



DEAD RIVER CAMPERS NEWS

3RD QUARTER

OCTOBER 2012

ISSUES OF INTEREST

Board Activities: The Board had meetings last quarter on July 9, July 25, August 13 and September 13.

E-mail address Acquisitions: The Board has started providing the newsletter via e-mail and is asking that all the shareholders with e-mail to provide their e-mail addresses please. The expense associated with the newsletter is certainly controllable and via e-mail the cost will drop dramatically and the delivery will be fast to any location you are at during the year. The Board of course will not share or sell the e-mail addresses that we will have in our control.

Please use the e-mail address below to send your electronic contact info. If you have multiple shareholders who would like to receive the newsletter please provide their addresses also. **drcicampers@gmail.com**

Thanks for helping us control expense and provide better service.

Water Elevation Challenges: When the water elevation really drops in the fall, most of us are

pulling docks and storing boats. For some others in selected locations you can watch waterfowl have the most amazing feeding opportunities too. Up in the west end of the river when the elevation drops below approximately 1338 (currently at 1337.4 as of this writing) there is a situation that happened last season and happened again this year where a portion of

the river gets sealed off from the main body of the reservoir. When this happens fish become stranded and as the water drops even more they become easy prey for birds and animals for food.

Last year we approached this situation and met on the site with George Madison of MDNR to review the

problem. This year your Board committed to paying for a MDEQ site visit in the same location. The fee was nominal and this year we had the company of both George Madison of the DNR and also Mike Smolinski from the DEQ. We were hosted by Dean Bocklund and had an opportunity to have coffee and

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**FALL COLORS AT THEIR PEAK
SURROUND THE OLD CR 510 BRIDGE**

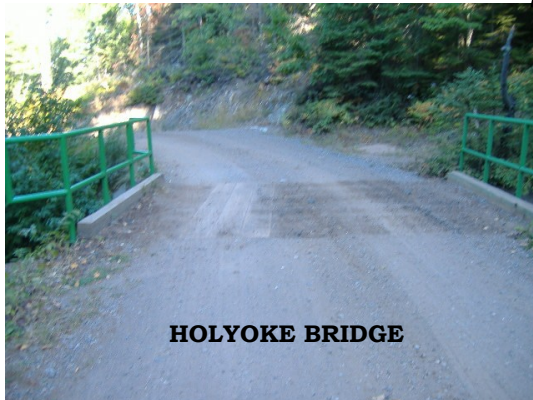
Although it is a bit early as it is still October, it is very appropriate to wish all of our Camper Members and their Families the Happiest of the Holidays, and a very wonderful New Year. From all of us on the Board to all of you, may your Holidays be blessed with family and friends around you.

Changes to the Plats Around the River Including Roads and Easements for Utilities:

In a most recent case that is developing fairly quickly, one of the Townships has made a commitment to enforcing their rules regarding the Plat Act. Negaunee Township is not satisfied with the situation in plat 4, surrounding the moving of the roadway and power line easement without performing the necessary plat changes. DRCI and all of the neighbors are more than likely going to be named in an action to accomplish the needed plat changes. The Board has already retained legal counsel in this matter. We will keep the Shareholders informed as this develops. As Shareholders you should be aware that DRCI does not have lands involved in this matter.

This situation is exactly what we have been writing about in past newsletters concerning the movement of roads and easements. There is a process which involves surveying the changes and via legal means making the appropriate changes in the Plat documents in compliance with the Land Division Act.

This process is one that the State of Michigan requires and all the steps need to be followed to keep all documents accurate and the municipalities "happy campers" and happy with the campers.

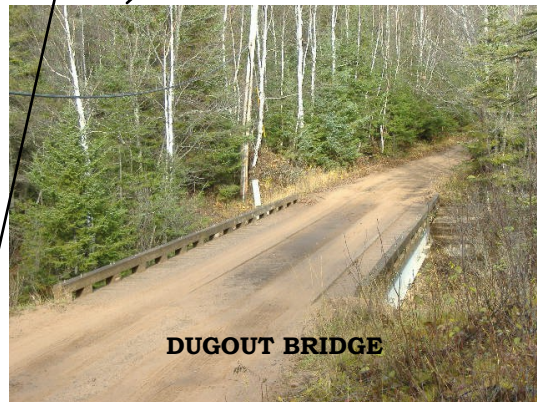


HOLYOKE BRIDGE

We Own Two Bridges: DRCI has the responsibility to care and maintain two bridges on roads around the Basin. One is on the north side

on North Basin Drive and one on the south side on Three Mile Road. Over the years we are often asked for bridge capacities numbers based upon loaded vehicles worrying about being able to cross them. In

a most recent case that prompted the Board to take proactive steps, a Negaunee Township Fire Vehicle loaded with water took the long way around when concern surfaced with regards to the weight they were carrying and the bridge's capacity.



DUGOUT BRIDGE

The Board is taking steps to have our bridges inspected, which is a DRCI obligation and also to create signage that will spell out

the capacity of the individual bridges. In discussions with the consultant who designed the bridges we are told that each bridge is rated for Michigan Legal Loads and that is why they are not posted. He did suggest that we could post them as noted below so that there is no doubt in the load carrying capacity. We did confirm that posting with Jim Iwanicki of the Marquette County Road Commission and he

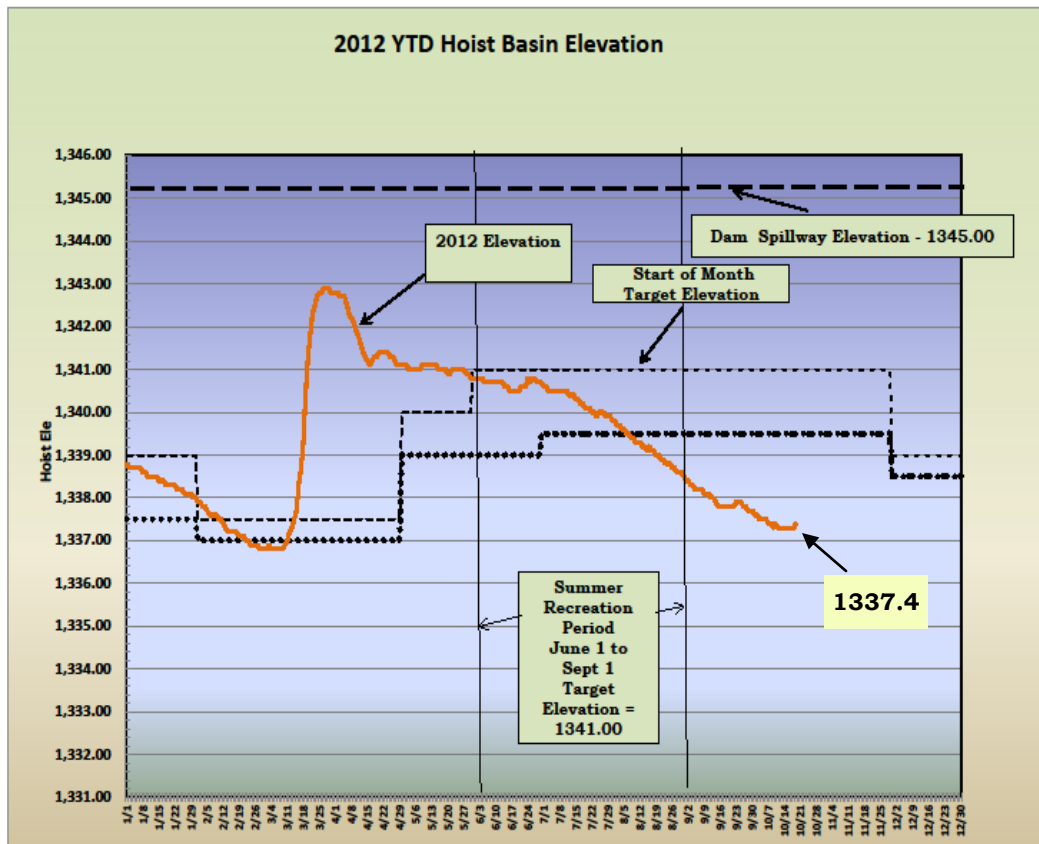
said that would be a good way to do it as the folks driving the truck would clearly know what that weight limit means and it complies with Michigan Normal Legal Load Standards.

**WEIGHT LIMIT
9 TONS PER AXEL
77 TONS GROSS**

Wireless Update: There has been very little change in the effort/ability to get wireless service on the Basin according to the service provider, Iron

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HOIST WATER ELEVATION FROM JANUARY 1 THROUGH OCTOBER 23, 2012



As we do more fact - finding, and talk more with the agencies, we will provide you with updates on this matter. We do have the complete support of George Madison regarding the problem and we were favorably impressed with Mike's questions and thoughts.

West Access Site Damage This

Fall: It is disappointing to report that the Michigan State Police are looking into a vandalism situation at the west end launch site recently. Some very foolish individuals during the height of the dry

weather about 4 weeks ago decided to burn to the ground the Port-a-John at the boat launch. This was a display of exceptionally poor judgment as it destroyed the toilet and also could have started a forest fire of huge magnitude.

The wood sign identifying the site was also burned in the event. Any information leading to the arrest and conviction of the individuals involved would be great. In keeping with that thought your Board is continuing the Mining Journal advertisement offering the \$1000 dollar reward for any information that helps catch and convict individuals that are involved in damage to property around the Dead River Basin.

rolls and look out the window at a pretty muddy mess with dying fish. We are approaching this situation from the perspective of the fishery that we are trying to enhance and the lack of water being present.

We are waiting to hear from Mike Smolinski concerning his thoughts surrounding the possible solutions to this situation. We are also scheduling a site visit with the Superior Watershed Partnership concerning this same situation on the same site.



(Continued from page 2)

Bay. We are in contact with them on a routine basis and will continue to keep on top of any updates from them and pass them along via our web page or next newsletter.

Maps: Of course they are for sale at the DRCI office and you can acquire a set for \$35 dollars. We will ship them to you upon receiving your check and an address where you would like them to be sent. We are also giving a set to the Negaunee and Ishpeming Township Fire Departments, and one set also to the staff at Central Dispatch who manage our 911 center.

As long as we are on that subject, please make sure that you have accomplished installing either your house (camp number) which is also probably your "Fire Number". Navigation around the Basin is sometimes pretty darn tricky, and making the emergency responding individuals able to easily determine where they are quickly is a goal that we should all be embracing.

When the fire along the river took place this summer we listened to the conversations between responding agencies and having updated maps should certainly help them get to situations as quickly as possible in the future.

A Shareholder Helping Other Shareholders: The Little Dead campers who use Road 10 have a new community mailbox post thanks to the work of Dennis Maki. Previously they had the typical "eclectic collection" of individual posts. Dennis secured 6X6 cedar and built (with help from Tom Stephens) this great new mailbox post and a large timber with reflectors to alert plows. Thanks to Dennis for this

project that is an attractive and useful addition to Road 10

Logging on our Burned Property on Three Mile Road. The Board has entered into an agreement with Jason Keranen and Steve Tuurovarra to professionally cut the burned trees on our property south of the narrows that burned this summer in the high winds and dry conditions. Both Jason and Steve are highly respected loggers and have worked for a very large land company in the area for a number of years. The logging site is currently being worked on and is a dangerous place to be in late October and potentially early November. The contract is to successfully get the burned standing trees to the forest floor safely, and limb the large white pines.



SUNRISE ON THE BASIN
TURTLE ISLAND IN CENTER ABOVE

DRCI will be posting the site as a no trespassing area during the logging operations. DRCI will be offering to our Camper Members the opportunity to cut fire wood on the site as soon as the operations conclude. The firewood of course will be the trees that are being felled on the burned over property. In order to cut on these specific DRCI lands DRCI Campers will need to get a permit from the DRCI Office or Board Member, Bruce Bussone.



The permit is to protect DRCI from any issues surrounding the wood cutting activities and will allow Campers to hold the Corporation harmless for any accidents or mishaps that will hopefully never take place. The site is only for Camper members to cut on and will not be open to public firewood cutting.

We are hopeful that heavy winter snows, and spring rains will clean up and green up the site next spring and the forest will begin to recover as soon as possible.

If you have questions concerning the logging operations please feel free to contact any board member or the DRCI Office.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE: by Dave Laitinen

and more electroshocking next year.

With the beautiful colors and weather for the beginning of October, it looks like another great summer on the Basin is coming to a close. It was a reasonably busy year for our committee that couldn't have ended better than the Kids' Fishing and Fun Day. Thanks to all the kids' parents and grandparents that took the time to participate. When you see the excitement, smiles and fun we all had, it makes it all worth the effort. It was great to see all the boats out there fishing and the kids showing off their catches and telling their stories. How does it get any better than that?

Thanks a bunch to Buffy and Joe Ervin along with Earl Hawn for organizing such a great day. Thanks to Bruce and Deb Bussone for donating the generator, tables and tent canopy. And thanks to the Board of Directors for fully sponsoring the event.

We began this spring with our semi annual conference with the DNR to discuss the upcoming year. As a result, we conducted a full minnow trapping study which was done by the committee members and volunteers. We reported on this in detail in the last newsletter. Probably the two major observations the committee made were that we saw a reasonable amount of fathead minnows which indicates our planting efforts may be working and secondly, there still seems to be an overall lack of food fish in the Basin. We need to continue working hard on this issue in the future.

The DNR also conducted at least two electroshocking trips during June. They were done from about 10:00 at night to about 2:00 in the morning, so if you saw the big lights out there - no, it wasn't aliens, it was just your Fish Committee having fun. Thanks to Chris Blank and the rest of the crew for taking advantage of the DNR's generous invitation to come along. A few interesting notes: We saw some crappies in the foot long class, some really nice perch, a lot of walleye of all sizes - 4 inches to 19 inches, a reasonable number of fathead minnows, some northern and a lot of bass. To our knowledge no trout were observed, maybe due to the fact that the study is done in shallow water up to about 5 feet deep. We are anticipating another more extensive minnow study

BIG FISH CAUGHT



In conclusion, it seems to have been an uncertain summer for fishing. Most reports were of the walleye being of all sizes, but difficult to catch legal sized fish. We got a few reports of nice catches of perch and walleyes, but not many. We really need to continue to work on this issue and with the continued efforts of the DNR we can continue to improve the fishery. Again, thanks to all our Campers and the Board for your continued support and thanks as always to the MDNR for their continuing attention and help with our Basin fishery.

Have a great winter and be safe if you are ice fishing or doing anything on the ice.

Big Fish Caught: Camper Gerry LeSage caught this fish by his dock this summer. Holding the fish in the picture is Warren Munson. According to Gerry he thinks the fish had been caught earlier by others, but they were unable to land it. The fish weighed in at 25 pounds and is 45 inches long.

Fishing Derby Follow Up: by Buffy Ervin. It was a clear and sunny Saturday morning, August 11th when 50 plus enthusiastic young Campers as well as parents, grandparents, and assorted well-wishers gathered at the east-end boat launch to re-launch our annual Fishing Derby. Registration began at 8:00 am and by 9:00 those eager anglers were heading out to their favorite fishing spots.

By 10:30, our Campers began heading back to the launch, with news of their trophy catches. It was a joy to witness their excitement. Since we encourage the practice of catch-and-release, each crafty caster was on the honor system when reporting their success.

A picnic lunch of hot dogs, chips, drinks and cookies were waiting for

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Happy Youngster With Her Catch



Kids' Fishing Day



them. Derby organizers Buffy Ervin, Earl Hawn and Dave Laitinen, as well as grill master Joe Ervin and fellow camper Toni Tiseo had everything ready to go.

While there were not prizes given in specific categories, each child received a wonderful goody bag stuffed with an assortment of fun items that were contributed by the DRCI, The Michigan Department of Community Health, and UPPCO. Additionally, four lucky winners took home four fantastic raffle items: a rod and reel and tackle box, a tent, an inflatable water toy, and a sleeping bag.

How fortunate we all are to have this beautiful Basin. Clearly all of our Derby participants and their families enjoyed the morning. It was a great opportunity for everyone to meet and greet, and we look forward to doing this again next summer.



Committee Members: Dave Laitinen, Chairman, Gordy Chinn, Brendan Biolo, Earl Hawn, Buffy Ervin, Tom Polkinghorne, Chris Blank, Bruce Turino, Dennis Sippola.

FORESTRY COMMITTEE: by **Bruce Bussone** and **Dave Jarvi, Chairman**

The Forestry Committee would like to welcome Tom Seablom on board and we are looking forward to working with him. Tom works with the State as a Forester and has a degree in Forestry. He will be a great addition to the Committee. As always, if anyone is interested in serving on the Committee please let Dave Jarvi know, or contact a Board member.

Dave is also working with the local fire departments to establish areas they can access water. If you believe your campsite would make a good access point please let Dave know.

The Forestry Committee did not have any meetings in the third quarter.

To contact David Jarvi;
E-mail jarvidrb100@yahoo.com
Phone 906-362-8252

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

by Joe Ervin, Chairman

The DRCI Finance Committee met in early August at the Wells Fargo facilities downtown. Highlights of our meeting discussions:

Reviewed Annual Meeting presentation materials and feedback and discussed possible improvements for future updates associated with our financials.

Evaluated our ongoing investment portfolio results, which were once again encouraging, and we approved several slight changes required to re-balance our portfolio in alignment with our Balanced-Income Risk tolerance strategy. We confirmed that we would continue with our current investment risk direction for the foreseeable future.

Discussed the best approach to confirming our requirements for new Accounting and Auditing service providers. We recognize that our costs for these services will very likely be higher when provided by our new providers, not yet selected. Locking down and clarifying our requirements will enable us to evaluate alternative providers more effectively.

We also agreed that we would benefit from some additional "seasoned tax advisory advice" focused on better understanding recent changes in both tax laws and our Corporation's tax liabilities. We will be attempting to incorporate this specific need with our new Accounting provider re-

quirements.

While we did spend some time reviewing all of our operating expense categories, we did confirm that we should work aggressively to "go paperless" as much as possible and move toward more internet communications and less paper/mail correspondence. We also encouraged the exploration of the establishment of a "DRCI Operations Manager" position with specific responsibilities critical to the day to day effective operational management of the DRCI.

While our Common Lands use and management does not fall directly under the Finance Committee, we did discuss the importance of documenting a more comprehensive plan for the optimum management of our Common Lands, our Corporations' single largest asset. As mentioned earlier, we believe there may be new creative approaches available to us to further reduce our tax liabilities associated with our Common Lands.

As we communicated at the recent Annual Meeting, the financial health of our Corporation is very sound and in alignment with our long term objectives. With that said, there are still many opportunities to improve our business practices and investment prioritization.

Much done....Much more to do

Committee Members: Joe Ervin, Bill Stream, Denise Albrecht, Steve Gutierrez, Jim Grundstrom, Darryll Sundberg

50 Years ago ... or so: February 1957

The Mining Journal, March

Association Seeks Road Improvement

Feb - 1957
NEGAUNEE — Committees were appointed by President Andrew Verheyen to investigate methods of improving roads leading to the area and to make plans for the annual Fish Derby at a special meeting of the Dead River Camping and Sports Assn.

Arthur Matthews was designated as chairman of the road improvement committee. He will be assisted by Arthur Moore, Fred Zhulkie, Russell Argall, Elmer Hansen and Carmello Portale.

Enfried Bjork was named chairman of the committee which will handle details for the 1957 Fish Derby. Assisting Bjork will be Frank Culbert and "Bushy" Bjork. Robert Markert was appointed head of the highlands committee.

Members approved offering more valuable and additional awards for the 1957 Fish Derby. In order to be eligible for prizes, winners must hold a paid-up membership in the association.

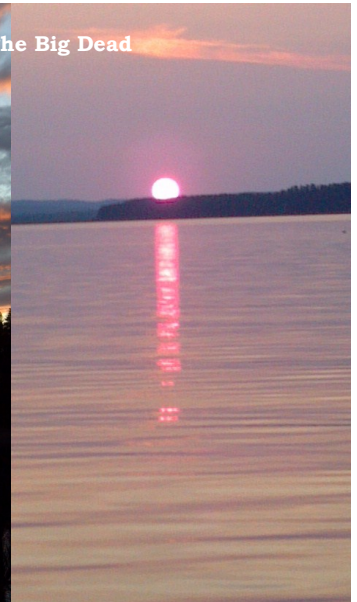
Plans were made for the annual party, which will be held April 6 in the Knights of Columbus clubrooms, Negaunee. To obtain information on the party, members may call GR 5-9485, or 5-5480.

Following the business meeting, films were shown and refreshments served.

Sunrise Over The Little Dead



Sunsets Over the Little Dead and The Big Dead



REMINDERS

Water Surface Elevation. If you are interested in the water surface elevation, log on to <http://www.wisconsinpublicservice.com/news/hydro/hydrodata.asp> or get to this same website via the DRCI website link for current information. We thank UPPCO for making this information available to us.

Tree Removal Issues. If you have trees to remove please fill out a cutting permit and send it in to DRCI or contact Bruce Busone at 485-5901 or 362-2325. In an effort to maintain some control on time limits, the Board has put a limit of 1 year from date of issue for tree cutting permits. Each shareholder is responsible for any trees cut by contractors you have hired. You are reminded that tree cutting on Common /CFR lands is prohibited.

Road Improvements. Shareholders are reminded to get permits from the Board for road improvements. This would include any changes to current roads as well as tree removals to widen access. Each shareholder is responsible for roadwork done by any contractor you have hired. Be mindful that changes to a road easement, or adding a new road easement within a plat must be done in compliance with the Michigan Land Division Act provisions for plat changes and DRCI Rules. See the web page for more information. This also applies to utility easements within a plat.

Bridges. DRCI committed to maintain two bridges in our original documents; they are located on North Basin Drive and Three Mile Road. Please report any bridge damage you observe to the Board immediately.

Stock Certificates. You are reminded to update your stock certificate ownership and addresses when something changes that would change those certificates. This would include a death, divorce, move, etc. There is no charge to change the certificate and it can be done easily by sending the certificate to DRCI with supporting documents for the

change. Please let new shareholders know that they should submit a copy of their recorded deed and obtain a stock certificate upon purchase of their camp. Additionally, the corporate bylaws, declarations, rules and regulations can be found at our webpage at www.deadrivercampersinc.com

Utility Easements: Please keep all utility easements such as overhead power line areas clear of boats, trailers and other items so that UPPCO has clear access to the easement areas at all times. This is especially important during the winter months when they may have to get in an easement area to repair power lines or transformers.

Zoning Violations. Shareholders should report perceived zoning violations to their respective townships. These violations would include multiple camps on single lots and excessive blight or junk. The townships can be contacted at, Ishpeming Township-485-5411, Negaunee Township-475-7869 and Champion Township-339-2920.

Renting of Shareholder Single Family Residences. DRCI Declaration Section 4.1 reads "Lots shall be used solely for the construction of one single-family residence and structures and outbuildings incidental to the use of it (including, without limitations, barns, stables and garages for private, and not public or commercial, use) and shall be limited in use to single-family residential purposes and incidental uses." This declaration prohibits the rental of any shareholder single family residences on the Basin.

Use of Shoreline. As most shoreline is privately owned, when someone is in the need of bathroom facilities while out on the water

please respect that you may be using one of our shareholder's beachfronts to do so.

Submerged Hazards. When water levels are low please take extra caution to avoid submerged hazards while boating. We should all try to mark hazards as they are found, but safety is still up to the operator.

Reward The Board continues to offer a \$1,000 reward for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of any illegal activity on camper's property.

Maps: (Updated June 2012) Maps of the Basin ownership by DRCI and each lot by shareholder are now available. Each map includes Champion, Ishpeming and Negaunee Townships on a page and an index of shareholders by plat and lot number or by parcel number for non-platted lots. Maps are 24 x 36 inches printed on quality paper in color. Order forms are available on the DRCI web page under Documents. Cost is \$35.

Plowing Snow Across Public Roads- Marquette County Road Commission reminds us that Public Act 300 of the Public Acts of 1949 as amended under section 677a states that it is against the law to deposit, or cause to be deposited, snow, ice or slush on any roadway or highway or shoulder of roadway/highway. When people violate this law it can cause traffic safety problems. This also causes concern for snowplow drivers and has caused damage to snow removal equipment. It is the intent of Marquette County Road Commission to seek enforcement of this law.

This is a Publication of DEAD RIVER CAMPERS, INC.
PO Box 323 Ishpeming, MI 49849
www.deadrivercampersinc.com