid bluegills in the QGMU Pond and Elbow Lake. New docks are in the process of being added at Three Mile Pond and the QGMU Pond. Members are reporting very good to excellent fishing around the Club and on Lake Millecoquins. Here are some of the ratings of our ponds and streams, ten being the highest.

Cold Creek Pond	10
Three Mile Pond	9
Jocko Pond	8
Upper River	9
Cold Creek	6

This is a significant increase in the ratings for our ponds and the Upper River over last year. It is great to see that Three Mile Pond has almost doubled its rating and increased in member use. We have increased plants there and added rainbow trout. We expect a big turnout at Three Mile Pond this year for our Larry McEvers Youth Fishing Tournament Labor Day Weekend. The tournament is open to member children and grandchildren under sixteen but all eligible members are welcome to fish. Live bait can be used by tournament participants only and only for the two days of the tournament. Normal fishing button requirements apply. Also, don't forget we have a fishing contest going through Labor Day; details are posted in the office and around the Club.

Lake Superior State University professor Dr. Geoff Steinhardt will be speaking at the Museum August 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00. He will be specifically discussing the plans that we have been working on for Pull-up and Cranberry Lakes and Three Mile Pond. One of the problems at Cranberry Lake is a low ph level that has had a negative effect on our fishery there. We also are evaluating our annual fish carryover at Three Mile Pond with LSSU's help. Steinhardt will discuss both of these issues as well as our plan to increase perch size in Cranberry Lake.

The Federal Fish and Wildlife Service recently made a presentation at our Museum on the sea lamprey treatment that is ongoing in Club streams. The Federal Fish and Wildlife Service's Sea Lamprey Program was designed to protect lake trout in the Great Lakes. During that discussion it was specifically stated by the service that sea lampreys have no, or very little, effect on any part of our fishery. The lamprey spawns in some of our streams but return to Lake Michigan where it feeds on certain fish.

The long term effect of the lampricide treatment done in our streams and its effect on our trout's food is being evaluated.

Club members were able to just recently observe the lampricide treatment in Cold Creek. The lampricide is rigorously controlled to make sure only the amount needed is used. There is no restriction on eating fish caught in treated waters. Jim Rutledge, Phil Dennis, Manager Livermore, and I recently spent two days working with Superior Watershed learning to monitor the insects in our stream so we can assess the effect of the lampricide treatments on our fishery. Lester and I also attended an all day training session near Lansing on the same topic. This training is paid for by grant money from MiCorps. Data will probably not be completed and evaluated until late this year and will be shared with the membership. Our stream restoration program is one of the highlights of our fishery and we would like to thank the many volunteers that have and/or will be participating this year. We just finished a spawning run at the dam at Cold Creek.

This is the fifth run we have done in the last few years. We are starting another one on the Upper River next week. Volunteers meet at the Club office next Monday and Tuesday, the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, at 10:00. We'll go to 2:00, bring gloves and bug spray, waders are not needed. We will finish up 8/3 and 8/4, we will meet at the Club office at 10:00, waders or hips would be good but not required. We will also be working on Wednesdays through the end of August from 1:00 to 4:00, look for the sign at N-Gate.

Respectfully Submitted-John MacFarland  
Co-Chairman Fish, Game, and Fowl Committee

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

##### Present Status to 2009 Financial Budget

Following is a summary of the June 30, 2009 year to date actual revenues and expenses versus the 2009 financial budget.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Revenues	920,011	964,245
Expenses	614,591	643,004
Net Income	305,420	321,241

The Dues Income is down \$8,313 from Budget because the number of budgeted primary dues members was 16 higher than actual billing. Timber Income is down due to Mills being closed this Spring and is expected to be made up this Summer and the Fall.

Expenses are over budget as follows: 1. Cottage Misc. because of pest control bi-annual treatment. 2. Golf Course Supplies due to treatment of winter mold problem.

3. Recreation Supplies are over budget because we expensed the purchase of bikes.

To date we have not received any carbon credit payments. The market remains very depressed.

##### Present Status of 2009 Capital Plan

Our Capital Plan for 2009 is \$101,500. As of June 30, 2009 we have spent \$77,144, which includes: Roof Replacement 1<sup>st</sup> Group of Cabins, Tractor for F&G, Golf Carts and Roof and Door Replacement at Trap Range.

##### Investment Status

Our Cash and Investments as of June 30, 2009 totaled \$929,359. Our "Reserve" Accounts for Contingencies and Memorials total \$662,054. Therefore they are properly supported by our cash and investments.

Respectfully submitted,  
Loyal Eldridge, Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair

## **BUILDING, HOUSE AND GROUNDS REPORT**

Thanks to the efforts of the HSC crew and our many volunteers the list of BHG's improvement projects has been lowered to about 17 projects. At our last BHG's meeting we were able to mark several projects complete. Several other projects are scheduled to be completed by fall.

Many projects are on going yearly and may need additional volunteers, such as boundary signage, brushing of trails, repair and painting toilets around the club to name a few.

We welcome HSC members suggestions for improvements and offers to volunteer.

The replacement of the 4<sup>th</sup> group of cabins continues. We have acquired the land, engineering report, quotes and are preparing to sit down with the finance committee to discuss our options.

The wind generation sites are completed and the test towers should be installed by this fall.

The flagpole and flags have been put up at the U.S. 2 entrance with the dedication to be held this Saturday. Thanks again to the family of Derwood Cole.

If you have any suggestions or a question about any project please feel free to give me a call.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kurt Larson, Chairman  
Building, House and Grounds

## MANAGER'S REPORT

Board of Governors,

Although summer doesn't appear to want to show up, our members have! Cabin rentals have been strong and for the first time in several years, we were booked solid four weeks straight. The Hiawatha Sportsman's Club, with all its amenities, is a great value for a vacation. All the additional recreational opportunities that we have to offer just helps increase the appeal of our Club for a family vacation. The new paddle boat, hydro bikes and bicycles have been rented by several members. These are just a few more ways that we are working to make our members visits more pleasurable.

Another new opportunity for our members is our NEW rustic rental cabins at the campground. For \$25 a night, a member can have a 10 X 12 cabin with lights and power that sleeps 4 in two sets of bunk beds. The accommodations are sparse but for those that want the camping experience without sleeping on the ground or the expense of purchasing a camper, these little cabins are just the ticket. These cabins were built primarily with volunteer help. Bruce Gustafson headed up the framing and siding crew which consisted of, Dale & Ryan St Andre, John Batchelder, Alan Sims, Charles Wilson, Dale Burgess, Marv Henderson, Gary Stoufer, and Steve Miller. Tom and Judy Bublitz and Doug and Jane Goodrich made sure they were weather tight by installing the shingles. A big thank you for all of their and effort is much deserved. The cabins can be rented at the at the Club office.

Food plots have been a major focus for this spring and early summer. Instead of hiring outside help this year, we have taken advantage of the expertise that we have on staff and started doing most our own food plot work.

All the spraying for weeds was preformed by our own employee, Kenny Daily and our volunteers have been working diligently on prepping the soils. A new system that includes planting annual crops such as Brassica, Winter Wheat and Turnips with a no-till seed drill will help us to provide better quality forage for our wildlife and a more consistent crop. Trying to sustain long term crops like clover and alfalfa will no longer be an issue. This is only possible because of the use of the no-till drill owned by the Soil Conservation District and operated by Aaron Fulton. In addition to the new method and crops, I was able to acquire a better supply of lime to raise the Ph. of our food plots. This new lime is a byproduct of local mining operations and is kiln dried so that it acts quickly with the soil and spreads evenly over the ground. I was able to negotiate a deal with the company to sell us the lime for \$1 a semi load and then also pay half of the trucking to get it here instead of us paying \$10 a ton plus trucking. This was a major savings to the Club and we have enough lime to take care of our needs for MANY years to come.

This spring we contracted with Sean Bennett to have the pro shop refinished. Sean did a very good job as he always has in the past and the pro shop, pavilion and roof over the grill look great. We also had a concrete sidewalk poured by Bob Hartwig from the parking lot to the pro shop. The area around the pro shop is quite spectacular and flowers planted by Marcia Waters, just finishes off this wonderful place on the Club. Stop by to check it out, the view of our golf course. You can even see the Mackinac Bridge right from the porch when the sun starts to set.

This past spring new Vircon Stations were installed here at the Recreation Building and across Millecoquins Lake at the public access. The purpose of these stations is to try to keep a fatal fish disease from spreading to Millecoquins and our own inland lakes. Members should disinfect their equipment prior to putting any boat or motor in Millecoquins Lake or any Club waters. Simply go to the Vircon Station and follow the instructions on the sign.

A new flag pole and flags have been erected at the entrance on US 2 this summer in memory of Derwood Cole. Derwood was a longtime member and was very active in several Club activities. After his passing, his family donated the memorial funds to purchase the flag pole, flag and lighting and the Club staff installed them. The flag pole is very impressive, standing high above the highway. If you didn't notice the entrance before, you can't miss it now. Thank you to Audrey Cole and her family for the generous donation. I'm sure Derwood would be very proud.

Much effort has been placed on the golf course and the cart paths and sand traps in particular. Although we are not finished, the improvements have already made the golf course much nicer and I have had several members take the time to mention it to me. We will continue to work towards finishing these two projects as well as maintaining the usual upkeep that is required.

The replica cottage is nearing completion and the ribbon cutting is scheduled for July the 19th. A lot of effort has went into making this cottage as authentic as possible and I hope that all those that visit it will enjoy a peek into the past at the Hiawatha Sportsman's Club. The cozy but sparse atmosphere must have seemed so different than we perceive the

accommodations today. Thank you to all that donated items and time to making this possible and a special thank you to none other than Derwood Cole who prior to his passing, made a replica ice chest, just for this cottage.

Respectfully submitted,

Lester Livermore, Manager