



Delaware - Wyoming - Lac La Belle - Bete Grise - South Point - Betsy - Little Betsy

The Post-Pandemic Edition



We're Back! Following the pandemic restrictions, lockdowns, varmint infestations and bad weather of 2020, Mother Nature blessed the South Shore with what many referred to as "The Endless

Summer" and everyone who could took advantage of the glorious warm and sunny weather.

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While the Mid-Summer bonfire celebration at Bete Gris featured everyone in sweatshirts and coats, things warmed up enough for a late September cruise around and picnic on Lac la Belle.



NEWSLETTER

- Chris Guibert
- Bob Meyers
- Rick Olson
- Jim Valsa
- Ned Huwatschek
- Mark Oviatt
- Steve Oviatt



Mark Your Calendars!

Grant Township meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM at the Grant Township Community Center

Grant Township Work sessions are the Thursday before their regular meeting at 6:00 PM at the Grant Township Community Center.

Zoning meetings are the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM.

County Commissioners meetings are the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM.

SSA meetings are the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

2022 SSA Meeting

Dates

June 15
July 20
August 17
September 21

Women's Meeting

Tuesdays, 10 AM
LLB Firehall

Upcoming Events

June 21, Mid-Summer Bonfire, Bete Gris
July 23 & 24, Dumpster Days
August 7, Summer Fest
August 13, Fish Boil
August 20, Kid's Fishing Tournament

From Jim Valsa, SSA President

It was good being back and having most of our SSA events this past summer. Currently, we are planning to continue our activities for 2022 and hope to have the Kid's Fishing Tournament again.

A huge thank you goes to the SSA members who made the Rummage Sale a great success along with our Dumpster Days. Both events help to keep our area safer and cleaner. Please remember to sign up for a shift for this summer's Dumpster Days and save your items for the 2023 Rummage Sale, since we won't have one this year.

Noteworthy for 2021:

-We welcomed Amy Oestreich as our new Secretary. Thank you, Amy!

-With the cooperation of SSA and the Grant Township Board, we started recycling in Lac La Belle and expect to continue in spring. We will also be looking into the possibility of winter recycling.

-Electricity should now be available at Haven Falls Pavilion. Again, SSA and Grant Township teamed up to accomplish this.

Trash Pick-up:

After a successful and continuing trash pick-up along the Gay-Lac La Belle Road, many people suggested that we do a community day for this. We can do this in late May or early June. Watch for a date in an email and on the bulletin board.

If you would like to see **Union Park development** begin, we need your help. Contact me, Rick Olson, or Lynn Zapolnek to get this park moving forward. We want to get a playground, picnic tables, sand volleyball, and pavilion. (**Editor's note** - This is in the new Township Recreation Plan, which can be found online at <http://granttownshipmi.org/recreation-plan/>.)



Please continue to show your support for new Township Supervisor Scott Wendt (*shown here at Summer Fest*) and the township board. Ned especially appreciates our SSA participation at board meetings. The next board meeting in Lac La Belle is Tuesday, June 14, 2022, at 6:00 pm.

The first SSA meeting for 2022 is Wednesday, June 15 at 6:30 pm at the Fire Hall.

The Mid-Summer Bonfire is Tuesday, June 21 at 9:00 pm.

I look forward to seeing you at all these events and meetings and welcome your contributions.

LAC LA BELLE VFD FISH BOIL 2021 :

Thank you, everyone for your assistance with and the tremendous success of our 2021 Fish Boil! We were able to raise just over \$4,000 after expenses!

We were amazed and very appreciative for some very nice donations during and after the Fish Boil. One individual anonymously donated \$2,000. *Mt. Bohemia* donated \$1,500. Another individual donated \$300.



We also received just over \$300 in donations at the door for a total of more than \$4,100. A special thank you to *Louie's Foods* of Lake Linden for their generous donation of most of our food items again this year. This eliminated a **BIG**

expense. (Please support those who support us!)

Again, thank you to every one of you who donated big

or small amounts because all of you have made this event successful. Your funds will be well spent on our new equipment.



As many of you noticed, we moved to a takeout event during the Covid pandemic. This move allowed us to assess the operation and we found this set up to be much more efficient, allowing us to be more predictable with preparation and ordering what is needed. For now, we will continue this method and continue

to offer the picnic tables in the back so those who wish to sit down and eat at the event may do so outside and distanced from others. Again, we appreciate all your support.



I also wish to thank my fellow firemen for their continuous dedication to our department throughout the years. If you are able, please consider becoming a firefighter! Your community needs this service.

Rick Olson, Chief



Fish Boil Preparations



The Serving Crew

LAC LA BELLE FIRE DEPARTMENT REMINDER:

Remember to have your chimney cleaned during the winter if you're burning wood and, in the spring, if you're burning wood in the summer months.

Make sure you pay attention to your furnace exhaust and intake to be sure they are not covered in snow. Also be sure to check they are not iced up. This should be a regular check during the winter months.

Change smoke detector batteries and check your carbon monoxide detector. If you do not have these items, please purchase them.

Enjoy your winter and be safe,

Rick Olson, Chief, LLBVFD



KEWEENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION:

In 2022 the road commission will not be working any projects in Grant Township.

The projects this year will be finishing the road in Cedar Bay, Bumbletown Road and Gratiot Lake Road.



In 2023 we will be looking at projects in Grant Township again. Items discussed are the Bete Gris Road along the beach area and finishing the Gay Lac La Belle Road from Montgomery Point to South Point.

Again, how much can be completed each year depends on funding received. The local millage plays a big role in how much road work is done each year.

Rick Olson, Road Commissioner



Be sure to look for and obey the new Stop sign when you leave the Bear Belly Pit Stop!



FYI - GRANT TOWNSHIP LAND ACQUISITIONS

Late in the summer 2021, Township Supervisor Scott Wendt proposed the creation of a large multi-use park on land that had gone on the market using grant monies and set up a township-wide committee to formalize his proposal and vision (see <http://granttownshipmi.org/recreation-plan>). At the same time, the **Keweenaw Outdoor Recreation Coalition (KORC)** has begun fund-raising to also acquire the same land to preserve the existing off-road trail networks in the township and is petitioning the DNR for help (see <https://www.keweenawoutdoorrecreation.org/keweenaw-tip-recreation-area>). At present, both organizations are trying to find ways to preserve the character of Grand Township.



The Summer of 2021 saw the return of old friends and visits by various family members who took advantage of the wonderful weather to enjoy one another and the beauty of the Keweenaw.



Among those returning was *Northern Michigan University* swimmer Grant Combs, the great-grandson of Hank and Marie Nurmi. Grant decided to repeat his swim across Lac la Belle from the Nurmi Camp to the Red Sands in July. This time he was joined by *Marquette High School* freshman swimmer Maija Talvensaari, the granddaughter of Tom and Debbie Talvensaari, whom Grant coaches. This was Maija's first trek across the lake and, as you can see, they made it. At this time, we don't know how their seasons went, but this was a great start.

Mary Jean and Jim Nicholas were excited to host a visit from all their grandchildren who came from both Iron Mountain and Park City, Utah. Somehow, Mary Jean was able to get everyone to gather and sit still on the dock long enough to get this portrait. Mary Jean says the only thing that kept the day from being perfect was the smoky hue of the sky caused by the western and Canadian wildfires.



Gail Jones up in Helltown wants to remind us that the lakes were not the only attraction for the Summer of 2021. With the reopening of the off-road trails, many of us took advantage of the opportunity to get back into the woods for fun, berry picking or foraging. Among those taking advantage of the reopened trails was her grandson, Zachary Johnson, the son of Rob and Angela (Jones) Johnson. You can see his smile following a side-by-side ride.

Of course, Summer did finally turn to fall, which was also long and glorious. If you check the *Pasty Cam* regularly, you probably saw this photo of Robyn Johnson, the wife of Adam Johnson of *Brockit Inc.*, enjoying the autumn colors at Haven Falls at the end of October.



And Gale and Richard Slates were inspired enough to sell their Florida home in October and move back to the Keweenaw after being away 13 years. While remembering how-to drive in snow and ice and becoming re-acquainted with snow shovels and blowers, Gale has been working with her indoor garden.

SSA Newsletter

Please consider helping with the newsletter by letting us know of interesting activities and by **taking pictures and sending us your stories**. Your help is important to keep the newsletter going. Send them to novasteve0@gmail.com.

2021 Memories



The Mid-Summer Bonfire



Dumpster Days



Dumpster Days



Summer Fest



Marge Meyers at the Rummage Sale



Rummage Sale Tables



Summer Fest



Summer Fest



Jim Valsa hard at work



Ladies' Group Farewell Tea



Watching "Casablanca" on Movie Night



Waiting for the Mail



Grant Township Meeting



The new Recycling Bin



Monthly SSA Meeting

Milestones...

In Memorium...

William "Bill" Rogina (November 16, 2019)
 Ralph Goodman (September 18, 2020)
 Uno Isaacson (September 19, 2020)
 Thomas Antioho (October 10, 2020)
 Shirley Kytta (May 21, 2021)
 Barbara Edwards (July 27, 2021)
 Dante Iacovoni (August 13, 2021)
 Jack Preston (August 27, 2021)
 Edward Schneiderhan (September 2, 2021)

And Congratulations...

Ed and Ruth Jenison
 celebrated their 65th
 anniversary in 2021.



MEMBERSHIP FORM (ONE MEMBER PER FORM)

Please take time to fill out and return your membership form. Your help in doing this in a timely manner will be very helpful. **You will be taken off the mailing/email list when dues are not paid for three years.** Mail to Marge Meyers, N637 Thaler Dr, Vulcan, MI 49892

Pay dues by April 30

Please pay before Summer Fest so we know our budget

(One name per form please)

NAME: _____ EMAIL: _____

PERMANENT ADDRESS: _____

SEASONAL ADDRESS: _____

~~DUES \$10~~
(One name per form please)

~~DONATION:~~

~~CHECK NUMBER:~~

NAME: _____ EMAIL: _____

PERMANENT ADDRESS: _____

SEASONAL ADDRESS: _____

DUES: \$10

DONATION:

CHECK NUMBER:

South Shore Association

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About Us

Founded in 1995, the South Shore Association is a legal nonprofit, incorporated, tax exempt community organization.

Your Involvement

All residents are encouraged to run for Grant Township office, register to vote in Grant Township, and attend Township and County meetings. This is the most important thing you can do to promote our interests on the South Shore. By attending SSA meetings, you can share your ideas, get informed, get networked, and be part of the various projects we undertake to enhance the quality of life on the South Shore.

Guiding Principles

1. To be the voice of the South Shore in Grant Township and insure proper and equitable distribution of tax dollars.
2. To improve and maintain desirable living conditions for the many cottage dwellers and permanent South Shore residents in Grant Township.
3. To provide and maintain a friendly spirit of cooperation among the members for mutual benefit and enjoyment.
4. To support and enhance a quality of life on the South Shore.

And in closing:



Mid-Summer on Bete Gris



Mid-October on the Little Gratiot



Mid-Winter on U.S. 41

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