



## LEWIS PARSONS

**S**ummers are a magical place in Pentwater. The sleepy beach town seems to wake up with gusto, opening itself to fun adventures around every corner. Some of the fun experiences of Pentwater summers turn into traditions, while others are unique experiences that come and go with changing summer visitors or residents. Whatever magic is in the air each summer, it is the visitors and residents who joyfully conjure it up!

One resident that provided hours of entertainment while he lived in



Kevin Christensen received this hand-made puppet/marionette from Lewis.

**Pentwater memories of Lewis Parson's piano concerts and puppet shows are all part of Pentwater's tradition.**

The children who eagerly awaited his annual visits were never turned away and were always in awe of Parson's displays of youthful energy even when he was well into his seventies!

Parsons Puppets spent summers in western Michigan and called Pentwater home. He gave free Sunday afternoon piano concerts and gave Pentwater children piano lessons.

Some residents of Pentwater remember seeing puppet shows on the Village Green, at the Yacht Club, and the library as children. They remember him strolling through the Village Green during the band concerts with his marionette to advertise the puppet show that would take place

after the concert. His puppets had unique voices and character traits that created exciting stories on a stage that Parsons would set up in order to perform for audiences young and old.

His friendly nature, lively stage presence and lots of showmanship made his puppets come to life and entertained residents and visitors of Pentwater for many years. Lewis Parsons may no longer be providing a magical puppet show, but there is much more magic to be found in Pentwater during the summer. What magical adventures have you encountered?



Lewis made his own puppets and designed his stage presentations to fit the theme of the story.



Lewis Parsons at his piano.

Pentwater was Lewis Parsons. Lewis Parsons was born in Michigan not far from Pentwater. As an adult he became a music teacher and taught in Chicago for 15 years because "Teaching provided more security than being a concert pianist". After he turned forty, he decided to use his passion for music and became a puppeteer. Lewis Parsons traveled the United States with his puppets. He toured schools from Michigan all the way to Texas for over 25 years with a program that combined music and puppetry.

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# 100 YEARS ON THE LAKE

by Rich Pugsley

**T**he Pugsley family has a long history in Pentwater as a place of respite and retreat. Generations of the Pugsley family have frequented the sandy shores and tranquil waters to spend time with family and create cherished memories for over a century.

It all began with Carrie Mears, the daughter of Charles Mears, a Michigan lumber businessman who was instrumental in the forming of Pentwater. In 1917, Carrie Mears sold property on Pentwater Lake to Michigan Summer Homes to create Ottawattamie Park. Ottawattamie Park was to be located on the southeastern shore of Pentwater Lake. On August 30, 1921, Hart Prosecuting Attorney and Village of Hart President; Earl Pugsley, signed a 10-year land contract with Michigan Summer Homes to purchase Lot 22 of Block 1 of Ottawattamie Park. This property has remained in the Pugsley family for what is now over 100 years.

In the summer of 1920, in the days before air conditioning, a place to stay cool during pregnancies and hot summers was good motivation to have a refuge on the lake. It was in May of that year when Alice, Earl's wife, gave birth to their first child. Alice would have two more children; the last one, Milt, was born in September of 1924.

The first Pugsley family cottage was simple with a wood burning fireplace, three bedrooms separated by bead board and a screened-in porch. There was no furnace, running water, or indoor plumbing. The water for the visitors of the cottage was carried from springs located at the end of the big bayou. To get to the cottage there was a two-track drive that came off Longbridge Road and went directly to the cottage. As Ottawattamie Park developed, there were multiple two-track roads off Longbridge Road, each with their own sign nailed to a tree. Eventually, Ottawattamie Road started to be used as the original Park plot had intended.

In 1947, things begin to change. Lester Batdorff, who had acquired the unsold lots of Ottawattamie Park, needed funding to keep his business in Detroit afloat. He approached Judge Pugsley with a request for a \$2400 mortgage loan in exchange for a discounted price on lots 20, 21, and 23 of Block 1 and lots 2, 3, and 4 of Block 4. These were the lots on either side of the existing cottage and the back lots behind it. The judge took the deal and later sold off

Lots 20 and 2. This left Judge Pugsley with 3 lake front lots. With the extra land and grandchildren (8) growing up, improvements were made to the cottage. A dining room, heater, running water, and a bathroom were added. Much to the chagrin of the grandkids, who loved to sleep in the open porch, the porch was enclosed with glass windows. A boat house was added as well as an out-building to add another bedroom and bath.

In 1970, Earl and Alice Pugsley passed the property on to



*The original cottage of the Pugsley family.*

their three children. In 1981, Milton Pugsley purchased the full rights to the property from his sisters. The agreement included the understanding that Milton's sisters would be able to continue to use the cottage until their deaths.

With Milton's ownership, the next generation of changes to the property began. Milton purchased lots 5, 6, and 7 of Block 4 and started his building projects. In 1980, he built a winterized efficiency apartment above the boat house. In 1988, he built an office and boat storage facility on lot 7. In 1990, the old cottage was removed, and a new year-round retirement home was built. Over the years he also planted many trees. In 1991, Milt retired and lived in the new year-round cottage until his death in 2015. Milt and his wife Barbara had two sons, five grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren. The cottage was always a busy place filled with exciting energy.

With Milt's death, the third generation; his son, Rich Pugsley, inherited the cottage. This is where we are today. Rich and his wife, Jean, and their three daughters and 10 grandchildren, all of whom live in Michigan, continue to build memories on the family property every year. Earl, Alice and their children are all gone, but the original eight cousins still get together with their families every July 4th at the cottage to cherish the old memories and make new memories for future generations.



**W**alk down to the shores of Lake Michigan, through the campground, or down the quaint streets of the Village neighborhoods any summer evening and you will smell the intoxicating scent of musky smoke and pine needles. Campfires don't begin as roaring fires, however. They take patience, resources, time, and fuel to become the glowing

## **FORTY YEARS OF GROWTH**

By Amy Vander Zwart

\*A special thank you to Larry Konopka for help with research.

beacons of energy that beckon us to gather around them.

Just like a campfire, many ideas begin with a tiny spark. These ideas take patience, resources, and time to develop into a shining success. Four decades ago, a small group of citizens sat around a dining room table inside one of the oldest homes in Pentwater, known as one of the Flagg Houses, and shared their dreams of preserving and promoting Pentwater's unique

story. They began with a small spark of an idea and worked together to set the spark ablaze.

Each person at the table had their own motivation in preserving and promoting Pentwater's history. Some had strong ties to Pentwater through their family histories; having homes filled with mementos and pictures from the past that they were anxious to record and share. Others

wanted to create another attraction to bring visitors to town. Another motivation behind creating a historical society in Pentwater was the fact that Pentwater has a unique story all its own to share. Whatever the motivations, the goals of Harold Shaw, Tom Sturr, Betty McKee, and Norman Kuhne were the same.

(Continued on page10.)

## **MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITY**

### **DONATIONS**

Sally Barsley

Dolly Geers

Albert & Nan Brosky

Jonathan & Christi Daly

Beth Russell

Richard & Sylvia Warner

### **MEMORIALS**

Nancy Tosch in Memory of Beth O'Donnell

### **NEW MEMBERS**

Jennifer Sheehan

Tim & Betty Jo Scovill

James Tierney

Mark Marrow

Doug & Kathleen McAuley

## **MUSEUM EXPANSION UPDATE**

By Beth Russel

### **OUR MISSION**

Over the winter, behind the scenes work has been done to help make the hopes and dreams of the Society come to fruition and increase its contribution to Pentwater's community.

Our mission has not changed; to collect, preserve, and share information and artifacts regarding Pentwater. The PHS also strives to enrich lives through engaging members, residents, and visitors in the history of our community. We desire to be a welcoming place; a place of inspiration and learning; a place to foster a sense of community and to be a community.

### **OUR GOALS:**

**Given our mission and vision, we want to do several things:**

- Expand the museum, and of course raise the funds needed to make this a reality.
- Create interactive exhibits that appeal to youngsters, adults and groups.
- Create memorable experiences that bring visitors back to Pentwater and the museum year after year.
- Plan for future exhibits every 1-2 years.

### **OUR TEAM:**

The PHS board includes individuals with the skills to oversee an expansion project and have assembled a team to help us raise funds to complete that project. Planning has been taking place over the winter with this team. You will start to see more discussion of our fund-raising over the summer and even more in the fall of 2022. Funding will be needed for our capital improvement plans as well as for the new exhibits we are planning.

You know the needs of the museum and the community. Please consider how you can help us meet our goals and fulfill our mission in the community. As more information will be coming in the fall.

# SUMMER TOURS

by Ron Beeber

**J**oin us this summer for an introduction to the history of our village, its people, and businesses. Our guided tours are informative and enjoyable. Each tour presents a different view of Pentwater and its history. The Pentwater Historical Society does not charge for tours or admission to the museum. However, the History Cruise does require a \$10 fee per person to cover operating costs. Donations to Pentwater Historical Society are appreciated.

## HISTORY CRUISE

Our most scenic tour, the History Cruise takes place on the same watercraft that is used for taxi services and sunset cruises. Enjoy an hour on the water with our docent. Learn about the sites of various businesses and events that took place along the shoreline. See it all from the lake point of view. The cost is \$10, required to cover the watercraft operating expenses. The one-hour tour departs from the water taxi dock at 3rd street and the lakeshore. See the Pentwater Water Taxi page on Facebook for the latest information on how to purchase tickets in advance to reserve your seat(s). Walk-ups are welcome if there is room.



*Captin Lee pilots the ex-naval launch that takes you around Pentwater lake, the channel and on Lake Michigan.*

## HISTORY ON HANCOCK

Take a stroll down Hancock Street exploring the earliest days of our village through the millennium. Hear the stories and see the places where it all happened. To keep our youngest participants engaged we offer a pictorial scavenger hunt for budding historians age 12 and under. Let them match the photographic evidence to the proper location and story! The one-hour, free tour departs from the Municipal Marina parking lot at Hancock & 6th St., and finishes at Hancock and 1st St.

## HISTORIC PENTWATER AND ITS ARCHITECTURE

Join a free 90-minute guided walking tour of picturesque Pentwater, led by architectural historians. They will point out the varied architectural styles as well as recount early inhabitants' stories for homes and buildings in Pentwater, many of which date back to the 1860s. The tour starts and ends at the Pentwater Historical Society Museum (1st and Rutledge) and takes in the beauty of the historic homes on Pentwater's quaint residential streets. We also walk by civic and commercial buildings and sites representing the spirited history of the small village that began as an 1850s lumbering settlement.



*Guests & friends love this tour of residential streets & homes.*

## HISTORY ON THE GREEN

A seated narrative "tour" is available on the Village Green. The Village Green is the geographical center of much of the history you will hear. With a central view of the most memorable locations in and around Pentwater –the channel, Lake Michigan, Pentwater Lake, and the downtown area –you will enjoy the stories about the people and events near the lakes, up and down Hancock Street, and the surrounding areas. This one-hour, free session will meet near the pavilion. Feel free to bring a chair, or metal folding chairs will be provided.

## TOUR SCHEDULES

### The History Cruise

Tues–Sat, 2:45pm, June–Aug

Thu–Sat, 2:45pm,

Additional departures available for parties of 5 or more. Please inquire.

Departs from the water taxi dock at 3rd Street and the lakeshore.

ONLY  
**\$10**  
per person

### Architectural Walking Tours

Thursdays: 10:30am, July 7–August 11

Departs from museum at 1st and Rutledge

### History on the Green

Fridays: 11am, June–August (except July 9)

Convenes on the Village Green near the pavilion, 245 S. Hancock St.

### History on Hancock

Saturdays: 11am, June–August

Departs from the Village Marina parking lot, 6th and S. Hancock St.

*Check our website or Facebook page for up-to-date schedules and more details*  
**[www.pentwaterhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.pentwaterhistoricalsociety.org)**

GOT QUESTIONS? E-mail: **[phtours@pentwaterhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:phtours@pentwaterhistoricalsociety.org)**

**PHS IS 40 YEARS OLD!**

We're searching for

**CHARTER MEMBERS!**

**Do you know someone or have a family member who is a charter Member of the PHS who joined in 1983 or '84?**

**Call Deb Deward Today!**  
**231-869-2230**

**NOTE: Summer Dinner FREE for Charter Members**  
**See Ad on Page 7**



# THE PENTWATER SAND SCULPTURE CONTEST

## A Brief History

By Ron Beeber, *The Pentwater Service Club Sand Sculpture Committee Chair 2012-2021*

With the 49th Pentwater Sand Sculpture Contest being held on August 12, 2022, we set out to learn about its history. Details have been hard to come by and we hope this article reveals some added information.

Maybe we'll incorporate new info into a story we'll run next summer when the community celebrates the contest's 50th Anniversary in 2023. Submit your information to [info@pentwaterhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@pentwaterhistoricalsociety.org).

**T**he Pentwater Sand Sculpture Contest was founded in 1974 by the late Al Ringquist who, at age 26, chose to make a life in Pentwater with his new wife, Alice. The couple had met at Camp Miniwanca a few years earlier. Al opened the Leprechaun Shop (where Goodstuffs is located today) and sold custom furniture and cabinetry. He also crafted small wooden toys, and a few are on display in our Historical Museum vestibule. Al later became the Village of Pentwater's finance director.

Al's community involvement extended into many areas, but he is best known for his idea to hold a



*A proud participating sculptor accepts their trophy.*

can only guess that 27-year-old Al felt the vibe of outer space. In honor of his very successful idea, in August of 2013, the Service Club invited him to speak at the noontime awards ceremony and be photographed with each winning team. It was such a special day for everyone.

It's said that the contest was first held on the Saturday evening of Homecoming Weekend, perhaps to take advantage of the large Homecoming crowd attracted to the beach to view the sunset. At some point, the contest was moved to the Friday morning of Homecoming, and it became known as the Pentwater Sandcastle Contest. We believe the Pent-



*Teamwork gets it done!*

contest at Mears State Park Beach in which folks would come and sculpt in the beautiful sandy shoreline. It's not known why Al named the contest, "Intergalactic Sandcastle Contest." Perhaps he chose this name because during that time he was surrounded by film, television, and world involvement which centered on the theme of space. The film "2001, A Space Odyssey,"



*A beautiful example of a classic sand castle.*

came out in 1968. Man first walked on the moon in 1969. Star Trek first aired on TV in the late 1960s. "Star Wars" and "Close Encounters" weren't released until 1977. So, in 1974, we



*They have shovels, a plan and plenty of sand!*

water Chamber organized the event for a time until responsibility was assumed by the Pentwater Service Club. We don't know exactly when, but the event became better known as the Pentwater Sand Sculpture Contest; although some still say "sandcastle." Contestants sculpt designs in the sand that demonstrate each year's Pentwater

*(Continued on page 9.)*



*What's Up?* **in the Village.** See something in the Village that you believe should be documented? Grab your camera, take a photo and send it with a brief description to the Pentwater Historical Society at: [info@pentwaterhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@pentwaterhistoricalsociety.org)



*A great day for fishing in Pentwater.*



*The House of Flavors was remodeled and redecorated over the winter.*



*Golf carts can now park along road at the beach.*



*Volunteers mix concrete for a sculpture base at the Village Marina.*



**MELLOW YELLOW**  
A sculpture by Petra Bouetz was recently installed in front of the Village Hall.



**ENTROPY**, a sculpture by Jacquelynn Sullivan Gould and Samel Gould is at the Village Marina.



*Downtown store fronts are being repainted and remodeled.*



*Lots of volunteers at the annual cemetery clean-up.*





The new Yacht Club structure makes progress.



The pet store received a coat of paint.



A West Michigan tour of Model A Fords stopped in Pentwater.



Norm Shotwell and Deb Deward are always seen volunteering at many PHS functions.

Here they are at the annual garage sale on June 11.

Nice weather and lots of buyers made for a successful sale.

# Plan to Attend **THE SUMMER DINNER**

**Wednesday, Aug. 25, 2022**  
**At the VFW Hall**

**5:30pm**  
**Appetizers**  
**& Social**

**6:00pm**  
**Greetings from**  
**Dick Warner**  
**President, PHS**

**6:15pm**  
**Dinner is**  
**Served**

**40<sup>th</sup>**  
**ANNIVERSARY**

*Plus* an entertaining  
and informative  
after dinner program.

*Thank  
You!*

*All CHARTER MEMBERS who  
joined PHS in '84 & '83 can  
attend the Summer Dinner FREE  
as a Thank You for being part of  
"History in the Making".*

**NOTE: You must RSVP to Deb Deward**

**ONLY \$25.00**  
**per person (BYOB)**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:**  
**Decor by Sandra & Jilly's**

**Questions or Information Contact**  
**Deb Deward at: 231-869-2230**



# MUSEUM UPDATE

By Dan Hoekstra, Sr. Museum Director

The Museum begins an exciting new 2022 season starting on June 1st at 1:00! Volunteers have freshened up the museum and added new exhibits both large and small.

The new Pentwater Police and Fire Department exhibits are not to be missed! For the foreseeable future, the Village Council has loaned PHS an 1892 two-man fire hose wheel which we have added to our main floor. Also highlighted are two firefighters from Pentwater's Fire Department who gave their lives in the line of duty as well as Captain John Sayle's locker and a plaque from Everett Parnell.



*Volunteers took apart the 1892 two-man hose reel to get it into the museum and then reassembled it for display.*

New displays also include pharmacy and drug store items and Paul Daugherty's duck and fish decoys. In addition is a showcase exhibiting unique items that don't fit into a certain genre. It is interesting to say the least.

Please take a little time to come visit us and see Pentwater's history on display. We have worked very hard since last year to bring



*The Paul Smith family.*

*The Museum hosted a special reception for families of Pentwater firefighters who died. John Sayles family, the William Everett Parnell family and the Paul Smith family.*



*When rushing to a fire, the spokes of the 6 foot tall wheels would activate a loud, clanging bell to warn horses and people to get out of the way.*

*Below, proud Pentwater volunteer fire-fighters pose with the new hose-reel and horse drawn steam-powered pumper. The fire-fighting equipment was presented to the Village by the Sands & Maxwell Lumber Company after the disastrous 1889 fire that destroyed much of downtown Pentwater.*



*The John Sayles family.*



*William Everett Parnell family.*

*Assistant Fire Chief Terry Cluchey, Fire Chief Jonathan Hugbart and Paramedic Caleb Jeffries attended the reception honoring their fellow fire fighters.*





*(Sand Sculpture Continued)*

Homecoming Theme, such as “Picture Yourself in Pentwater”, “Hats Off to Pentwater”, “Support Our Troops” “Historic Pentwater”, “Sailing Into the Future”, “75 Years of Yachting in Pentwater”, “Pentwater Sunset”, “Senses of Summer”.

Fast forward to 2022 and the contest is still going strong.

We tried to compile a list of the past event chairpersons who succeeded Al but had little success. We do know that Ron and Madeline Homelen coordinated it in the 90’s shortly after they moved to Pentwater and Ron joined the Service Club. They decided to award a participation certificate to each participant, so everyone walked away with something, not just the trophy winners. “You could just see the excitement on the little one’s” faces”, exclaimed Madeline. “It was so much fun, we really enjoyed it!” A few years ago, Carol Oxford donated to the Service Club so it could purchase a quantity of participant ribbons that will last several more years. She too believes that every competitor should walk away with something.

Ron was succeeded by the late Don VanZile sometime in the 1990s. Don’s wife Joanie, recalls Don being insistent that each contestant aged 5 and under receive some sort of memento, like a sand shovel and pail, because they’re too young to understand the concept of winning and needed to walk away with something that recognized their sand sculpting effort. Don was succeeded in 2002 by Ted Towl, who remembers working on the event during the Dessert Storm era, adding the display of armed forces flags from the VFW, and inviting Fr. Sam Morrison to open the awards ceremony with a prayer that recognizes the sacrifice of those who served the country to protect our freedom. Ted was succeeded by Ron Beeber from 2012-2021, who

remembers one chilly year that didn’t stop young contestants from showing up wearing swimsuits and t-shirts to sculpt their entries under windy, grey skies. Past volunteers Glenn Beavis, and Kyle Jansen (who helped research this article), are co-chairing the contest in 2022.



*Take a stroll along the beach on sculpture day and you’ll see some amazing creations in sand.*

The fun wouldn’t be possible without the help of a couple dozen volunteers who step forward every year to judge and perform other duties on event day. There’s no paper trail recording the names of these volunteers but browsing through what has been retained in recent years shows the names of many year-round and seasonal residents, some who have since passed away.

In 2020, the contest was reimagined due to COVID-19 precautions. Mears State Park beachgoers could still sculpt imaginative designs anytime during a four-week stretch and be recognized for sculpting something in the sand that reflected that year’s Homecoming theme: “Discover Pentwater, come for a day, a week, a life.”

There’s nothing like having all of the teams busily sculpting away on event day, shoulder to shoulder. It was really good to resume the traditional contest format last year. Ann Sayles was one of the 2021 entrants; her family has participated for 43 years, winning three times. “I think it’s great fun for family and friends” Ann says. The Sayles family finished third in one of the categories, sculpting an ice cream cone

surrounded by seagulls. Ann remembers the wooden sandcastles that Al Ringquist made and gave to children; her kids loved to play with them.

Sherry and Ray Kloostra describe their family’s involvement over the years. “Our kids and grandkids would arrive in Pentwater from different places, sit on the front porch the night before, and plan their design, sometimes pulling all-nighters. Our equipment-filled wagon would be loaded and ready to go, and we’d go to bed. Ten years ago, as we kicked around ideas for that year’s Homecoming Theme -- Year-Round Fun -- our second-grade granddaughter said, “We’ve got an app for that”. And that became the design for our “Pentwater’s Got An App for That” entry. “We had fingers coming out of the sand, holding a Blackberry-type device that showed various apps for things to do, and we won our category that year.”

In researching this article, we invited comments from folks who view various Pentwater-related pages on Facebook and received a few. Susan March shared “Halona Gustin won first place the first year”. Claudia Ressel-Hodan wrote “My niece and I participated when she was 10, and then she participated when her daughter was 10; love that generations are now part of the fun.” Judith DiMichele said, “My small family participated years ago. We quickly realized how much harder it is when you only have a few workers, but we had a lot of fun making a big sun wearing sunglasses. Very proud of our participation ribbon. LOL”.

Since 1974, the event has been a photographer’s dream. Browse through the Pentwater Sand Sculpture Contest page on Facebook to see some taken over the past 10 years.

**Start planning your entry for this year’s contest on August 12. The theme is “Celebrating the History of Pentwater.”**

# Congratulations! Citizen of the Year!

Congratulations to Ron Beeber and Amy LaBarge on being named Citizen of the Year 2022. We appreciate their hard work and dedication in working with PHS!!

*(40 years of growth continued.)*

The Articles of Incorporation were filed by Larry Konopka on November 29, 1982. Harold Shaw presided as acting president at the earliest meetings. By July of 1983 official officers were elected. Arthur Squires as President, Jim Steenhil as Vice-President, Wendy Hilbert as Secretary, and Larry Konopka as Treasurer. The group began by having member drives and by August of 1984 PHS had 280 members. The fast growth of the PHS spurred the need for fundraising and the annual dinners we all love began. The first of these dinners was held at Nickerson Inn and cost only \$6.

Momentum remained high. A one-page newsletter was typed out and mailed to each member informing them of needs and achievements. In April of 1984, when PHS asked members for suggestions for a logo, the ship's wheel was submitted and chosen by the "Publicity Committee". The society began by displaying artifacts at the Village Hall and on a table on the street during the annual Homecoming festivities, but this was not sustainable as the generosity of the community in donating artifacts made the need for a permanent location essential. Art Squires led the charge for finding a suitable space. In 1985 the old Police Station, which was in the basement of the Community Building at 327 Hancock, was used as a home for the Historical Society. On June 15th, the doors were opened to the public to

view all the historical pieces of Pentwater in one place.

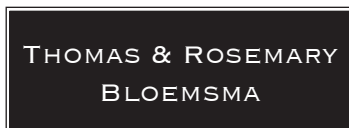
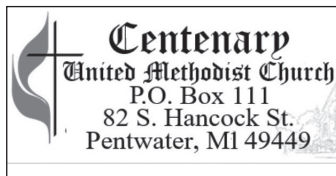
Over time, the tiny basement space ran out of room to display the many artifacts that were donated by local citizens and obtained by the Pentwater Historical Society.

A Relocation Committee of dedicated volunteers was formed in early 2000. They worked for close to 10 years to find a suitable home for the precious artifacts. Finally, in 2011, after considering more than eight properties, they found the perfect location that would serve as a home for both the Society and the Museum, the First Baptist Church.

Being on both the church committee and the Board, Ed Bigelow was instrumental in bringing the two sides together. It appeared to be a match made in heaven as the building was a genuine historic site. Fundraising began with weekly work sessions, sometimes as frequently as twice a week.

After forty years, the Pentwater Historical Society Museum continues to grow. Artifacts continue to be donated. History continues to be recorded. Visitors continue to visit. Momentum is high as we forge into the next forty years with an idea that was shared years ago around a dining room table. We think the founders of the Pentwater Historical Society would be proud of the direction and progress of our organization and we hope that future generations will be proud of the strides we continue to make in preserving and promoting Pentwater History.

## THE PHS NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES.





# TIME WITH



Timothy  
Scovill

## What if dogs were in charge?

By Tim Scovill

If ever comes the day  
when dogs can run it all  
we might chase leaves on the wind  
or maybe catch a ball  
we could chase a squirrel up a tree  
instead of cutting wood  
or just nap out in the sun  
now that would feel good

we could point at things imagined  
or point at things we see  
we could just go chase a stick  
or we could let it be

we could sit out on the step  
or inside by the fire  
and riding in the truck  
of that we could never tire

just think of all the people  
i believe that they would see  
love would be forever  
and food would all be free

Peace on Earth is needed  
maybe dogs should run the show  
except that dogs don't fish  
so now i just don't know ...

my thought today...  
if you look for something wrong  
you may find it,  
but if you seek joy and peace,  
you may find happiness...

Have a Great Day

TKS

## BE A PART OF HISTORY

**Become a Docent!** Interested in sharing your love of Pentwater and its history? Docents are needed for future opportunities to lead tours in the museum or in town. We would also love more volunteers to greet museum visitors. You do not need to be an expert in Pentwater to help out. Background information is provided for you to acquaint yourself with the details of what to discuss on a tour (simple scripts are provided) and where to find information in the museum. You'll be amazed at how much YOU learn about Pentwater from the memories shared by those on the tours.

Contact Joan Gehringer at 231-869-2323

[jandjgehringer@gmail.com](mailto:jandjgehringer@gmail.com)

## GLE FUNDRAISING

Thank you to GLE People Fund for their financial gift of \$3,250 for our exterior maintenance project in 2022.

Are you a GLE customer? "Round Up" your GLE bill and the People Fund can use your monthly contributions to help PHS and other local non-profits.

## SOMETHING'S COOKIN'!

**Big things are brewing at PHS this year.**

You heard a little bit about our plans at the "End of Summer" dinner in August, but more is coming! We've been busily planning and prepping for a fundraising campaign that will begin this summer. Stay tuned for more developments!

### 2022 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES OF THE PENTWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Dick Warner <i>President</i>	Norm Shotwell <i>V-President</i>	Beth Russell <i>Secretary</i>	Bart Zachrich <i>Treasurer</i>
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TECHNOLOGY  
DIRECTOR  
Vacant

MUSEUM  
DIRECTOR  
Dan Hoekstra

MARKETING  
DIRECTOR  
Jim Lambrix

TRUSTEES: Amy Vander Zwart, Deb Deward and Karen Way

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE  
Amy Vander Zwart      Jim Pikaart

## MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2022 ARE DUE

If you see "21" 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 back page of the newsletter.

Please send your check to: Pentwater Historical Society  
PO Box 54, Pentwater, MI 49449



Pere Marquette #69 and the train crew is in front of the Pentwater depot. Trains from Hart often backed up to Pentwater, making the buildings seen on the right the old Bedstead Factory just beyond the channel.



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



PM #5 locomotive arrived at the Pentwater depot in a typical Michigan winter.



A Pere Marquette RR section gang pose for a photo on their handcar. The photo was taken just down the track from the depot with Pentwater Lake on the left. The men are identified as Foreman Paul Vellier, Fred Vellier, Bill Peterson, Peter Roy Peterson and Henry Burgess.

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