



# NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2014

VOLUME 10, NO. 2

## April 2014 President's Letter

Spring is here- at least by the calendar, and summer is soon to be upon us. We've had quite a winter, with a record 208" of snow in Manistee County. The snow has begun to melt, and on the bright side, the lake levels are expected to be 9-15" higher in 2014 over the levels in 2013. Fishing is expected to be about the same this year as last, with the chance of seeing some near 40 lb. salmon.

Spring and summer are the busiest time of year for the PLA. With over 300 volunteers, we select scholarship winners, prepare for the Petunia planting, hold our annual fund raiser event, contract 8 bands for our Monday Concert in the Park series, and plan for fireworks, a craft beer tasting and pig roast and other Onekama Days activities. Over 6000 local residents and visitors enjoy these events. PLA membership dues, fundraising activities and generous donations by individuals help finance these activities. Membership forms, donation forms for the Petunias and for the fireworks are included in this newsletter.



Our Monday Night Concert series is set, with great concerts beginning June 30<sup>th</sup>. The Petunia group is already planning for the 2014 Main Street planting. **June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014** is the date of our 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Fund Raiser Dinner and Auction. We are looking at some new ideas to add to the event, and may have some on line auctions for those that cannot attend the event. We are working with the Onekama Lions on several Onekama Days events, including a band for the parade and the usual fireworks. We also plan to have our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pig Out for Scholarships pig roast on August 1<sup>st</sup> along with an expanded 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Craft Beer Tasting at the fairgrounds. These are on Friday night of Onekama Days so we are hoping for a large crowd. All of these events will have more details on the [www.onekama.info](http://www.onekama.info) web site and stay in touch with us via our two Face Book pages - **1, - Onekama Michigan** and the **Portage Lake Association**.

Our website continues to improve, with expanded access to events both locally and in the region. Visit the regional events page and you can see what is happening in Traverse City, Leland, Cadillac, Manistee, Ludington and other nearby locations. You will also see a section for Onekama Days, and our Fishing Reports page has up to date fishing reports available from the DNR as well as the Manistee County Sports Fishing Association. We are adding a section for updates on the Portage Point Inn and a shopping basket so you can make on line donations, pay for your membership and obtain tickets to our fund raiser.

PLA members will receive a presidents letter in the mail in May that will include a ballot for Citizen of the Year voting, a Monday Night Concert in the Park Program Card, and a Petunia donation envelope.

*I hope to see everyone this summer at our events! Contact me at [windsongmi@aol.com](mailto:windsongmi@aol.com) with any questions.*



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## **Membership Application** *Portage Lake Association*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: (must be deliverable to this address) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Dues are \$30 annually**

Check here if you would like to volunteer for PLA activities or events: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Portage Lake Association, Memberships, PO Box 493, Onekama, MI 49675

## VILLAGE OF ONEKAMA NEWS

**SNOW** over 200 inches....it has been a challenging winter to say the least but we have survived with the help of many. In particular, we thank our Village Maintenance Staff who worked an unbelievable number of hours make sure our village streets were cleared for traffic every day. Those in the village appreciate that there were days when the streets were actually cleared twice. THANK YOU!

**EXPLORE THE SHORES** Improvements on the beach at the village park are progressing and we look forward to the physical work starting later this spring. When the project is complete, access to the water will be enhanced considerably for ALL this summer. The goal of the Explore the Shores Project to make access to Michigan's waters accessible for everyone ... able bodied as well as those with mobility problems.

**VILLAGE PARK BOAT LAUNCH** ...received a major rehab last year thanks to the financial assistance from the Township, PLA and Watershed. The process of getting boats in and out of the water has been enhanced due to replacing one or two pads which were broken and adding another. Let's hope the water level rises due to this snowfall. Also, think about not transferring hitchhiking invasive species from another lake to our lake when launching your boats.

**FARR CENTER** ...is looking forward to the inclusion of a rain garden(s) on the property. It is an educational project on public property which will demonstrate the capture of runoff prior to its reaching the Portage Lake waters by the placement of rain gardens. Keeping the quality of our lake's water is important as it supports many game and non-game species as well as a number of recreational opportunities. It is hoped that demonstration of rain garden(s) by Farr Center, which can be easy and inexpensive to "build", will encourage residents to place them on their private properties throughout the community. This project is possible due to an Inland Fisheries Grant Program.

**PPI** ....Discussions are ongoing between the township, village and PPI regarding extending the village sewer system to PPI land. To date, no decisions have been made.

**VILLAGE ZONING ORDINANCE** .....has been under review, initially by an Ad Hoc committee and currently the Village Planning Commission. This project started approximately two years ago with volunteers (Ad Hoc Committee) who worked on the items that appeared to be most in need of revision or removal from the ordinance. Their suggestions were given to the Village Planning Commission and Zoning Administrator for further review, along with a review of the entire ordinance, as many changes to the state statutes needed to be addressed. To date the work is not complete, but close. The proposed ordinance will be presented to the Village Council for their review prior to any public meetings.

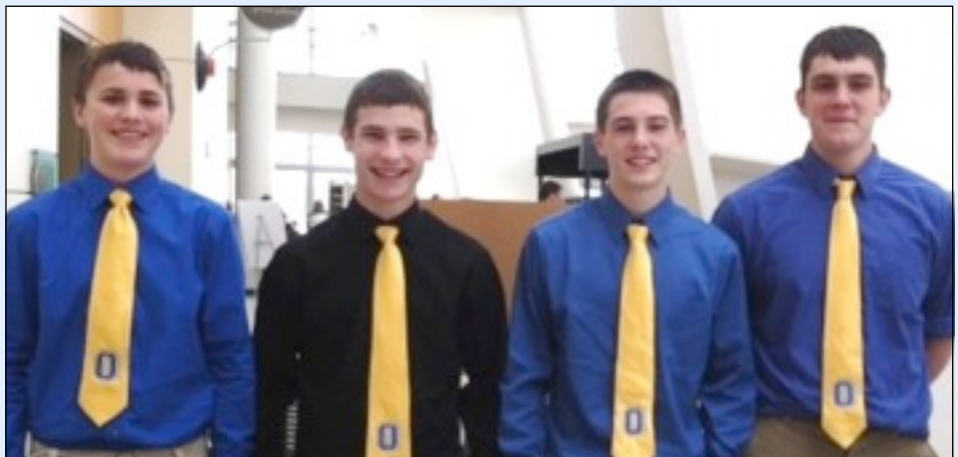
### MACUL – Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning

*Submitted by Braden Hagen*

In March, four students and their teachers went to Grand Rapids to the MACUL technology conference. The conference teaches educators and students how technology can be used in the classroom. The showcase will give students the opportunity to demonstrate how they are using technology to support their learning. Displays in past showcases have featured simple to very elaborate uses of technology and have included teams of students from grades one through twelve.

Onekama presented projects that students worked on in class and out of school. Sophomores Braden Hagen, Jon Acton, Caleb Wisniski, and Randy Pienta represented the school. The students demonstrated their production and creation of persuasive commercials through visuals of their actual commercials and handouts used in class. While making the commercials, students followed the same steps you would follow while writing an essay. After completing the commercials, students are responsible for using what they learned to apply it to writing a traditional essay.

For more information about MACUL see: [www.macul.org/aboutmacul/i](http://www.macul.org/aboutmacul/i)



Pictured (left to right): Braden Hagen, Randy Pienta, Jon Acton, Caleb Wisniski

**TRASH DAY**  
**JUNE 21 -FROM 9 TO NOON -**  
**AT THE VILLAGE GARAGE!**

### **Garden Club Calendar for Summer 2014**

The Portage Lake Garden Club will embark upon its 79<sup>th</sup> year with the theme, "Fascinated with Flowers". The year will begin with a welcome back luncheon at Arcadia Bluffs on June 12<sup>th</sup> at noon. For information and/or to reserve a space at the event, please contact *Faye Backie*, 517-281-2011 or [faye.backie@gmail.com](mailto:faye.backie@gmail.com).

On **June 26<sup>th</sup>** the members will meet at 1:00 at Farr Center, 5283 Main St. Angie Lucas, Preserve Steward at Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, will present a program with slides on wild flowers found in the area.

The group will return to the Farr Center on **July 10<sup>th</sup>** at 1:00 for a hands-on workshop on how to use pressed flower techniques to decorate fabric items, led by member Nancy Cody.

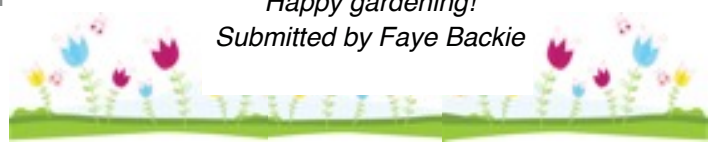
On **July 24<sup>th</sup>** at 1:00 at Farr Center, Club members will present "Art in Bloom", a Small Standard Flower Show. The show will be free and open to the public.

On **August 7<sup>th</sup>** Club members will meet at 2:00 to tour the garden of Darla Selander, in Copemish.

On **August 7<sup>th</sup>** Darla is also a noted metal artist, specializing in blacksmithing techniques and decorative iron artwork.

**August 21<sup>st</sup>** finds the group back at Farr Center, for a 1:00 meeting. Heather Keough, Ph.D., Assistant Ranger for Wildlife, Botany, Fisheries, and Watershed on the Baldwin/White Cloud Ranger District, will present a program with slides on "Reversing the Loss of Pollinators." This program aligns with the National Garden Club's 2014 initiative on Mason bees and preservation of their habitat. On the evening of **September 4<sup>th</sup>** members will gather for the End of Season Social. This meeting will have a short meeting for the installation of officers for the coming year. The location has not been set at this time. The Portage Lake Garden Club welcomes guests and new members. For information, contact Membership Chair, Leann Burger 231-889-0026 or [leannburger@sbcglobal.net](mailto:leannburger@sbcglobal.net).

*Happy gardening!  
Submitted by Faye Backie*



### **PETUNIA PARADE**

It's almost time to plant petunias!! The snow is going away, wind will stop, the sun will shine and we will plant petunias on Main Street in Onekama again. I know many of you have your doubts with the winter that we have had, but it will happen!

The committee is meeting, the petunias are purchased, and the fertilizer is on order.

Planting day is scheduled for May 21st (rain date May 22nd). Everything is done by community volunteers. We need your help to plant (May), weed (periodically) and roll-up (October). Come join us and meet new people, renew friendships and have some fun. The success is up to us, village people, township people and anybody else who would like to be a part of beautifying Onekama this summer.

If you have any questions, or would like to participate, you can do so by contacting **Marilyn Acker at 231-889-4758** or **Jon Phillips at 231- 889-4516** or e-mail me at [jphillips2939@gmail](mailto:jphillips2939@gmail)

*Some people do not plant but support us with monetary donations. This can be done by printing or cutting off the donation slip below and send it with your donation to:*



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### **Petunia Donation**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: (must be deliverable to this address)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Check here \_\_\_\_\_ if you wish to be a volunteer for the Petunia Prep or Planting.



Make checks payable to: Portage Lake Association, Petunia Donation, PO Box 493, Onekama, MI 49675

## NEWS from Portage Lake Watershed Forever

### Watershed Plan: Focus on Runoff

A critical step to protecting and improving the Portage Lake watershed is for all of us to increase our awareness and understanding about how our actions impact water quality. This year we intend to ramp up education efforts by focusing on what many feel is the greatest threat to water quality... runoff.

What is runoff? Simply put, it is the water that flows over the ground surface rather than sinking into the ground. Runoff originating over a large land area without a single point of origin and generally carried by storm water is considered **non-point source**. In contrast, **point sources** of runoff originate from a single point, such as a municipal or industrial discharge pipe.

The kind that we are most concerned with is **non point source** runoff which we usually see after a rain storm. As it flows over the land surface, this runoff picks up potential pollutants that may include sediment, nutrients (from lawn fertilizers), bacteria (from animal and human waste), pesticides (from lawn and garden chemicals), metals (from rooftops and roadways), and petroleum by-products (from leaking vehicles). Polluted runoff can be harmful to plants, animals, and people and is considered the leading cause of water pollution in the United States today.

The watershed council will be holding a number of events in the coming months to let you know more about the problem and what each of us can do to address it. Stay tuned!

### Here we come, ready or not!

Holding a party in the midst of construction chaos isn't usually a good idea but, in the interest of finding a site for the **PLWF Annual Fundraiser** that represents what we love most about the lake, we thought "Why not the Portage Point Inn?" We assumed that renovation work wouldn't be complete, that the kitchen wouldn't be open and that parking might be a challenge. Undaunted and undeterred, we asked Bob Gezon, new owner of the Portage Point Inn if he'd be willing. He said sure, we would be welcome . . . not necessarily *in* the Inn but *at* the Inn. With permission granted and details to be worked out, please go ahead and mark your calendars!

PLWF Annual Fundraiser  
Saturday, July 26, 2014  
5:00—7:00  
Portage Point Inn



### Invasive Species Committee Report

On February 4th, 2014 the Onekama Township Board passed a Resolution of Intent to use Public Act #188 which establishes a special assessment District (SAD) to continue our efforts to treat invasive species in and around Portage Lake.

After 5 years of treatment, our phragmites are under control. It will always require spot treatments and monitoring but we have gone from 84 acres in 2009, down to 7.8 acres in 2013. The Eurasian Water Milfoil, however, has proven to be more resilient and resistant for many reasons including hybridization, new infestations transported into and around the lake by boats, changing water temperatures and depths and increasing water clarity which allows establishment in deeper portions of the lake. All this requires continued treatment and experimentation while preserving water quality and our fisheries. Collected data to date demonstrates that we have kept it under control while not impacting native plants and providing improved fish habitat. We anticipate that the spring survey will find approximately 130 acres to treat in 2014 and estimate this will be our annual maintenance level for the next 5 years.

To provide the funds that will be needed, the committee has recommended to the Township that a special assessment district, the same as 2009, be implemented to provide funds for an ongoing monitoring and treatment program. The amount of the assessment has been determined based on our past 5 years of experience.

Using PA #188, the next steps after the approval of the Resolution of Intent is to give landowners proper written notice and conduct 2 public hearings to inform and allow residents to comment. Notices of these meetings will be sent to all landowners and posted in the newspaper. The dates for the hearings have been set for April 15 and May 13th at 7pm at the Onekama Township Hall. The SAD specifies that the majority of the funding is received from the lakefront owners on a unit basis according to the number of feet of lakefront. All other properties would continue to be 1/8 of a unit.

Supporting information about the activities and work of the Invasive Species Committee and Lake Manager can be found in the annual Lake Management Reports and the monthly reports to the Township Board. These are available on the watershed link on the Onekama.info website or you can request them from the Township Clerk. Surveys, cost data and maps are also available. We need your continued support of this program to preserve and protect our lake. If you have questions, please feel free to contact any of the members of the Invasive Species Committee; *Dan Behring, Herb Lenon, Jim Simons, Chuck Reed, Mary Reed, Chairperson*



## Community Parks and Recreation Completes Five-Year Plan

The Onekama Village and Township Community Parks and Recreation Committee has completed **The Portage Lake Community Five-Year Plan for Parks and Recreation in the Village of Onekama, Onekama Township, and the Onekama Consolidated Schools, 2014-2018**. It was submitted to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and was approved on February 19, 2014 for the Village and the Township. The plan is necessary to be eligible to apply for grants from the Trust Fund.

The Parks and Recreation Committee applied for a grant from Manistee Local Revenue Sharing requesting \$8,000 for an **irrigation well to water the trees at North Point Park**. Due to limited funds available for distribution, the project was not funded. The application is being resubmitted in Cycle I of 2014 for Revenue Sharing.

To fulfill another goal in the current Five-Year Plan, Parks and Recreation has taken on the task of raising funds to complete the **1930 Pierhead Light Project**, namely the completion of the electrical work and the installation of an historic plaque. This light is meaningful for many who remember it in their younger days when it guarded the north pier of the Channel. It was re-erected on July 15, 2011, at the Michigan Natural Resources Launch Site, Lake Park and West Fairway, by Portage Lake. Dedication ceremonies cannot be held until the plaque and electrical work are finished.

A **boat launch fee study** was conducted by the members of the Parks and Recreation Committee in late 2013. The Portage Lake Association asked that this study and recommendations be made to accompany its donation of partial funds for the repair of the boat launch ramp in the Onekama Village Park.

There are two **subcommittees that have been formed to handle special projects for this Committee**. The tree subcommittee has held Arbor Day Tree Plantings at North Point Park since 2009. There have been 4,500 trees planted there. The tree subcommittee is making plans to celebrate Arbor Day this year with a "Park Walk" in North Point Park for adults and students. Presentations will be made on the history of Onekama parks, invasive species, and the value of trees to the environment.

The **Explore the Shores subcommittee** is working with the Village of Onekama on a project at the waterfront of the Village Park. A grant was awarded by the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for this work in 2012. The work for this \$157,900 project is to start this spring.

A second grant application submitted to the Trust Fund is for **Langland Park**. This \$348,000 project was also submitted by the Alliance for Economic Success. It includes new restroom facilities. The project was not approved for funding in 2012 or 2013 by the Trust Fund. Tim Ervin, who was interim director of the AES when the first application was made, is continuing to work on a grant application with the Trust for Langland Park in 2014.

*Submitted by Tom Gerhardt*



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## Fireworks and Onekama Days Donation

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: (must be deliverable to this address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Donation: \_\_\_\_\_



Check here if interested in being a volunteer for Onekama Days: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to: Portage Lake Association, Fireworks Donation, PO Box 493, Onekama, MI 49675**

## ONEKAMA HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2014 GRADUATION

*This year Onekama will have 37 seniors graduating.  
The graduation will be held on May 18th at 2 P.M.  
at Onekama High School in the gym.*

### The students who are graduating are:

Alexander Barto  
Brandon Beckstein  
Lukas Belovsky  
Morgan Brown  
Ryan Cebula  
Mitchel Clarke  
Paulnisha Collins  
Myranda Curtice  
Joshua Davis  
Nicholas Deleon  
Logan Fogarty  
Anna Gjerstorff  
Selena Harnishfeger  
Dallas Hearit  
Natasha Heart  
Emily Hippensteel  
Brittany Humes  
Kaitlin Kubiskey  
Mikelle Lonsbury  
Cady Lowe  
Alf Simon Malm  
Levi Mattison  
Lauren Merriman  
Faith Moerdyk  
Sondre Oeren  
Cameron Renwick  
Carlos Rivera  
John Schoedel  
Sunniva Skurtveit  
Justin Solis  
William Sullivan  
David Swanson  
Samantha Tiefenthal  
Brittany Trombley  
Vanessa Van Eyckels  
Sierra Warner



**The class officers for the Class of 2014 are:**  
*Sami Tiefenthal (President), William Sullivan (Vice President), Natasha Heart (Treasurer), Lauren Merriman (Secretary), Nisha Collins (Student Council), Brittany Trombley (Student Council), and Sierra Warner (Student Council).*

**Congratulations to all of our graduates and best of life to you as you move forward from here!**

## ONEKAMA NATIONAL HONORS SOCIETY

*Submitted by Braden Hagen*

On Thursday, March 6, the Onekama National Honor Society welcomed eight new members. New members are selected by a committee of school staff after they have completed an application which requires students to show how they are well-rounded through their leadership, service activities, community activities, work experience, recognitions, and awards. The new members were inducted during a banquet in which their family was able to join them for dinner. Emma Putney, Jon Acton, Braden Hagen, Alyssan Clarke, Hailey Kott, Tawny Kott, Taylor Mallison and Caitlin Zielinski were all welcomed in during the ceremony. As new members came in, a final farewell was said to seniors Brittany Trombley, Kaitlin Kubiskey, Emily Hippensteel, and Natasha Heart.

During the ceremony, the officers from the past year stepped down and new officers were welcomed. Louise Barnard will be serving as President, Kayla Feil as Vice President, Alyssan Clarke as Treasurer, and Caitlin Zielinski as Secretary. Onekama School and community congratulate these students on their academic accomplishments and service to their school and community!

## Onekama Consolidated Schools Vocational Technology

Each year Onekama Consolidated Schools works in conjunction with the West Shore EDS and West Shore Community College to provide students the opportunity to further their educations in the vocational technical fields of study.

Here is a list of Vocational Technical Training classes Onekama High School students are enrolled in for the 2013-14 school year.

### (WSCC) 10 Programs Available      Total 26 enrolled

Allied Health	04
Automotive Technology	03
Construction Trades	02
Mechatronics (Pre-Engineering)	01
Criminal Justice	0
Digital Media Technology	03
Graphic Communications	01
Culinary Arts/ Hospitality Management	02
Marketing/Retailing	06
Welding Technology	04

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

For the past three years, the Portage Lake Association has raised funds at the annual Pig Roast, and awarded scholarships to Onekama High School seniors based on academic achievement and leadership in the community. We decided to catch up with them.

Taylor Hagen received the award in 2011. Taylor is a junior this year at Kansas State University, in Manhattan, KS. She is majoring in anthropology with an emphasis in biological anthropology. Taylor received an internship in Galway, Ireland for the summer working in the medical field.

In 2012 Jaylee Brown received the award. She is a sophomore at Northern Michigan University in Marquette majoring in Community Health Education with a minor in physical education and coaching. Jaylee participates in cross country, indoor and outdoor track and field. Indoor season finds her on the distance medley relay where she helped set a new school record at the GLIAC conference meet. As a freshman, she received the Newcomers Award, and this year is cross country All-Academic along with earning her varsity letter. Jaylee was nominated for the NCAA Sportmanship Award

Due to terrific success of the pig roast fundraiser, two awards were presented in 2013, one to Emily Corson Barnard, and one to Parker Sternberger.

Emily, (she goes by Corson now as her mom says she's lived a life of too many Emilys), is a freshman at The University of Chicago. She is studying the Common Core curriculum, referred to as the Common Year, a requirement of all freshman students. She has not declared a major. Corson is a member of an a cappella group called The Ransom Notes. She also pledged to Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity and serves as a board member. As a CAAP Scholar she was able to spend seven weeks last summer in an intensive orientation program. She loves being a UC Maroon.

Parker is a freshman at Ferris State University. He is in the School of Digital Media which can lead him in many directions, but he might be leaning toward game design. He picked German as a language and likes it enough that he has signed up for it again in the fall. Parker is part of the Ferris Honors program which has perks. He gets a private dorm room! One of the requirements of the honors program is community service hours. In the fall, he participated in a 30-hour food fast to raise money for World Vision to feed the hungry. Parker finds time for some fun and exercise by participating in basketball intramurals.

*The Portage Lake Association board of directors is very proud of the PLA Scholarship recipients and wishes them the best as they continue their college careers.*

*Submitted by Leann Burger, chair of the PLA scholarship committee*

## GREASE

*This year Onekama, Bear Lake, and Brethren will be presenting the play "Grease".*

*The play will be directed by Amanda Harthun and Kathy Joseph.*

"Grease" is a massively popular musical about love and teenage rebellion that appeals to all generations. It's 1959 and Rydell High School students are starting a new year. Facing the trials and tribulations of high school and young love, the T-Birds and the Pink Ladies endure the humorous and sarcastic journey that is being a teenager.



(Left to right) Anna Brown (Rizzo), Tucker Laws (Kenickie), Madi Smeltzer (Miss Lynch), Simon Malm (Danny), Kayla Feil (Backstage Director), Megan Schneider (Backstage)

Show dates are May 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. On Sunday the 4th there will be a matinee at 2:00 and a show at 6:00. All the other performances will begin at 7-7:30, the time is still yet to be determined. The cost for students will be \$5.00 and the cost for adults will be \$8.00.

*The cast includes:* Danny: Simon Malm (Onekama), Sandy: Louise Barnard (Onekama), Rizzo: Anna Brown (Onekama), Frenchy: Maci Podbilski (Brethren), Marty: Maria Sidor (Onekama), Jan: Kirsten Bowers (Onekama), Kenickie: Tucker Laws (Onekama), Doody: Ruben Resendiz (Bear Lake), Roger: Alex Barto (Onekama), Sonny: Alex Dutton (Bear Lake), Patty: Cheyenne Buckner (Bear Lake), Cha-Cha: Brittany Trombley (Onekama), Eugene: Andrew Clarke (Onekama), Vince Fontaine: Keith McKenney (Onekama), Johnny Casino: Gerald Eipperle (Onekama), Miss Lynch: Madi Smeltzer (Onekama)

*Submitted by: Emma Putney*

## ONEKAMA HIGH SCHOOL QUIZ BOWL

*Submitted by Emma Putney*

On Wednesday, March 12th the Onekama Quiz Bowl team traveled to Mason County Eastern to play in the West Michigan D League Quiz Bowl. Alex Barto (12), Spencer Petroskey (10), Keegan Gramza (10), Trever Fink (10), Kyle Peterson (9), Kiara Bromley (9), and Michelle Haske (9) worked together to bring home a 1st place West Michigan D League Quiz Bowl trophy. First round, they played Manistee Catholic Central and won in a close game of 130-120. Then they beat Bear Lake 190-25 and also beat Brethren 195-10. Onekama had to play Manistee Catholic once again and lost 100-90. In the finals they ended up playing Manistee Catholic for the third time and blew them out 150-60. "We are very happy to have won the West Michigan D League Tournament," said coach Kathy Joseph.



Pictured (top left to right) Trever Fink, Michelle Haske, Kyle Peterson, Spencer Petroskey. (Bottom left to right) Keegan Gramza, Kiara Bromley

## FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADE QUIZ BOWL

*Submitted by Emma Putney (see the school website for the outcome of these quiz bowls held after the newsletter went to the printer)*

### **Fifth Grade:**

The fifth grade quiz bowl tournament will be held on March 25th at Onekama. This year's team members are Hayden Platz, Jake Petroskey, Benjamin Falk, Kirk Beeman, Moriah Fowler, Ajah Fink, Katherine Magnan, Jenna Bromley, Sara Bromley, Kirsten Erts, and Alexia Madsen.

### **Sixth Grade:**

The sixth grade quiz bowl tournament will be held on March 26th at Onekama. The sixth grade team members are Alliyah Torrey, Jackson Gutowski, Taylor Bennett, Sydnee Hrachovina, and Dalron Gray. "I like Quiz Bowl because it's fun and you get to learn about new and different subjects!" -Taylor Bennett

## Foreign Exchange Students at OCS

Again this school year, Onekama welcomed students from countries in many parts of the world. Hosting these students gives us the opportunity to learn about other cultures and share our own American traditions. This school year we have 10 exchange students.

Four students are here from Scandinavian countries. Simon (Sweden) enjoys playing music at local venues and farmers markets with his host brother, Tucker Laws. He appeared in "It's a Wonderful Life" at the Ramsdell Theater last winter, and will appear as Danny Zuko in the tri-school production of "Grease". Sunni (Norway) loved experiencing Homecoming festivities and her favorite food is her host mom's taco salad. She plans to study medicine. Sondre (Norway) saw an NBA game in Detroit and he likes to travel. Anna (Denmark) was a cheerleader, played basketball for the first time and loved being on the team.

Two girls from Asian countries are "sisters". Dessi (S.Korea) and Lexi (China) live with the same host family. They both plan to be in the States again next year. Lexi will attend college in the US, and Dessi will finish high school in N. Carolina.

Vanessa (Germany) and Elisa (Brazil) are also "sisters". They were both involved with basketball, skiing, and cheerleading. Elisa plans to pursue architecture and Vanessa plans to study law.

Lukas (Czech Republic) was on the ski team and loves hot dogs. He will appear as "Teen Angel" in "Grease". Our newest student, Beatrice (Italy) loves hamburgers and is also a part of the spring play.

The students have all experienced an extreme winter in Michigan. Several had a break from the cold with a trip to Hawaii. They have discovered mac 'n cheese and peanut butter. Several have participated in sports activities including football, skiing, cheerleading, basketball, and track. Eight of the students are involved in the tri-school spring production of "Grease", which will be presented May 1-4 at Onekama School.

We are pleased to learn more about these students, and explore their talents. We thank them for sharing their countries with us, and for making Onekama a richer place.

*Submitted by Louise Barnard, with help from Anna Gjerstorff*



## Fish Kills May Be Common Following This Winter's Extreme Conditions

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reminds everyone that after the heavy ice and snow cover melts on Michigan's lakes this winter, it may be common to discover dead fish or other aquatic creatures. This year's more severe winter with heavy snow and ice cover will create conditions that cause fish and other creatures such as turtles, frogs, toads and crayfish to die.

"Winterkill is the most common type of fish kill," said Gary Whelan, DNR fish production manager. "Given the harsh conditions this winter with thick ice and deep snow cover, it will be particularly common in shallow lakes and streams and ponds. These kills are localized and typically do not affect the overall health of the fish populations or fishing quality."

Winterkill occurs during especially long, harsh winters – similar to the one experienced this year. Shallow lakes with excess aquatic vegetation and mucky bottoms are particularly prone to this problem. Fish and other aquatic life typically die in late winter, but may not be noticed until a month after the ice leaves the lake because the dead fish and other aquatic life are temporarily preserved by the cold water. "Winterkill begins with distressed fish gasping for air at holes in the ice and often ends with large numbers of dead fish that bloat as the water warms in early spring," Whelan explained. "Dead fish and other aquatic life may appear fuzzy because of secondary infection by fungus, but the fungus was not the cause of death. The fish actually suffocated from a lack of dissolved oxygen from decaying plants and other dead aquatic animals under the ice."

Dissolved oxygen is required by fish and all other forms of aquatic life. Once the daylight is greatly reduced by thick ice and deep snow cover, aquatic plants stop producing oxygen and many die. The bacteria that decompose organic materials on the bottom of the lake use the remaining oxygen in the water. Once the oxygen is reduced and other aquatic animals die and start decomposing, the rate that oxygen is used for decomposition is additionally increased and dissolved oxygen levels in the water decrease even more leading to increasing winterkill.

**For more information on fish kills in Michigan, visit <http://links.govdelivery.com/track?>**

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**If you suspect a fish kill is caused by non-natural causes, please call your nearest DNR office or Michigan's Pollution Emergency Alert System at 1-800-292-4706.**

# 2014

# Michigan Notable Books

This list is published each year. We thought our residents might like to select one or more titles to read this summer while relaxing at the beach or on the porch!

***Beyond Pontiac's Shadow: Michilimackinac and the Anglo-Indian War of 1763* by Keith R. Widder (Michigan State University Press)** On June 2, 1763, the Ojibwa captured Michigan's Fort Michilimackinac from their British allies. Widder examines the circumstances leading up to the attack and the course of events in the aftermath that resulted in the re-garrisoning of the fort and the restoration of the fur trade. At the heart of this discussion is an analysis of French-Canadian and Indian communities at the Straits of Mackinac and throughout the pays d'en haut. An accessible guide to this important period in Michigan, American, and Canadian history, *Beyond Pontiac's Shadow* sheds invaluable light on a political and cultural crisis.

***The Bird: The Life and Legacy of Mark Fidrych* by Doug Wilson (Thomas Dunne Books)** The Bird is the first biography of 70s pop icon and Detroit Tigers pitcher, Mark Fidrych. As a rookie he stormed the baseball world by his antics of "talking" to the baseball and along the way became one of the most popular Tigers in history. Fidrych's larger than life personality and killer slider resulted in his selection as the 1976 All Star game starter and landed him as the first athlete ever to appear on the cover of Rolling Stone. Wilson details how an arm injury in 1977 limited his career. Fidrych's love of the game and pure joy in playing helped to make the summer of 1976 magical in Detroit.

***Birth Marks* by Jim Daniels (BOA Editions Ltd.)** A poet of the working-class and city streets, Jim Daniels's 14th poetry collection travels from Detroit to Ohio to Pittsburgh, from one post-industrial city to another, across jobs and generations. Daniels focuses on the urban landscape and effects on inhabitants as they struggle to establish community on streets hissing with distrust & random violence.

***Bluffton: My Summers with Buster* by Matt Phelan (Candlewick Press)** Muskegon, Michigan, 1908, a visiting troupe of vaudeville performers is about the most exciting thing since baseball. They're summering in nearby Bluffton, so Henry has a few months to ogle the elephant and the zebra, the tightrope walkers and a slapstick actor his own age named Buster Keaton. The show folk say Buster is indestructible; his father throws him around as part of the act and the audience roars, while Buster never cracks a smile. Henry longs to learn to take a fall like Buster, "the human mop," but Buster just wants to play ball with Henry and his friends. With signature nostalgia, Matt Phelan visualizes a bygone era with lustrous color, dynamic lines, and flawless dramatic pacing.

***Bootstrapper: From Broke to Badass on a Northern Farm* by Mardi Jo Link, (Alfred A. Knopf)** Link's memoir about survival and self-discovery documents the summer of 2005 when debt, self-doubt and a recent divorce forced her to refocus on what truly is important in life. *Bootstrapper* tells the story of her struggles to raise three sons as a single mother and the fight to hang on to her century-old farmhouse in northern Michigan. Her humorous accounts tackle the subjects of butchering a pig, grocery shopping on a budget, Zen divorce, raising chickens, and bargain cooking all in an effort to keep her farm out of foreclosure. Her difficult year is highlighted with the use of humor and optimistic storytelling and demonstrates how her struggles helped to strengthen her family bonds and led to findings necessary in order to save the farm she loved.

***The Colored Car* by Jean Alicia Elster (Wayne State University Press)** An engaging narrative illustrates the personal impact of segregation and discrimination and reveals powerful glimpses of everyday life in 1930s Detroit. After boarding the first-class train car at Michigan Central Station in Detroit and riding comfortably to Cincinnati, Patsy is shocked when her family is led from their seats to change cars. In the dirty, cramped "colored car," Patsy finds that the life she has known in Detroit is very different from life down south. Patsy must find a way to understand her experience in the colored car and also deal with the more subtle injustices that her family faces in Detroit.

**2014 MICHIGAN NOTABLE BOOKS CONT'**

**Detroit: Race Riots, Racial Conflicts and Efforts to Bridge the Racial Divide** by Joe T. Darden and Richard W. Thomas (Michigan State University Press) Unique among books on the subject, Detroit pays special attention to post-1967 social and political developments in the city, and expands upon the much-explored black/white dynamic to address the influx of more recent populations to Detroit: Middle Eastern Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Asian Americans. Crucially, the book explores the role of place of residence, spatial mobility, and spatial inequality as key factors in determining access to opportunities such as housing, education, employment, and other amenities.

**Detroit: An American Autopsy** by Charlie LeDuff (The Penguin Press) Veteran writer LeDuff set out to uncover what led his city into decline. He embedded with a local fire brigade, investigated politicians of all stripes, and interviewed: union bosses, homeless squatters, powerful businessmen, struggling homeowners, and ordinary people holding the city together. LeDuff shares an unbelievable story of a hard town in a rough time filled with some of the strangest and strongest people our country has to offer.

**The Great Lake Sturgeon** Edited by Nancy Auer and Dave Dempsey (Michigan State University Press) This collected volume captures many aspects of the remarkable Great Lakes sturgeon, from the mythical to the critically real. Lake sturgeon is sacred to some, impressive to many and endangered in the Great Lakes. A fish whose ancestry reaches back millions of years and that can live over a century and grow to six feet or more, the Great Lakes lake sturgeon was once considered useless, and then overfished nearly to extinction. Blending history, biology, folklore, environmental science, and policy, this accessible book seeks to reach a broad audience and tell the story of the Great Lakes lake sturgeon in a manner as diverse as its subject.

**I Invented the Modern Age: The Rise of Henry Ford** by Richard Snow (Scribner) Henry Ford was born the same year as the battle of Gettysburg, died two years after the atomic bombs fell, and his life personified the tremendous technological changes achieved in that span. Growing up as a Michigan farm boy, Ford saw the advantages of internal combustion. He built his first gasoline engine out of scavenged industrial scraps. It was the size of a sewing machine. From there, scene by scene, Richard Snow vividly shows Ford using his innate mechanical abilities, hard work, and radical imagination as he transformed American industry.

**In the House Upon the Dirt Between the Lake and the Woods** by Matt Bell (Soho Press) In this debut novel, a newly-wed couple escapes the busy confusion of their homeland for a distant and almost-uninhabited lakeshore. They plan to live there simply, to fish the lake, to trap the nearby woods, and build a house upon the dirt between where they can raise a family. But as their every pregnancy fails, the child-obsessed husband begins to rage at this new world. This novel is a powerful exploration of the limits of parenthood and marriage—and of what happens when a marriage's success is measured solely by the children it produces, or else the sorrow that marks their absence.

**November's Fury: The Deadly Great Lakes Hurricane of 1913** by Michael Schumacher (University of Minnesota Press) Set in the infancy of weather forecasting, November's Fury recounts the dramatic events that unfolded over those four days in 1913, as captains eager—or at times forced—to finish the season tried to outrun the massive storm that sank, stranded, or demolished dozens of boats and claimed the lives of more than 250 sailors. This is an account of incredible seamanship under impossible conditions, of inexplicable blunders, heroic rescue efforts, and the sad aftermath of recovering bodies washed ashore and paying tribute to those lost at sea.

**Poetry in... Michigan... in Poetry** – Edited by William Olsen and Jack Ridl (New Issues Poetry & Prose) Poems from Michigan's most recognized poets are gathered in this beautiful single volume. The anthology gathers an intriguing range of poets and artists, their visions and voices, exploring the variances in Michigan landscape; shoreline; lives lived in the city, town, and countryside; our uncommon diversity of cultures, points of view, concerns, celebrations, losses, and histories.

**The River Swimmer** by Jim Harrison (Grove Press) As one of America's most recognized and critically acclaimed authors, Harrison's new collection of novellas make Michigan's natural environment central to each tale. "The Land of Unlikeness" portrays a failed artist's return to Michigan to visit his ailing mother and the resulting rebirth in his love of painting. "The River Swimmer" ventures into the magical as a northern Michigan farm boy is drawn to swimming as an escape and his encounters with mythical "water babies" in the lakes and streams surrounding his northern Michigan home. The stories demonstrate how two men, young and old, actively confront inconvenient love and the encroachment of suburbia on Michigan's lavish natural environment.

**Something That Feels Like Truth** by Donald Lystra (Northern Illinois University Press) In 16 compelling stories, award-winning author Donald Lystra takes us on a page-turning journey through the cities and countryside of the Great Lakes heartland to as far away as Paris. In fierce but tender prose, Lystra writes about ordinary people navigating life's difficult boundaries—of age and love and family—and sometimes finding redemption in the face of searing regret. Although spanning half a century, these are timely stories that speak about the limits we place on ourselves, both from fear and for the sake of those we love, and of our willingness to confront change.

**Sweetie-licious Pies: Eat Pie, Love Life** by Linda Hundt, Photography by Clarissa Westmeyer (Guilford) In this cookbook, the author has built upon her nostalgia-based bakery business to offer her recipes to a wider audience. A 16-time national pie-baking champion, Linda Hundt truly believes in the ability of pies to spread good will, one delicious bite at a time. In this sweet cookbook, she shares the heartwarming stories behind 52 of her signature pies. Illustrated, like her bakeries, in retro themed pink and red, the cookbook will be enjoyed by both lovers of pie and family to whom she has dedicated many a recipe.

**Taken Alive: The Sight's Rock and Roll Tour Diary** by Eddie Baranek, Edited and Forward by Brian Smith (Hiros Rise Music) In 2012, the Detroit area band "The Sights" criss-crossed America and Europe in support of Hollywood star Jack Black's band Tenacious D. Baranek covers the highs and lows of the life on the road touring with a rock n' roll band. Baranek's diary shares stories that uniquely illustrate the power music has in our culture and inspires readers to support Michigan's local music scenes.

**Tear –Down: Memoir of a Vanishing City** by Gordon Young (University of California Press) Skillfully blending personal memoir, historical inquiry, and interviews with Flint residents, Young constructs a vibrant tale of a once-thriving city still fighting—despite overwhelming odds—to rise from the ashes. He befriends a rag-tag collection of urban homesteaders and die-hard locals who refuse to give up as they try to transform Flint into a smaller, greener town that offers lessons for cities all over the world.

**Tuesdays With Todd and Brad Reed: A Michigan Tribute** by Brad Reed and Todd Reed (Todd & Brad Reed Photography) Beginning on January 3, 2012, photographers Todd and Brad Reed traveled throughout Michigan every Tuesday from sunrise to sunset capturing the beauty that Michigan has to offer. During the 52 weeks, the Reeds successfully captured and highlight stunning images depicting both the rural and urban landscape of the Great Lakes State. This book captures a year's worth of their images in one gorgeous volume highlighting Michigan's most beautiful place.

**The Way North: Collected Upper Peninsula Works** Edited by Ron Riecki (Wayne State University Press) In 49 poems and 20 stories—diverse in form, length, and content—readers are introduced to the unmistakable terrain and characters of the U.P. The book not only showcases the snow, small towns, and idiosyncratic characters that readers might expect but also introduces unexpected regions and voices. From the powerful powwow in Baraga of April Lindala's "For the Healing of All Women" to the sex-charged basement in Stambaugh of Chad Faries's "Hotel Stambaugh: Michigan, 1977" to the splendor found between Newberry and Paradise in Joseph D. Haske's "Tahquamenon," readers will delight in discovering the work of both new and established authors.

## Onekama Consolidated Schools Continuing Education Classes - Spring 2014

[Six Week Classes start Monday, April 7 and end Thursday, May 15](#)

### Indoor Cycling Plus

This cardio workout is intense but fun. In addition to cycling, this class includes up to 15 minutes of core and balance exercise. Cycling portion is conducted on indoor upright stationary bicycles to high energy music. Focus on interval training and techniques used in an outdoor ride. Beginners and experienced cyclists welcome. Class is instructor led but self-paced. 12 sessions

*Monday and Wednesday with Kim 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Activity Room \$38*

*Tuesday and Thursday with Leann 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Activity Room \$38*

### Stretch and Strength

Do you like what you learned in Tonya's Winter Stretching class but want to build a little muscle to go with that flexibility? This class is for you! The sessions are designed to increase flexibility and increase muscle strength so you can enjoy all the upcoming Summer Activities. 12 sessions.

*Tuesday and Thursday with Tonya 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Fitness Room \$38*

### Zumba

"Ditch the Workout...Join the Party." It's a crazy fun workout that looks more like a high energy dance party. No complicated moves and no dance experience required. Just follow along and enjoy better cardio endurance and toned muscles. 12 sessions.

*Tuesday and Thursday with Tonya 6:45 to 7:45 p.m. in the Fitness Room \$38*

### Line Dancing **NEW!**

Dust off your dancin' shoes...actually you don't even need dancing shoes or a partner to enjoy the most fun you'll have on two feet. Kathy and Marvin Scarlata are known for getting you moving. You'll wonder how an hour can go by so fast. **Six sessions start April 23 on Monday and Wednesday.**

*Monday and Wednesday with Kathy and Marvin 6:45 to 7:45 p.m. in the Activity Room \$20*

### Functional Exercise **NEW!**

Functional Exercise focuses on movement and resistance training that improve quality of life for those with limited exercise experience or ability. The focus of this two-week session is to introduce participants to light to moderate cardio forms, simple stretching and strength exercise that will improve stamina and make everyday living more enjoyable.

*Monday and Wednesdays, **Four sessions start Monday April 7 and continue Monday and Wednesday, April 9, 14 and 16** with Leann, 6:45 to 7:45 p.m. in the Fitness Room, \$12.*

### Personal Fitness Training

Need a fitness plan that is more individualized? Fitness trainers work with clients to assess overall health and fitness levels and then help clients begin an exercise plan specific to individual needs. The \$100 package includes a two-hour fitness assessment and orientation, and two 1-hour sessions that introduce clients to their individualized programs. Contact Mary at 889-4251 to set an appointment.

### Introduction to Machine Quilting

Skill Level- Confident beginner This class will cover the following topics:

- Preparing your quilt "sandwich"
- Methods for transferring a design to your quilt top
- Creating designs
- Techniques using a walking foot or even feed foot
- Free motion quilting
- Design ideas for blocks
- Design ideas for borders

We will practice these skills in class and a materials list will be provided before class begins. Class participants will need a sewing machine with a walking foot or even feed foot *and* a darning foot or free motion foot. For free motion quilting, machines must have the capability to lower the feed dogs.

*Four Wednesday evenings, 6 to 8 p.m. starting April 9 with Carol, \$25*

### Great Lakes Fishing Class

The class, coordinated by Manistee County Sports Fishing Association members, begins Wednesday, April 9 and runs four weeks on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM. Special features in 2014 will include fly casting, fishing on Lake Michigan, stream fishing, walleyes on Saginaw Bay, and caring for your outboard motor. Classes include demonstrations of equipment and techniques by expert professional and amateur fishermen. The class is open to all. Men, women and kids accompanied by adults are welcome. The class fee is \$30.00 for all four classes. Anyone interested in class membership can call Mary Bergren at 889-4251 or Dave at 231-645-9056 to enroll. MCFSA membership is included for any first-time association enrollments.

[Sign up for all of these classes by calling OCS Cont. Ed at 889-4251](#)



## CONCERT SCHEDULE

**June 30th - Pico and Chown** Guitar and singing duo from Traverse City area. Pop/light rock/show tunes/jazz and blues.

**July 7th Gratitude Steel Band-** Jamaican Steel band, Island folk music. 6 person band and singers. Very exciting and includes audience involvement.

**July 14th Snyder Family-** Rock/family/ pop music from Canada. Father and daughter/son group.

**July 21st Peter, Paul & Mary Flashbacks-** PP&M plus other music from that era.

**July 28th Cool Lemon-** 8 person big band and vocalist - Pop/big band/blues from Midland and Saginaw

**August 4th Blue Water Ramblers-** Michigan history folk/ blue grass about lumbering, railroads, farmers- folks that wrote "Onekama" song a few years ago that PLA obtained rights to for our use.

**August 11th Madcat Midnight Blues Journey-** very popular group returning for 4th season - Blues/rock/pop with new sounds, 5-6 piece group.

**August 18th Sub-Prime Blues Band-** 5 person Chicago style Blues band from Northwestern Michigan area. Perform "Heart Breakin' Blues" written by local artist, Lysette.

## **A Museum for Onekama???**

People in our community have often expressed a strong desire to have a museum in Onekama. In September of 2010 there was a meeting with Jan and Bob Thomas from the Marilla Museum to discuss how to get started.

On March 10<sup>th</sup>, a group of people met in Marilla to discuss forming an alliance of all the museums in Manistee County. There are now museums in Brethren, Arcadia, Benzie, Marilla, Manistee, Mesick, Kaleva, Copemish and soon Bear Lake. Carol Voights from the Arts and Culture Alliance of Manistee County was there to discuss how this organization could assist the group.

The people at this meeting were extremely interested in helping us to get started and they had many helpful suggestions. We have so much history here that should be preserved and shared. Are you interested in being part of a Historical Society and working toward a "Museum for Onekama"??? If so, please **contact Marilyn Acker at 231-889-4758**



APRIL 2014 NEWSLETTER

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