



*Campers in front of the pavilion at Camp Morrison in the 1920's. Later, the name was changed to Whispering Surf.*

## 104 YEARS STRONG



urrounded by majestic trees, nestled between the white sands of Lake Michigan and the sparkling blue waters of Bass Lake sits Michigan's oldest privately owned campground. With 90 sites and two newly remodeled cottages, this campground offers something for every vacationer. Whispering Surf Campground at Bass Lake hasn't always had the amenities it has today, but since opening in 1913 under the name Camp Morrison, it has continued its same tradition of family and fun.

The camp was opened over 100 years ago by Reverend Arthur S. Morrison from Chicago. Morrie, as he was better known, ran a Boys Choir Camp for the Episcopal Church. When the



camp first opened, the land was owned by a developer in Chicago. It is unclear how Morrie ultimately came to own the land, but the rumor told by many is that it was won in a poker game!

The camp functioned as it was originally intended for a short time but quickly changed from a camp for just boys to a family camp. In the beginning years of Camp Morrison, most of the guests came by boat from Chicago or by train. The guests stayed in tents

and cooked over an open fire. There were no hand pumps to retrieve water nor were there privies in the early days, so guests were truly roughing it. Native Americans were frequently seen at the camp around that time.

By the late teens, small crude cabins with outhouses were constructed throughout the thick forest. With the improvements to the local roads and more people having ownership of vehicles, it became easier for people to get to Pentwater to vacation. More guests brought more improvements to the camp and true cabins with outhouses and hand pumps for water were constructed.

In the 20's the camp became an American Plan Resort. This meant that people were provided cabins, three meals

*(Continued next page)*



## Escape from Drudgery

Every summer more than 42 million Americans turn to the wilderness seeking escape, however temporary, from the drudgery and stress of everyday life. Camping is a long-standing American tradition. It became quite popular in the U.S. in the late 19th century, but of course it started much earlier. Since time immemorial people have camped by necessity as they explored new areas or traveled between established settlements. However, this was separate from the practice of camping for the pure sport of it.

The idea of camping as recreation came along in the 1800's. It was initially taken up by people who wanted to share their passion for this specific way of travel and living, and their advocacy boosted the popularity greatly. It was particularly seen as a good pastime for children, allowing them to experience adventure within the benign confines of an organized nature expedition.

It is probably no coincidence that camping became popular as the United States became a more industrial country. Much of the early movements towards camping seem to have arisen from the human impulse to preserve what was being lost in every day life. There was a strong moral component as well, as camping and outdoor life were seen to be conducive to physical fitness and to good character.

Pentwater has been hosting a portion of these millions of campers for well over a century. In these articles, we hope to enlighten you to the history of the current campgrounds in Pentwater.

a day served family style in the pavilion called "The Pines", and provided with family oriented leisure activities for one price. Most of the families who vacationed at Camp Morrison returned year after year to vacation there. By 1929 Morrie was done with his duties from the Episcopal Church in Chicago, was married to Georgia "Nana" Bosworth Morrison, and was living at the camp full time.

At this time, Camp Morrison developed a reputation for having alcohol readily available even though this was during the years of prohibition. Past employees and guests report that Mor-

rie made alcohol in the workshop of his basement. They said he also had a gambling den and a one armed bandit there. The notorious Purple Gang, a mob of bootleggers and hijackers from Detroit, who worked closely with Al Capone, were rumored to be guests at the resort more than one summer season. Evidence may have been found by past owner, Reg Yapple, who, in the spring of 1972, uncovered a large rectangular cement box the size of a coffin from under the floor of the women's rest room. After days of trying to chip away at the cured cement, the project had to be abandoned in order to pre-



TOP LEFT: Guests camped rough in the very early years. The bucket was used for heating water. The tent was a permanent tent for the summer. Note the suit hanging over the end of the bed!

TOP RIGHT: A photo dated 1913, the first year the Camp Morrison was open, shows guests on the Lake Michigan beach.

ABOVE: One of the early small sleeping cabins built during the twenties after the camp was on the American plan.

RIGHT: Morrie and Nana.

pare the women's rest room for the upcoming summer season. The cement box was not attached to anything and it was not hollow. Knowing that the Purple Gang were guests and were known to leave bodies in their wake, one can only speculate what is in the box which remains under the floor of the women's rest room.

Morrie organized family friendly events such as sing-alongs around the campfire and storytelling. Camp Morrison became known for its Saturday night dances. Local people as well as summer guests of all ages came out on Saturday night to take part in the

One frequent participant, Clarence Yaple, presented a twenty-dollar bill to get into the dance. Morrie collected the money, but didn't have enough change for a twenty and so Clarence was admitted free of charge. Clarence showed up



to the dance a few more times with a twenty before Morrie started keeping change to break it.

In the 30's the camp continued to flourish under the watchful eye of Morrie, who was known for his kind and fun loving nature. Nana, Morrie's wife, ran the kitchen. Her food was all made from scratch on site and was raved about around the county. The camp had a bell which rang to notify guests when meals were ready. When the bell rang, it could be heard from both lake fronts and the children would come running. Families were assigned seating at the tables in the pavilion and camp workers



dances held in the pavilion on a floor covered in sawdust. Admission was 25 cents and a snack bar was offered at a separate price.



TOP: Beechwood Cottage was built in the 20's and is typical of the often rough, owner built structures at the camp.

SECOND ROW: The old bridge over the Bass Lake outlet was built to access the shingle factory on the south side. The bridge was used to transport shingles north to La Belle's Landing, later called Bortell's Landing, and is now Summit Township Park.

- ♦ Guests often came to the camp by boat and a sign directed them to camp by way of the old Indian trail along the south edge of the outlet.
- ♦ A typical menu for the guests. Take a look at the prices . . . homemade pie at 17¢!

BOTTOM: The 1919 Model T Ford was purchased by the camp to transport guests to and from Pentwater after the south end of the road was extended to Route 31. Morrie is in the drivers seat.

♦ Dining in the Pavilion. Guests were served family style in bowls to pass. At times there were close to 300 people dining three times a day! At the end of the meal the servers, who were young people from the surrounding Summit Township area, bused the tables and the dishes were washed in the basement. Tables and chairs were removed in the evenings for camp events and gatherings.



SATURDAY DINNERS JAN. 24, 1948	
Cube steak lunch...75c	Pigchokes & kraut...75c
Potatoes & salad	Potatoes & salad
Rolls & butter	Rolls & butter
HOME MADE CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP. . . .20c	
Salisbury steak. . . . .	.65c
Veal heart with relish. . . . .	.65c
Creamed chicken a la king on biscuit. . . . .	.65c
Pan fried fillet of perch with lemon. . . . .	.65c
Franks with sour kraut. . . . .	.65c
Potatoes	Buttered peas & carrots
Hot biscuits	Coffee, tea, or milk.
-----	
\$1.35	
Grilled lean pork chops. .or	
Grilled strip sirloin steak.	
French fries..salad.. rolls .& beverage.	
-----	
Wheat cakes with sausage, syrup & butter. .50c	
Italian spaghetti with meat sauce. . 50c	
Hot biscuit & butter	
Cube steak sandwich with french fries. . 75c	
Chip steak sandwich on bun..french fries..50c	
Special deluxe hamburger..french fries. .40c	
Bar-B-Q beef sandwich..french fries..50c	
Home made pie. . 17c	Pie ala mode. .27c
Ice cream . . . .15c	Sundae. . . .25c
Thank you	
Come again	



would take food in large bowls to each table so the patrons could enjoy their meal family style. The same meals were served weekly. If a guest requested a certain meal on a certain day, the order of meals would be switched, but the types of meals served remained the same.

During the peak years of Camp Morrison, it had 35 cabins on 30 acres. It had a large pavilion and tennis courts. Being between two lakes made it a unique

(Continued on page 8)

## Charles Mears State Park



he thing I remember most about PTW when I was young is how the days seemed so long and so full of possibility. A typical day started with breakfast outside under our camper's awning. We'd ride bikes down to the beach to check out how warm the water was going to be that day.

We would usually go fishing if the water was chilly or snorkeling off the pier if it was warm enough. We'd hang out at the beach most of the day, maybe taking a break to grab lunch back at the camper. If we got too hot or bored at the beach we'd often walk into town to get candy at the Rexall pharmacy or play a round of mini golf at Rinaldi's. If we didn't go into town we'd get a game of whiffle ball, volleyball or ball tag on Old Baldy going. After dinner, we'd walk up Old Baldy or go downtown for ice cream or to catch the band playing at the pavilion on Thursday nights. We'd have a campfire every night and make roast marshmallows and make s'mores or tonka pies and just tell stories and laugh all night until it was bedtime.

*From Bryan Kortykowski – a yearly camper at Charles Mears State Park since the early 1980's.*

**Charles Mears State Park in Pentwater is one of Michigan's premier state parks with rich historical significance.**

The park was named after local lumber baron Charles Mears. He was an entrepreneur and instrumental in bringing businesses to the Village of Pentwater. In 1923 his daughter, Carrie Mears deeded 600 ft. of beach front to the state of Michigan. This land was the beginning of the current state park.

The 50-acre park is just north of Pentwater along 2,000 ft. of sandy Lake Michigan shoreline. It features 175 paved campsite lots with a large bathhouse and a playground in the middle of the campground. Behind the campground is an interpretive nature trail for hiking as well as the infamous sand dune, Old Baldy. The top of Old Baldy offers spectacular views and the urge to speed down the slope, hoping your legs can keep up with your body as it is propelled at great speeds toward the sandy bottom.

Adjacent to the beach is a picnic shelter and a new playground which was built in 2012. The beach has an accessible walkway extending out to the waters edge for those with strollers, wheel chairs, and coolers wheels to get closer to the rolling waves.

The fine sand and pristine waters bring visitors from all over. You may even meet a furry friend or two in the designated dog area closer to the harbor pier which extends from the channel out of Pentwater Lake. If you were to walk on along the channel on the paved walkway, you would pass beautiful homes, see a fisherman or two, and would be in town in minutes. It is a mere .5 mile walk to downtown from the beach.

## Small Town Big Aspirations

### Hill & Hollow Campground



Small towns often get a reputation for having its young people want to leave and never look back as soon as possible. This, fortunately, is not true in Pentwater; especially not for Don and Linda "Dee" Becke.

Dee's link to Pentwater goes back a few generations. She is the daughter of Lewis (Bud) Stenberg and Betty Draper Stenberg who married in 1946. Betty was born in Bronxville, New York and graduated from Hackley School of Nursing in Muskegon. Bud was born and married in the family home, "Twin Cedars" on Sixth Street in Pentwater. Bud and his brother, Fritz, owned Stenberg Brothers and Larsen Fish Market which was located on the lake behind the Village Café. Bud and Fritz were known for their delicious smoked chubs.



*Kids love Hill & Hollow for the many activities and sometimes for just being lazy!*

They started in business with their grandparents and then took over after the war with their uncle, Frank Larsen. Their last fishing tug was the Maggie Lynn and she left the port of Pentwater in 1965.

Don's link to Pentwater is more recent. He spent his summers in Pentwater since before he could crawl. His parents, Mark and Betty Oyler Becke, owned the cottage "Uned-aRest" with Don's grandfather, Don Oyler. Don was born in Battle Creek and graduated high school there before he joined the Navy to serve for six years.

After Don was discharged from the Navy, he moved back to Pentwater and met Dee in the late winter of 1973. They were married on February 15, 1974 in Dee's parents' home. 43 years later they have two beautiful daughters who they raised in Pentwater, Megan and Whitney, and are now proud grandparents to four handsome grandsons!

Don started an electronics repair and TV sales shop in downtown Pentwater while Dee operated an old-time photo studio in the front of the building across from the Gustafson's building. This led to the Beckes running the Pentwater Cablevision company in the late 70's with partners, Ralph and Paula Aerts. They only started with eleven customers but grew quickly over the next few years.

In the early 1970's Dee and Don bought 12 acres of land in Pentwater with the dream of building a home in the woods. Before they did anything with the land, they sold Pentwater



Cablevision and took the time to take an extended trip out West. During that vacation, they decided that owning and operating a campground would be a good fit. After returning home, they set about buying small parcels of land surrounding the 12 acres they already owned. It took them ten years to accumulate 35 acres of property.

They took advantage of the property they owned while they were purchasing more parcels by getting to work developing the campground. What started out as an idea to build a home in the woods, became an opportunity to create a popular vacation destination the Burkes named Hill & Hollow Campground. The campground first started on the west



ABOVE: Don & Dee Becke

RIGHT: AJ's Family Fun Center has activities that caters to kids of all ages. The Go Carts are thrilling! side of Hancock where Dee and Don finally built their log home on a ridge in the woods about 21 years ago. The campground later expanded across Hancock and now includes AJ's Family Fun Center.



Camping guests of Hill & Hollow come from all over the United States. Most travelers come from the Grand Rapids, Detroit, and Chicago areas. Hill and Hollow has over 80 seasonal campers who stay at the campground for 5 months each year. The Beckes continue to maintain and improve the campground each year and in return this brings a lot of repeat and first time campers. They are currently in the process of adding two rental log cabins for the 2018 season. The guests know they will find clean facilities and a friendly staff.

The Beckes feel very fortunate to have a staff of local, hard-working, young people and adults to carry on their vision.

Kelly Ells of Grand Rapids, a camper of six years, had this to say about Hill & Hollow;

*We chose Hill & Hollow because we fell in love with the nature inside the park coupled with the modern conveniences and the proximity to Pentwater and Lake Michigan.*

*Camping as family gets us all to slow down and spend time together . . . Pentwater has always been a special place for our family to create memories away from our busy lives at home.*

*What we love most about the area is that it is still a small town that moves at a slower pace . . . Some of the things you will find us doing would be spending time in our hammocks reading, taking walks, enjoying the pool and cooking over the campfire every chance we get. A special treat a few times a year is riding the go-carts at AJ's.*

*We love that Dee and Don and Pokey and Aaron and the rest of the staff at H & H treat us like family, but also respect that we are there to relax, unwind and create family memories.*



ABOVE: Having a fire with the kids making (and sometimes burning) marshmallows is a family ritual.

LEFT: Another happy camper!



Hill & Hollow Campground & RV Park is a destination for family and friends. With Pentwater Village, just down the street there is a lot to see and do, but with so many opportunities at Hill & Hollow guests just may stick around the campground all day. Guests can enjoy the day relaxing by one of the two heated pools, playing

basketball, volleyball, or walking to AJ's Family Fun Center which features a large covered picnic pavilion, Go-Karts, Adventure Mini-Golf, and an Arcade Game Room. In the evenings, most guests can be seen around the campfire chatting or roasting marshmallows.

By staying and raising a family in their small hometown, Don and Dee were able to see an opportunity and turn it into a success while living in the place they loved.



# What's Happ'n in the Village.

See something going on in the Village that you believe should be documented?

Grab your camera, take a photo and send it with a brief description of what's going on to the Pentwater Historical Society at:

**info@pentwaterhistoricalsociety.org**



*New home construction in Madison Ridge sub division on Crescent Road.*



*Halloween on the Green with face and pumpkin painting.*



*A great day at the beach in October!*



*October in Pentwater.*



*Making homemade cider at PHS member Doug & Ginny Bacon's House.*



*New home construction on Madison Road, adjacent to Madison Ridge sub division.*



*John Daggett shows off his Chevy at the Pentwater Car Show with Linda Eisenlohr.*



*Downtown Halloween parade on Saturday, October 28, 2017*



*Homecoming Parade Float of the Centenary of the Methodist Church. Suzanne Richey shows 100 year old clothing she had donated to the PHS museum.*



*PHS Member Doug Bacon and his "Rat Rod".*



*A leach drain was installed in front of Norm & Rhonda Shotwell's house.*



*Catching some pancake fun at the pancake breakfast.*



*Sunset on the beach in November with the snow fencing up.*



*Winter at Mears State Park.*



# Museum Receives Donated Items



Buy War Bonds Poster.  
From Pentwater VFW.



High School Fall Band  
Concert Announcemnt.

Post Card showing  
Big Bayou Circa early  
1900's This Post Card  
was lost for many years  
and recently found at  
the Pentwater Post  
Office and donated  
to the museum.



Water Color Painting of the  
Information Booth painted by PHS  
member Kitty Proctor Kokx in  
September, 2017 at 91 years old!



Pentwater High  
School Track Team  
of 1940. Photo  
taken at a track  
meet at Shelby.



Small Table Cloth  
originally belonged to Ann  
Flag of Pentwater and  
bought at an estate sale after  
Harold Shaw died.  
Old Dollies and  
Headrest donated by PHS  
member Linda Fekken.

# MUSEUM FALL REPORT

By Ed Bigelow, PHS Museum Director

## Museum Stage Area Gets A New Look!



ew artifact donations to the Museum keep arriving. Our Curator, Dick Warner will be able to refresh displays and keep the interest level high for the people who are repeat visitors and ask our hosts "What's New."

Visitor attendance to the Museum has been very good this year. In May: 155, June: 320, July: 357, August: 550, September: 134 and October: 70 for a total of 1,586 visitors. Once again, visitor comments were positive and appreciative of our small-town Museum and interesting Artifact Displays.

From August through October people visiting the Museum came from the following States: Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Georgia, Wisconsin, New York, Florida, Oregon, Colorado, Missouri, California, Utah, Oklahoma, Minnesota, Maryland, Tennessee, Massachusetts, Maine and Kentucky.



*Volunteers built the stage wall.*

The museum also had visitors from as far away as Sweden! Visitors from 21 States and one foreign country is a great indication that the PHS Historical Society and Museum is becoming well known and a destination in Pentwater.

The latest PHS project was to build a wall on the front edge of the stage area. The wall is about 14 feet in length and 4-foot-tall and is constructed with a 2 x 6-inch wood frame to support a peg board on both sides. A similar enclosure was made to utilize the space opening on the back side of the stage area. This new surface area allows for additional artifact displays to enhance our museum with more Pentwater history. Thank you to PHS members Ed Bigelow and Nick Fekken for the construction of this project, to Clyde Miller for his generous donation of oak boards and cove moldings, and to PHS member Tony Sisson who assisted Clyde making the boards and moldings!

and desirable destination. Mary Helen "Dickie" Dickenson Daggett, who was Morrie's step granddaughter, began working at the camp with her two children in 1942. In 1946, she married George Daggett and moved to the camp year-round to help manage it. When Nana passed away, Dickie took on full management of the camp and George baked and managed the kitchen.

When Morrie passed in 1956, Dickie and George took over the camp and began to make some changes to move with the changing times. In 1958, 4 acres which included the 9 cottages and lake frontage on Bass Lake were sold to Robert and Edith Call. These cottages were called Call's Resort and were rented by the same vacationers that stayed in them when they were still part of Camp Morrison. More buildings were sold and moved off the property during this time.



*Activities at the camp included hay rides. These guests look as if they are going out on the town.*

In 1965, an effort was made to turn the camp into a camp for troubled boys from Mississippi through the Episcopal Church. There was much opposition by the neighboring community so ultimately the property went back to the Daggett's. That summer the camp reinstated the Saturday dances. It was the last Saturday dance party Camp Morrison would see.

In 1966, a local 23-year-old saw the camp was for sale, borrowed money from his mom, and put a down payment of \$300 on Camp Morrison. Reginald Yapple saw great potential for the camp and had the vision and energy to make it a reality. It was a slow start the first year and there were many obstacles to overcome for the new owner. Because the Bass Lake frontage had been sold years earlier, Reg set about purchasing 4- 25' lake front lots to give the camp back its

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original appeal of having access to two different lakes. Reg changed the name of the camp from Camp Morrison to Whispering Surf to separate the vacation destination from its previous reputation related to alcohol, gambling, and troubled youth. The camp reopened on the 4th of July weekend with 32 campsites that same year.

In 1967 Reg was drafted. His mother, Dorothy, agreed to run the camp in the summer because as a teacher in Muskegon, she had the summers off. Even after Reg returned from serving as a U.S.



*L to R: Dancing was another popular activity with lots of square dancing between swing, popular and country dancing with local musicians providing the music.*

*The camp provided boats for fishing and canoeing.*

*Coffee klatches and social gatherings of families, friends and fellow campers under the canopy remains a popular activity at Whispering Surf.*



Army Medical Corpsman, Dorothy helped run the camp. Throughout the years, Reg received a degree from Western Michigan University, taught horticulture at WMU, became a statewide horticulture specialist at the University of Alaska Cooperative Extension Service, and founded the Denali Seed Company as well as the online company Best Cool Seeds. While he was in Alaska, his mother and sister, Penny Lynn, oversaw running Whispering Surf. Dorothy was known for her no-nonsense ways. She prized cleanliness and did a white glove test in the public

rest rooms after they were cleaned by staff. Because of that, the campground also became known for its extremely clean facilities.

Reg continued to make improvements on the campground as were needed. He added electricity, water, and sewer so that the modern trailers of today could be parked and stay for extended amounts of time. He also expanded the camping sites. The pavilion became a gathering space for visitors equipped with game tables. The road wasn't always smooth for changes at Whispering Surf, but Reg never gave up.

*"It was the ambiance and accessibility to both Bass Lake and Lake Michigan that kept us coming back. The campground had everything; a private beach on a small lake and within walking distance to the big lake for either sunsets or to swim and jump in the waves, or to the outlet where the little ones could play."*

*Ron & Madeline Hamelen*



Reg owned Whispering Surf until his death on August 23, 2016. Before he died, he was under contract with the current owners of Whispering Surf, Andy and Jane Hathaway. The Hathaway's thought owning a campground would be a great fit for them and began searching for one that would meet their needs. They specifically wanted a campground that had a lot of opportunities to interact with nature. While speaking with a broker, they happened upon Whispering Surf and fell in love with the campground, the area, and the history. After many trips to see the

campground, meetings with Reg, and time spent in Pentwater, the sale was complete at the beginning of 2017. The Hathaway's sold everything and moved to Pentwater from Pennsylvania.

In the short time the Hathaway's have owned Whispering Surf, they have made some improvements to the campground. This year, they remodeled two cabins that were being used as sheds to accommodate campers. They have loved their first season at the campground and look forward to many more.

This camping resort has survived its fair share of trials over its 104 years, but amazingly it has never been completely closed over that time. What started as a simple rustic tent camp in the dunes



*Whispering Surf began with tents and today welcomes guests with modern, comfortable RV's.*

has ended up as a modern campground. There have been many changes over the century it has been in existence, but it seems to have one constant; providing a beautiful place to vacation with friends and family.

*See more photos of the camp on back page.*

*\*This is only a few of the highlights about the history of the camp. If you would like to learn more and see more pictures of the camp, stop into the museum and ask to see "The first 100 Years by Reginald Yapple". Reg researched and wrote this book in 2013 for the 100-year anniversary of the camp.*

*Copies for purchase can be found at Whispering Surf Campground located at 7070 S. Lakeshore Drive.*

*\*\*A special thank you to Jane and Andy Hathaway for allowing me to borrow their copy of the book to write this article.*



# THE PENTWATER HISTORICAL HOME TOUR BOOK

**ONLY  
\$10.00  
PLUS \$3.00  
if shipped**

54 pages of homes, lots of  
color photos, old photos of some buildings  
now long gone plus, a handy map that lays  
out three different walking or driving tours  
in the Village.

**Pick up your copy at the Museum**

or order it on line at:

**[pentwaterhistoricalsociety.org](http://pentwaterhistoricalsociety.org)**

## Easy Money for PHS

With Christmas just around the corner, many of us will do our shopping in the quiet of our own homes in front of a computer. If this is your plan, why not make money for PHS while crossing off the items on your Christmas list?

The Pentwater Historical Society is an officially recognized recipient for charitable donations by the AmazonSmile program. The only thing you must do is login to AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)) and select Pentwater Historical Society!

Items will have their same low prices, but through this program, Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)), you must select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping.

Amazon will remember your selection of Pentwater Historical Society and then every eligible purchase you make at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) will result in a donation.

login to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-2477422>  
and shop, shop, shop.

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Susan Ginocchio

## NEW LIFE MEMBER

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## THE NEWSLETTER IS LOOKING FOR...

history and pictures of our local churches, Bed and Breakfasts, hotels, motels, inns, and Pentwater Homecoming. If you have any pictures or information you would be willing to share with other members please contact Amy at 616-218-0870 or: [amypentwater@hotmail.com](mailto:amypentwater@hotmail.com)

We would also love to utilize your talents. We need help with interviews, research, and writing articles. We have plenty of ideas, but need more hands to make less work.

Contact Amy!



## DATELINE DOWNTOWN PENTWATER



orry, I don't have one central theme for this edition so I thought I would go through my files

and see what was lurking there. After cleaning out all the spiders and snakes and assorted other creatures, I came up with this:

Some English Words - The English language has been enriched by many words drawn from other languages to facilitate direct and comprehensive expression on all subjects. Within the language itself, a similar principal has prevailed. Old words of well-established meaning have been adopted in the sciences and arts to designate certain things or operations that seem to resemble those from which the name was taken. In their new relations, these words have strictly technical meaning. Their suitability is often obvious enough in English, but can rarely be translated in their exact actual equivalents in foreign languages.

For example;

- ♦ The machinist employs dogs on his lathe
- ♦ He takes a hog cut, i.e., a BIG cut
- ♦ The castings are made from pigs of iron, which in turn were fed from a sow
- ♦ You prop your work up set upon horses or bucks
- ♦ Punched or bent by a convenient bear
- ♦ Hoisting is done by a crab
- ♦ A catwalk is part of the outfit of a big shop crane
- ♦ A kit (tools) is always at hand
- ♦ A crowbar helps to straighten work
- ♦ A jack to lift it
- ♦ A mule pulls the work around the shop

### Membership dues for 2017 are due.

If you see "16" following your name on the mailing label it is time to renew your membership. The dues amounts are shown on the Membership Application Form on the last page of the newsletter.

Please send your check to:

Pentwater Historical Society  
PO Box 54, Pentwater, MI 49449

- ♦ A worm gear drives machinery gears
- ♦ A pony engine turned the machines when shops had gas or steam engines. Now pretty much everything is run by electricity.
- ♦ A pet cock shuts off the water
- ♦ One kind of a ram raises it and another drives heavy work
- ♦ A printing press has a fly (there's a name I haven't heard in many years)
- ♦ The first locomotives had a grasshopper valve for motion and drive
- ♦ A butterfly valve used to be used in carburetors when cars had carburetors
- ♦ Coins used to hold type in the printing industry (I still have a few)
- ♦ A spider comprises a set of gears
- ♦ A dog clutch drives snow mobile engines

Now that I have bored you to pieces with words, I have something completely different. The Tradition of the Wedding Ring. The wearing of a wedding ring on the third finger of the left hand follows the custom of the ancient Egyptians, who believed that finger to be directly connected by a slender nerve to the heart itself. And as these ancients held this finger sacred to Apollo, gold was therefore chosen as the metal of the ring.

*You're Invited!*

### PENTWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY **ANNUAL SPRING DINNER**

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

At The Pentwater VFW Hall

This event open to the public

Appetizers & Drinks at 5:30pm

Followed by Special Guest Speaker  
and concluding with dinner

*Come and enjoy this social  
and cultural event!*

## USE THIS FORM TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE PENTWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (The Address where you have your important mail sent when it absolutely positively has to get there!) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

**TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP:** •Patron \$500\* •Life \$250\* •Sustaining \$50\*  
•Annual \$20\* •Student \$3 (\* Includes Spouse)

STATUS: ☐ New  
☐ Renewal

Would you like to be contacted to participate in society activities? If so, your area of interest is: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Yes, Please send the newsletter by e-mail. My e-mail address is: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:  
The Pentwater Historical Society, P.O. Box 54, Pentwater, MI 49449

AUTHORIZED  
SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

## Operating Camp Morrison took a lot of work!



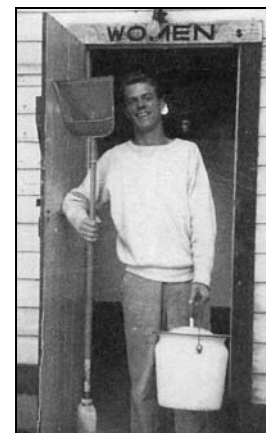
The work crew from the early forties of sitting on the front porch of the pavilion. "Dickie" Sutcliff, front-left was Nana and Morrie's granddaughter who later married George Daggett and helped run the camp for many years.



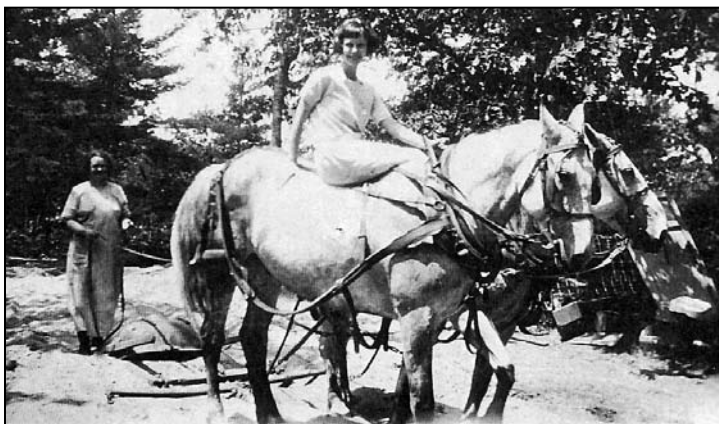
The camp cooks in front of the pavilion during the thirties. The kitchen help included Evelyn Olmstead on the left and were all local women from Summit Township.



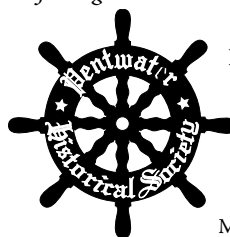
An early photo shows washing linens by hand in a washing tub with a youngster cranking the wringer. Then came hanging them on the clotheslines to dry, taking them down and folding. It's more than an all day task!



Bill Thomas in 1949 is doing his daily chores cleaning the womens restroom. He has a slop jar from one of the cabins in hand.



The camp grew most of their own fresh vegetables in the early days and kept horses for transportation, clearing land and plowing the gardens. That's Nana preparing the garden and her daughter Bernice riding the horse.



PENTWATER  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY  
P. O. BOX 54,  
PENTWATER,  
MICHIGAN 49449

**MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR**

**SPRING  
DINNER**  
May 23

**5TH ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION**  
May 26

**GARAGE  
SALE**  
June 9

**PANCAKE  
BREAKFAST**  
June 24

**HOMECOMING  
PARADE**  
August 11

**SUMMER  
DINNER**  
August 22