

LONG LAKE

Yesteryear to the Present - A Brief Glimpse through Time

Maureen Mallory Hearn and Jim LaBerge





Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge
Sodney Mucka Poosh, chief of the Chippewa tribe living around Dease and Long Lake.

The history of Long Lake is sprinkled with rich stories and experiences of Native Americans, pioneers, subsistence farmers, lumbermen, religious enthusiasts, merchants, civic leaders, mobsters, weekenders, seasonal vacationers and year-round retirees. Written documents, photographs, and narratives detail the economic and social impact that lumbering, recreation, and tourism has had on the growth and development of Long Lake and the village, and provide a vivid picture of the people who trod the land and shaped its future.

Two hundred years ago, a pristine forest of white pine, red pine, cedar, oak, ash, maple, and beech covered the land now known as Iosco County. Fish were plentiful and wild game was abundant.

In the 1800's, as the national demand for wood grew, the commercial lumbering industry boomed in northern Michigan and pioneering families from down state, Ohio, New York, New England, and Canada came to the area to earn a living, put down roots, and rear families.

A group of families, including the Barbers, Thayers, LaBerges, Shorts, Pratts, and Yosts, settled around Dease lakes in the 1880's and engaged in lumbering and subsistence type farming.

George Thayer and his son-in-law, Louis LaBerge, eventually moved their families to the west end of Long Lake and began settling the land. Thayer and LaBerge built small lumber camps and sawmills at different locations on the lake, including one east of the point on Martha Drive.

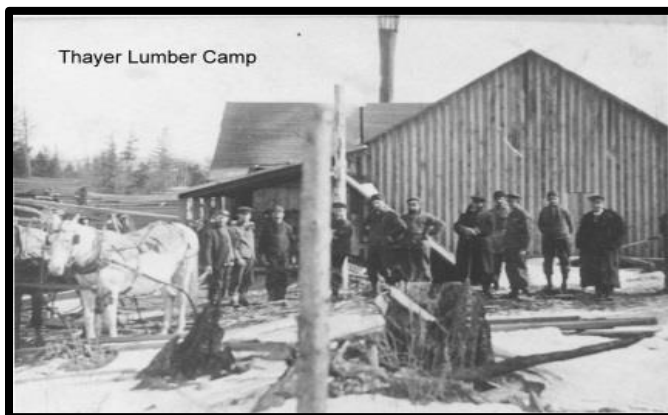


Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge



Photo Courtesy of Sharon Bartle

The early settlers in the region were hard workers. For lumbermen, the days were long and the work was strenuous and dangerous. In late winter 1907, George Thayer took one last sleigh load of logs across the frozen lake from the mill on Holbeck's Point (Guiney's Point) to the railroad in Long Lake. As he urged his team forward he heard a loud "boom" and a "cracking" sound. The runners of the sleigh had crashed through the ice.

The horses leaped and bucked, straining to pull the heavily loaded sleigh forward, but it was too much for the horses. Thayer leaped from the sleigh onto the ice, turning in time to watch it slip from sight, dragging down the team, chained to their harnesses, after it. In seconds, all was gone and only a gaping hole in the ice remained.

Hardships were common in those early days, and in order to receive trained medical care, families had to travel quite a distance. On one occasion, George Thayer accidentally stuck a pitchfork too far into a threshing machine; it kicked back and poked his eye out.

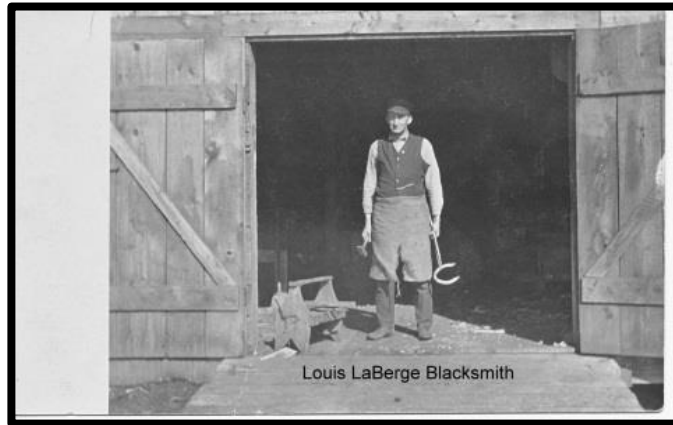


Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge

Louis LaBerge, a blacksmith by trade, built a blacksmith shop and home at the intersection of Front Street and Holbeck, and later built a home on Main and Front Streets, where Largent's Restaurant now stands. A leader in the community, he served as township treasurer, Justice of the Peace, road commissioner, school board member and postmaster. Louis was also a builder and constructed numerous homes and cottages around the lake.



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge

In 1893 the Detroit & Mackinac Railroad built a line to the village. During the winter months hundreds of tons of ice were cut from the lake and transported south by rail.

A holding pen for cattle waiting to be shipped by rail downstate was constructed at the end of the lake, in the area where the bar is located.



Photo Courtesy of Debby Stoerker-Waltz

Passenger freight train service provided families with transportation from National City to Hale. The railroad eventually opened a spur extending the lumbering train route from Hale through Long Lake, South Branch, and Lupton, then west toward Maltby Hills with its terminus at Rose City. This extension made it more attractive for early families to venture north and settle along the route.

At the turn of the twentieth century, as people bought up tax property, construction boomed and the community became active.

Henry Ballard established the first store northeast of the Long Lake Bar on Kokosing Road. A Methodist Church was constructed, and in 1902 the village was granted its first post office. The town was designated "Ellake." The name was confusing, since the settlement and train station were known as Long Lake. As postmaster, Louis LaBerge was credited with changing the village's postal designation from Ellake to Long Lake.

The first school, an old log cabin, was built in 1903. The D & M depot (Sixty Lakes Club) was constructed on Main Street in 1905, and in 1907, Frank Eymer built a large general store on Front Street across from the post office. In those days the local pool hall served as the popular gathering place for men-folk in the surrounding territory.



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge

During the lumbering boom, the Penoyer Lumber Co. wanted to move logs more easily from Long Lake to Loon Lake, a drop of 56 feet, so workers began cutting a swath through the high bank at the southeast end of the lake (the present-day easement on Lakeside). Fortunately, they were stopped by the State before its completion, or Long Lake would have most certainly been drained.

In 1906 the Thompson acreage on the northwest side of the lake reverted to the State for nonpayment of taxes, and The Christian Outing Grounds Association with headquarters in Toledo, Ohio, purchased 638 lots of Thompson land for 75 cents an acre. The Association then created a unique inland lake development that included a spacious summer resort, a large number of tent-top cottages, and an assembly area on the grounds. Their aim was to bring at least 1,000 Ohio families to the area each summer for religious instruction and recreational enjoyment.

The Resort was a three story design with a block basement and two shingled upper floors. The building measured 116 by 40 feet. The basement contained the dining hall, kitchen and pantry. The first floor held the 34 by 64 foot main lobby, a ladies parlor, the association offices, four sleeping rooms and a large banquet hall. The upper rooms were used as sleeping rooms.



Photo Courtesy of Jerry and Dora Mae John
Front of the Kokosing Resort Hotel (facing the large section of the lake)



Photo Courtesy of Tim Pritchard, Long Lake Bar
Rear of the Kokosing Resort Hotel

Charlie Hewitt owned and operated a large boat that ferried passengers across the lake from the Train Depot to the resort.

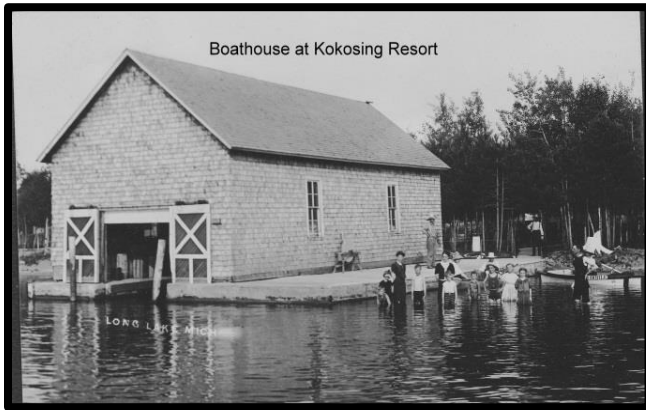


Kokosing Resort Launch

Photo Courtesy of Debby Stoerker-Waltz



Picture Courtesy of Debby Stoerker-Waltz



Boathouse at Kokosing Resort

Photo Courtesy of Debby Stoerker-Waltz



Boats At Kokosing Resort

Photo Courtesy of Debby Stoerker-Waltz



Photo Courtesy of Al Attard at Nonnie's Long Lake Emporium



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge



Photo Courtesy of Jerry and Dora Mae John



Photo Courtesy of Jerry and Dora Mae John

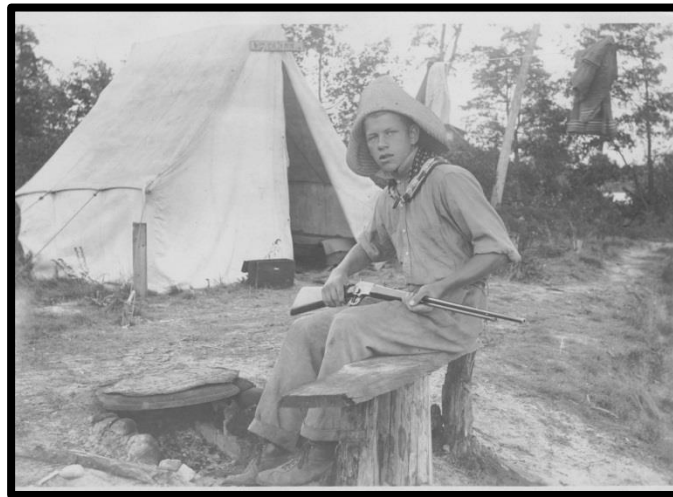


Photo Courtesy of Debby Stoerker-Waltz
Frank Bartlett, age 17, stayed at *Never Inn* in 1910. His campsite was located at the end of Tecumseh overlooking the lake.

Development of The Christian Outing Grounds Association in the Kokosing Subdivision boosted the economic business in Long Lake and Hale, and COGA's pioneering effort in the resort field was credited with the eventual development of year-round homes around the lake. Stores bustled with activity as a result of the influx of Ohio residents, and many Long Lake and Hale residents made a living by building and doing seasonal work for summer visitors. The Kokosing Hotel prospered for about ten years, and when the Association eventually collapsed, Ohio residents bought the lots for \$100 each, and John Mortenson took over operations of the resort.

In 1909 the Huron National Forest was established by the government to conserve the rapidly disappearing pine forests. As the timbering industry waned, recreation and tourism became the important factors in developing the area. Two of the earliest tourists to the area in the early 1900's were Daisy Sprague, grandmother of Jerry John, and Frank Bartlett, grandfather of Debbie Stoerker-Waltz.

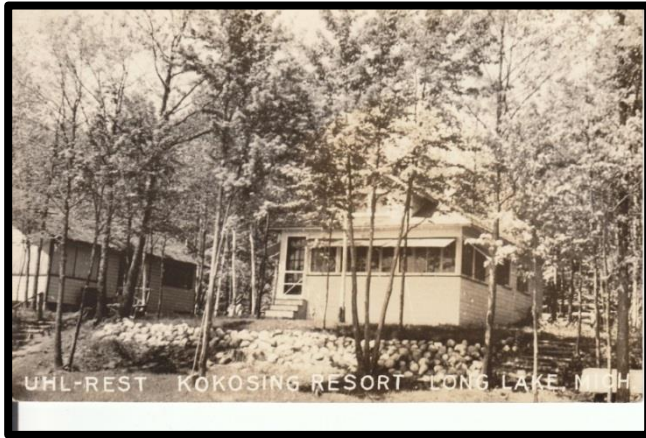


Photo Courtesy of Terry and Carolyn Biglin



Photo Courtesy of Terry & Carolyn Biglin

The Randy and Sis Hyde house in the Kokosing subdivision pictured below is one of the oldest homes on the lake. It was built around 1910. Mr. Hyde owned an RCA Victor Studio store in New Jersey, and the windows in the cabin came from his retail store. He is believed to have driven the first Cadillac to Long Lake.



Photo: Jim LaBerge

In the 1920's, Elmer Streeter bought the large general store on Front and Lake Streets. He later sold it to Charles Neff who moved the store to Main Street.



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge

Villagers reported that the first car driven into Long Lake village was a 1913 Maxwell owned by Mr. Rider. Because it had an engine that was gravity fed, Rider was required to back up any hills he encountered. Louis LaBerge owned one of the first cars in the village, a 1914 Model T Ford. Because the roads to Long Lake were poor, most folks traveled by horse and carriage or they rode the train.

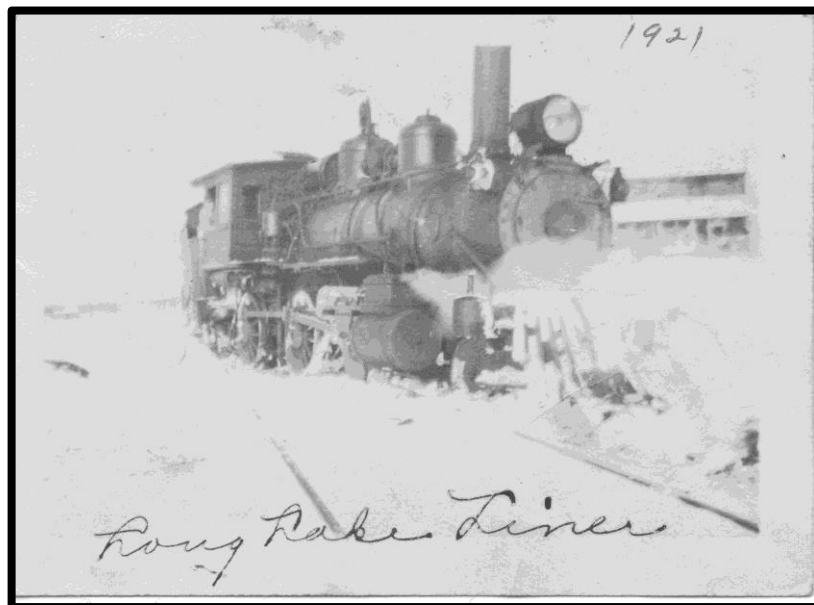


Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge

During the winter of 1921, an afternoon train derailed on the tracks a few hundred yards before reaching the Long Lake Depot. The station master, Jim LaBerge, was a stickler for protocol and announced that items on the train could not be removed until the train reached the depot. Since it took several days to get the train back on the tracks, his insistence to follow the rules caused a bit of consternation, especially for his younger brother Enos (Eddie), who was waiting patiently for a new shotgun that was being transported on the train. Eddie was certain that due to his brother's stubbornness, he was missing out on the best hunting of the season.

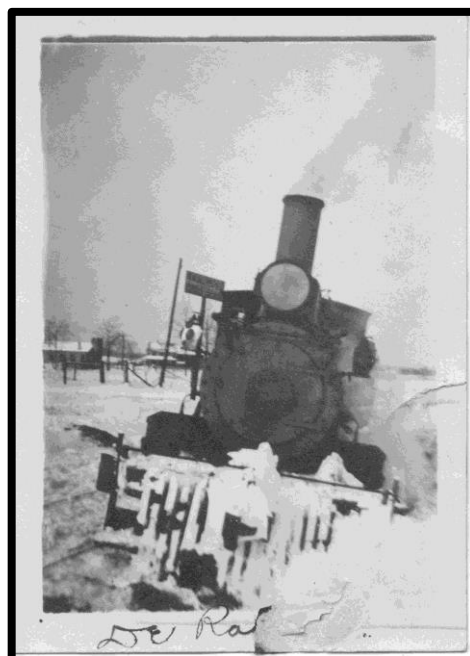


Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge

A good corduroy road was built around the lake in 1924, replacing the old log toting roads, providing better access to the east end of the lake, and making the area more accessible for those wishing to develop the lots. The pictures below show Sucker Creek Hill on Kokosing Road just east of Lakeside Blvd.



Photo Courtesy of Jerry and Dora Mae John



Photo Courtesy of Jerry and Dora Mae John



Photo Courtesy of Jerry and Dora Mae John



Photo Courtesy of Nonnie's Long Lake Emporium

During the 1920's, it was common for folks to look north and see forest fires billowing smoke in the distance. Fires destroyed numerous buildings in town throughout the years, and when the fourth schoolhouse burned in 1928, students were sent to grammar school in Hale. They rode to school on the train until the D & M ceased operations in 1930, at which time parents provided transportation for their children until bus service was established. Advanced students in 11th and 12th grade were transported to Whittemore. (The railroad grade can still be seen on the east side of Long Lake Road just south of the Lakeside intersection.)



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge

Summer picnics and parties along the banks of the lake were favorite pastimes of families and friends.

In the early 1930's, as a result of the stock market crash and after years of depression, revenue from tourism dropped and building and growth in the area stagnated. Streeter's store and post office at the corner of Front and Lake Streets became the center of activity.



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge



Kate's Place (Long Lake Bar)



Hicks Gas Station

Another blow to the area's economy occurred in 1939, when the Kokosing Resort Hotel burned to the ground.

In 1942 Harry Carter, Enos LaBerge, Florence Hicks and John Mortenson formed the Sixty Lakes Tourist Association for the betterment and improvement of the local lake area. Their aim was to address the issues of fire protection, fish planting, and road improvement. The first meeting was held in the Seventh Day Adventist Church (Nonnie's Long Lake Emporium) and later meetings were held in members' homes. Property was bought in 1943, and a clubhouse was built in 1946. The club sponsored card parties, bingo, rummage and bake sales, banquets, and dances. Years later the Sixty Lakes Club utilized the abandoned D & M depot for its headquarters.



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge

People living in the area in the 1940's still relied directly or indirectly on resort and tourist trade to make a living, and Long Lake became a bustling community once again as the population swelled during the summer months when the tourists arrived. Stores in the village included Charles Neff's General Store and Sinclair gas station; Van Patten's Groceries which sold food, beer, wine and Mobile gas; the Depot Restaurant owned by Digard and Pierce; LaBerge's Hardware, post office and Shell gas station; Dunham and Humphrey's, D and H Garage and Hi Speed gas station; and Hutch's Hut, a restaurant that sold beer, wine and liquor and was opened from May to January. (Originally called Kate's Place, Hutch's Hut is known as the Long Lake Bar.)



Photo Courtesy of Tim Pritchard, Long Lake Bar



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge



Photo Courtesy of Al LaBerge



Photo Courtesy of Al LaBerge

During the post war 1950's, Irene (Jackie) Dunham & Hilda (Jake) Jacobs built the J & J Market across from the Long Lake Bar. They sold groceries, beer, wine and Gulf gas. Camp Grand Resort and Restaurant became a busy place for tourists to frequent.



Photo Courtesy of Jerry & Dora Mae John

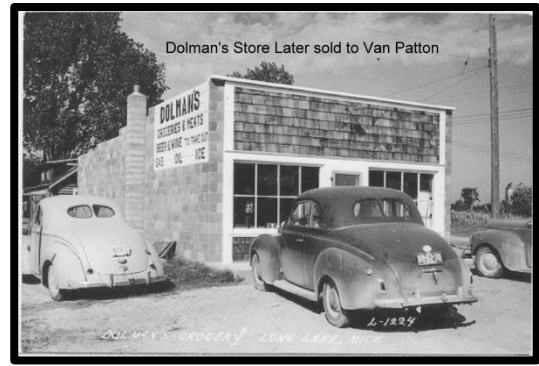


Photo Courtesy of Ken & Fran Siems

On the weekends a favorite place for the locals to patronize was the Graceland Ballroom, a famous saloon located at the corner of Rose City Road and Lupton Road - six miles west of Long Lake. It was owned by members of the Purple Gang from Detroit. Mobsters from Chicago, including Al Capone, frequented the area, partying in Lupton and at Graceland. The saloon featured big name bands such as Guy Lombardo, Fred Waring and Artie Shaw. Numbered squares were placed on the dance floor and on some Saturday nights the band would suddenly stop playing music and call out a number. The person standing on the numbered square would receive a prize – sometimes a diamond ring or watch. Nervous about rival gangs showing up, armed men guarded the entrance and machine gun turrets were located on the balcony.



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge

In the early 1950's, summer tourism grew and so did the need for rentals. Long Lake village boasted five groups of rental cabins owned by the Zavitz, Fox, LaBerge, Kruse, and Dyer families. Vacationers to the area could buy minnows and rent boats from the Dyers. John Mortenson, the Justice of the Peace and a real estate agent, rented cottages at the Kokosing Resort on the old site of the Kokosing Hotel. Further east on the lake were four cabin resorts owned by the Oaks, Hicks, Wardens and Jacks.



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge

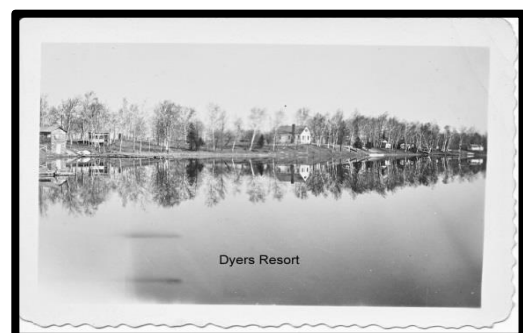


Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge

With the growth of the auto industry and an increase in discretionary funds, people from Flint, Bay City, Saginaw and the suburbs of Detroit flocked north to relax and enjoy the simple pleasures the north woods had to offer. They purchased small cabins on the lake and cleared undergrowth thick with poison ivy from the land. They fished from docks, canoes, and in small wooden fishing boats with 5 horsepower engines. Families enjoyed swimming, spending quiet time by the fireside, walking through the woods collecting berries and morel mushrooms, and communing with nature.



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge

In the late 1950's and early 1960's, the roads north improved greatly and the number of families driving "up north" for the weekends grew. Families spent more and more time at the cottage. Many fathers commuted on the weekends, leaving mothers and children at the lake for the summer. Although families were still seeking refuge from the hassle of urban life, they desired more modern conveniences. Basic party-line phone service was established and television antennas pulled in reception on several channels. Recreational activities flourished. Small wooden fishing boats gave way to 14 and 16 foot fiberglass boats with 35, 50, and 75 horsepower Evinrude, Johnson and Mercury motors. Gas sold at 30 cents a gallon and water skiing, surf boarding, and being towed on inflatable air mattresses and on inner tubes were popular water sports. It was not uncommon for a family to go through six 6-gallon gas tanks a weekend.

The late 1960's were carefree days for young people, with endless hours of watersports, marathon beach volleyball games, and sun tanning with a mixture of baby oil and iodine to achieve chestnut brown tans. Few people worried about the long-term effects of the sun. The public beach became a hotbed of activity, uniting lake residents and town folk. The dirt roads on Lakeside Blvd. and Kokosing Road that for years had been regularly scraped and oiled to reduce the dust were finally widened and blacktopped.

In the 1960's and 1970's, lake property owners met several times each summer at the Sixty Lakes Club to discuss common issues. In 1978 the Long Lake Property Owners Association (LLPOA) was incorporated as a non-profit organization for the purpose of co-operating with and respecting the rights of all property owners; securing, maintaining and improving lake conditions, and assisting and co-operating with all existing subdivisions, and all State and Government agencies for the benefit of all. LLPOA addressed issues of securing the dam and maintaining lake levels, stocking fish, and monitoring water quality. As a result of the Association's involvement in seasonal water level issues, the Circuit Court appointed the Iosco



Photo Courtesy of Jim LaBerge

Mid 1960's

County Drain Commissioner to maintain a court-ordered lake level. This included constructing and maintaining the dam in the large section of the lake. Under the Inland Lake Act, a special assessment district was established.

Members of the Association began attending lake and environmental conferences and LLPOA joined the Michigan Lakes and Streams Association.

As a group, property owners became more aware of environmental issues such as aquatic plant control, water quality, beach improvement, lake level control, and fishing; as well as laws regarding riparian rights. Lake resident and activist, Pearl Bonnell, served on the board of ML&SA and was its Director of Operations. For decades Pearl and her husband Bruce provided the membership with invaluable insight into best lake practices.



Photo: Maureen Hearn
1960's - 18' Glaspar with a 100 hp Johnson Engine



Photo: Maureen Hearn
Mallory's 1956 Old Town Canoe



Photo: Debby Stoerker-Waltz
Mid 1960's



Photo Courtesy of Kent Jones Jr.
Mid 1960's - Jones' Preparing to Ski

In the 1970's and 1980's, many cottages were handed-down or sold to family members. Small cabins were renovated and expanded. A better highway infrastructure was created that bolstered the growth of the region, while negatively affecting the growth of Long Lake village. Young people whose families had been merchants in the village found work downstate and many family businesses closed from lack of family interest or lack of business. The LaBerge family sold their hardware store and marina to Rich and Sue McTaggart, who eventually sold it to Al Call, present owner of the Long Lake Marina. Neff's store burned and Van Patten's (across from the Long Lake Marine) became a storage area for the marina.

The dump on Kokosing Road just east of North Campbell was finally closed and families hauled their trash to the dump on Liberty Road near South Branch, where bears were frequently sighted; until it too was closed, and facilities in Hale were used.

In the 1980's and 1990's, there was another significant remodeling phase on the lake – the building of year-round residences. Sea walls were constructed and boat lifts with canopies dotted the water. PWC's became popular and ski boats were outfitted with powerful inboard/outboard engines. Tubing became a favorite water diversion in the summer and ice fishing, cross country skiing and snowmobiling were enjoyed in the winter. LLPOA continued to monitor water quality on a monthly basis, promoted fish stocking, advocated for beach improvement, investigated the invasive zebra mussel problem, discussed the appropriate use of road-ends, and dealt with the horrendous Gypsy moth dilemma.



Photo: Maureen Hearn

A Beautiful Long Lake Loon



Photo: Walt & Sue Rosin

Walt and a Fine Looking Pike

1998 was a low water year. A hole developed in the dam and the water level dropped dramatically.



Photo: Walt Rosin

Low Water on the Beach - 1998



Photo: Maureen Hearn

Cluster of Zebra Mussels - 2004

At the turn of the twenty-first century, recreation and tourism drove the northern economy. There was a surge in the use of PWC's. The thrill of skiing was replaced by the excitement of riding tubes and wake-boards. Pontoons appeared at many docksides, often replacing the family speedboat. With the growth of satellite dishes, cable television connections, cellular towers and Internet access, communications improved dramatically on the lake.

When the Sixty Lakes Club building was closed, Carol Wilson and Tim Pritchard graciously allowed the Association to hold monthly meetings at the Long Lake Bar.

LLPOA focused on the needs and concerns of lake property owners by monitoring water quality, addressing the problems of invasive species and issues with water vehicles and PWC's, protecting the loons, and dealing with the relocation of geese. Members engaged in clean-up efforts and beautification around the lake, in the village and in Hale. The Association purchased flags for the community, mowed common areas, worked effectively with the Township on numerous issues, sponsored golf outings, youth fishing events, boating safety classes, and the 4th of July Boat Parade. It also provided property owners with on-going communication through the website, newsletter, and on Facebook. LLPOA sponsored charitable fundraising events like Run-Like-Hale to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, planted tens of thousands of fish through the Walleyes for Iosco County organization, encouraged new technology and supported the gas pipeline.

Unfortunately, the viability of the lake was being threatened by an invasion - a rapidly spreading invasive species known as Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). Milfoil threatened not only the quality of life on the lake for everyone wanting to swim or use water craft, but it also affected the property values of every homeowner. The lake was "being clogged to death."

LLPOA first attempted to control the EWM problem with the least environmentally harmful solution – the introduction of weevils, the only known predator of Eurasian milfoil. A vote was taken and a special tax district was established to pay for the treatment. Property owners were concerned that the treatment was not yielding the hoped for results, and became more vocal at meetings. Membership in LLPOA increased and the Association outgrew the facilities at the bar and moved its monthly summertime meetings to the Township Hall in Hale.



Photo: Jim LaBerge

June 28, 2014 LLPOA Meeting at the Township Hall

After two unsuccessful years of weevil treatments and with greater acreage being consumed by EWM and boaters unable to navigate portions of the lake, a committee was formed to research options and make recommendations. As a result of the committee's recommendations, LLPOA members voted to hire Jennifer Jermalowicz-Jones, a PhD candidate and Water Resources Director for Restorative Lake Sciences. Another special tax district was established, and in 2013 with DEQ and DNR approval, the first chemical treatments were applied.



Photo: Jim LaBerge

Aquatic Services Preparing to Launch – July 1, 2014



Photo: Jim LaBerge

Chemicals Applied Under the Auspices of Restorative Lake Sciences

Positive results were visible within weeks of the application. Pleased with the outcome of the first year, LLPOA members voted to retain Jennifer’s management services through 2015. Hiring a qualified lake manager was viewed by the membership as an important step in solving water quality issues and taking a proactive stance in addressing future environmental issues. A cadre of interested lake owners also volunteered to be trained.



Photo: Wade McCann

Wade, Dirk, and Ruffed Grouse

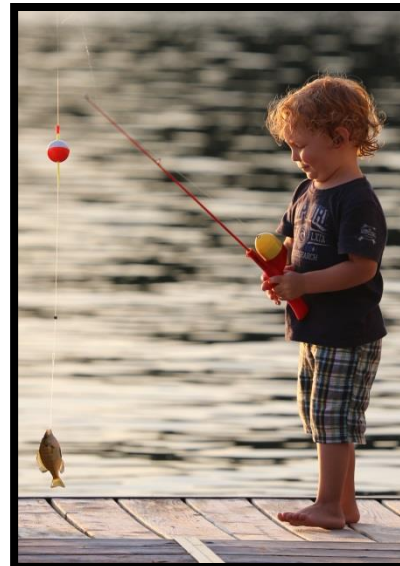


Photo: Maureen Hearn

A Happy Young Fisherman

As the issue with milfoil was developing on the lake, the village was experiencing its own set of economic problems. More buildings closed, including the last grocery store, which housed the Long Lake post office. With its closure, a one hundred twelve-year history of postal service in the village ended.

Although the growth of the village has temporarily stagnated, the lake is thriving. Today there are over 500 private cottages and several rental homes on the lake. Jim and Al LaBerge, grandsons of George Thayer and Louis LaBerge, the earliest settlers of the area, still maintain summer residences on the lake and

continue to enjoy lake life with their friends and families. Several members of the Thayer and Streeter families also have farms and businesses in and around the area.



Jim LaBerge's 1963 Chris Craft

Photo: Jim LaBerge



Robbie Streeter's Yacht Cruising in Deep Water

Photo Courtesy of Carla Streeter

One can still grab a burger and drink at the Long Lake Bar, hear tunes and dance there on the weekends, enjoy Uncle Kracker's "Smile" video that was filmed on the lake and in Hale, and reflect on the music of another former resident, Donny Brewer of the Grand Funk Railroad. One can enjoy dinner at Largent's Restaurant, find treasures at Nonnie's Long Lake Emporium, and purchase marine equipment and service and store boats at the Long Lake Marina.



Photo: Maureen Hearn



Photo: Maureen Hearn

Long Lake Bar and Grill



Photo: Maureen Hearn

Largent's Restaurant



Photo: Maureen Hearn

Nonnie's Long Lake Emporium



Photo: Maureen Hearn

Long Lake Marina

Through the years and different phases of growth and development in the village and on the lake, one element has remained constant: a genuine love for the lake and its people. The joy of being at Long Lake is a shared spirit that transcends generations. Baby boomers who “grew up” on the lake have fond memories of netting crayfish, bullheads, frogs and turtles; dropping a worm off the dock to hook crappies and bluegills; fly fishing and trolling for bass and pike; tromping through the woods and snapping pictures of wildlife; water skiing; playing marathon games of volleyball and badminton; swimming at the public beach, dancing to and listening to music at the Long Lake Bar; going to the Gem Theater; eating ice cream at the “Whippie Dip” (Big Bob’s present location); climbing the forest fire towers; partying on the High Banks; and singing songs, sharing tales and roasting marshmallows over an evening campfire.



Photo: Maureen Hearn

Annual 4th of July Boat Parade - 2013



Photo: Maureen Hearn

2013 Float



Photo: Maureen Hearn



Photo: Maureen Hearn



Photo: Maureen Hearn



Photo: Maureen Hearn



Photo: Maureen Hearn



Photo: Maureen Hearn



Photo: Maureen Hearn



Photo: Debby Stoerker-Waltz



Photo: Maureen Hearn



Photo: Maureen Hearn

Run-Like-Hale – 10 K Event
Fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society



Photo: Jack Lucas

Skiing in the Summer



Photo: Jack Lucas

Ice Kiting in the Winter



Photo Courtesy of Alice and Tony Corrie

Tony Corrie's 1947 Wagemaker



Photo: Maureen Hearn

Chris Lyon's 1959 Cruisers, Inc.

Joys experienced yesteryear have expanded to include extravagant summer fireworks, boat parades, recreational and cultural activities sponsored by the Association and Township, rafting with other boaters, watching meteor showers from the dock, communal work with neighbors “putting in” and “taking out”

docks and lifts in the spring and summer, and sharing wonderful lake adventures with children, grandchildren and friends.



Photo: Maureen Hearn

Neighbors working together on Lakeside Landing



Photo: Maureen Hearn

Taking out boat lifts in the fall



Photo: Michael Collins



Photo: Michael Collins



Photo: Michael Collins



Photo: Michael Collins



Photo: Maureen Hearn



Photo: Kent Jones Jr.

From the earliest pioneers settling in the village, history has taught us that there will always be challenges: a sluggish economy, the loss of jobs, increased taxes, maintaining property values, environmental worries, water quality concerns, safety issues, and modernizing without losing the aesthetics of being “up north.”

But throughout the past 140 years, we have also learned that members of each generation have risen to the occasion, expanding their horizons and placing their own unique stamp on the lake and surrounding environment.

Those who have loved this area and have called Long Lake “home” draw strength from the knowledge that those who have dwelled here have built a strong foundation, rearing their children to be water enthusiasts, lovers of nature and stewards of the environment. Our children are poised with the knowledge, experience and skills necessary to improve our community. They will expand the possibilities. And because of this, the future of our lake is bright and hopeful.



Photo: Maureen Hearn



Photo: Maureen Hearn



Photo: Maureen Hearn



Photo: Jack Lucas

Information for **Long Lake from Yesteryear to the Present - A Brief Glimpse through Time** was gleaned from:

The History of Plainfield Township, 1968

Long Lake Yesterdays by John Curry

Hale and Up the Tracks by Jean Bell

Long Lake Property Owners Association documents

Oral recollections of Jerry and Dora Mae John and Enos and Olive LaBerge

Lake experiences of Maureen Hearn and Jim LaBerge

Pre-1950's photos were provided by: Jim LaBerge, Al LaBerge, Debbie Stoerker-Waltz, Jerry & Dora Mae John, Ken Siems, Terry & Carolyn Biglin, Sharon Bartle, Tim Pritchard of Long Lake Bar and Grill, and Al Attard of Nonnie's Long Lake Emporium

Post-50's photos were provided by: Maureen Mallory Hearn, Jim LaBerge, Jack Lucas, Walt Rosin, Kent Jones Jr, Alice & Tony Corrie, Carla Streeter, Michael Collins, Wade McCann, and William Mallory.



Photo: Maureen Hearn

Colors on Display



Photo: Maureen Hearn

2014 Fourth of July Boat Parade



Historic Sites

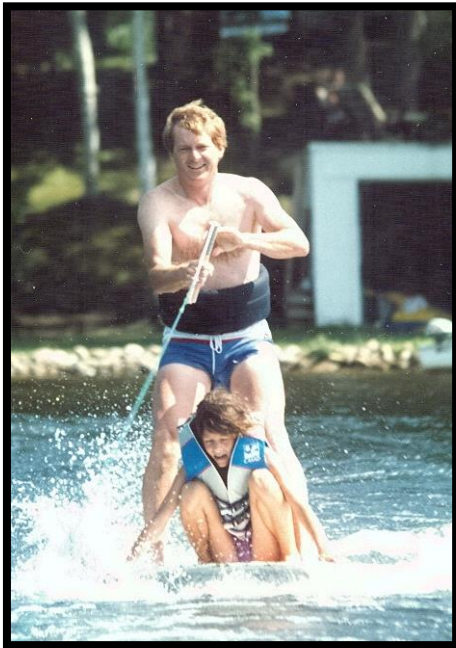
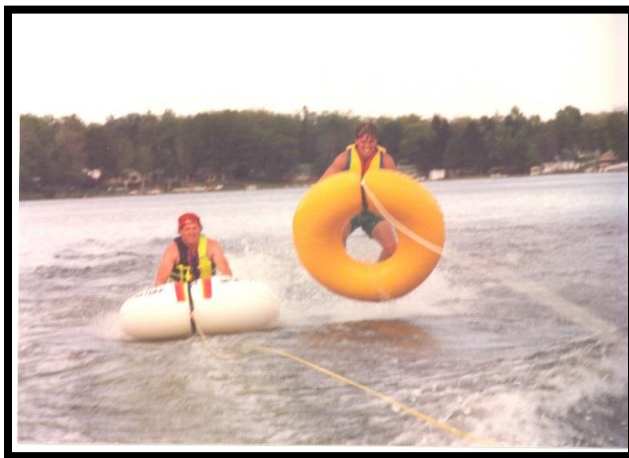


Photo: William Mallory
Doing Tricks on the Disk – 1980's



Boating Accident - 2004

Photo: Maureen Hearn



Flying High on a Tube

Photo: Maureen Hearn



Sailing in the 1960's

Photo: William Mallory



Landing on the Lake – July 6, 2014

Photo: Maureen Hearn

