



Glidden Drive Association

Around The Drive...

By The Old Beachcomber

To eat or not to eat: That is the buffet

Our postcard dinner poll revealed an even split among members. About half of the respondents preferred an evening dinner and the rest, a Sunday brunch, so the board tossed a Hitching Post coin and decided to brunch it for a change. It will be at Cherry Hills Lodge, 5905 Dunn Road, on Sunday, February 17, from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM. If you didn't get a reservation request form with this newsletter, you can download one on our website. Please get your request back to us no later than February 5, 2008.

GDA Board Meeting Roundup

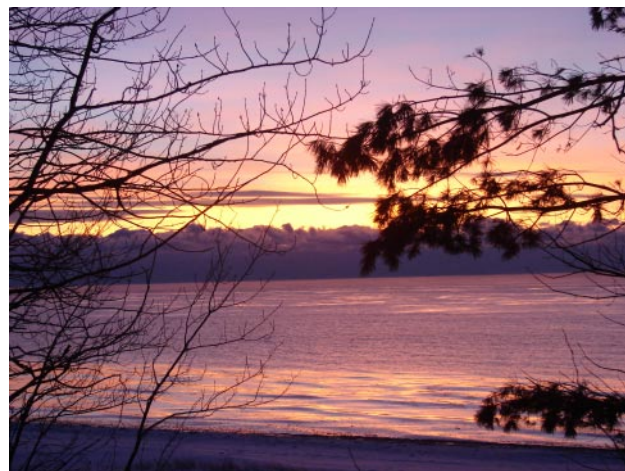
GDA board meetings were held on November 2, 2007, and January 7, 2008. At the November meeting, our guest was Thad Ash, Patrol Superintendent and second in command of the Door County Highway Department, who told us that there is about 5 years of life left in our road before a resurfacing would be done. He also complained about our mailbox placements (see sidebar); and said the County does not like the small, convex mirrors some property owners have erected since they reflect lights. The County wants those removed from the right of way.

Some tree trimming is scheduled soon to remove dead and trees threatening to fall on the road or power lines.

Board member Joanne Huhta resigned for fam-

ily health reasons, and the Board accepted the solution proposed by the Nominating Committee. Len Moss was moved from Board member to Vice President and Sue Peterson elected as the new member to take his seat. Under the bylaws, her term is the same as the one vacated, until 2009.

At the January Board meeting, Bridge Committee Chair Darrell von Berg brought up the subject of our biggest bridge over Shivering Sands Creek. We are looking for ideas on how it might be enhanced and made more attractive and useful, keeping in mind that it borders a 1.2 acre town park. No one wants to develop the park, so a 4-story parking garage or softball field is out, but perhaps a modest bench on or near the bridge would be a good idea.



LADDIE CHAPMAN

Here's a sight not often seen by our snowbirds: rim clouds over the lake.

These are formed early in winter when the air temperature drops drastically overnight. The relative warmth of the lake causes clouds to form offshore and condensing vapor to look like rising steam. Usually both effects start to diminish and disappear when the sun comes up, and it makes a spectacular sunrise.

Around the Drive...

(continued from page 1)

Pollution Studies Upcoming

We will have more detail on this later, but the County Soil & Water Department is partnering with the Wisconsin DNR and The Nature Conservancy to propose a large-scale analysis of the Shivering Sands watershed area. Attention will be paid to pollution sources and the general ecological health of the region.

Similar studies have been done for other parts of Door County, including Clark and Kangaroo Lakes.

The cost may be borne jointly and GDA may be asked to kick in some funds to help. State and federal grants may be available. The total cost is not known at this time.

Sevastopol Town News

The 1.5 acre lot next to the school in Institute was purchased in 2007 for a new town hall, and the Building and Property Committee is examining plans for a new, 6000 sq. ft. building. It will house our meeting room and other functions such as clerk's and inspector's offices, currently located behind the school in the modular building. The school has plans to tear down that obsolete building.

Future voting will take place in the new structure, but for now, our polling place is in the multipurpose room at the school.

Our town budget isn't large enough to absorb the cost of this structure under the normal tax levy, so alternative methods of financing are being explored such as borrowing, a bond issue or through a referendum, a capital improvement tax increase.

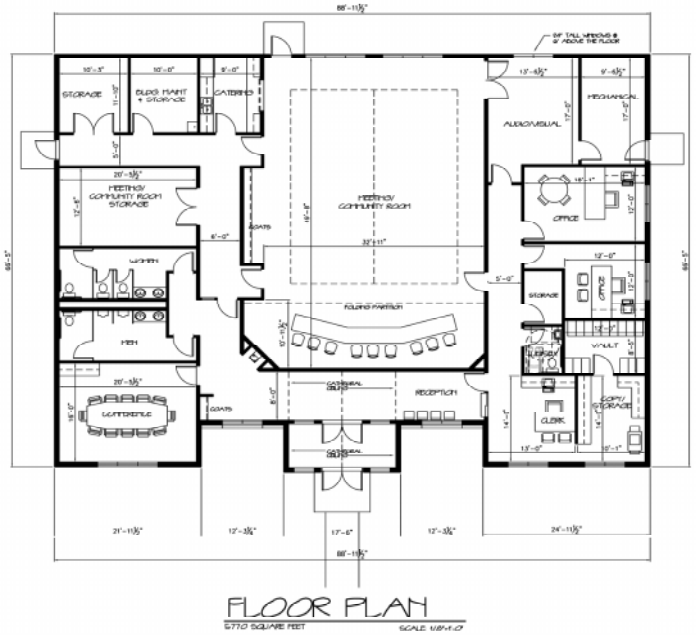
Local Elections

Two positions are up for election on the Sevastopol Town Board, and the two incumbents, Charles Tice and Dan Woelfel, are running. Voters may choose one or both.

Two School Board positions must also be filled. Incumbents John Moravec and Mike Kaye will share the ballot with former School Board member George Evanson. Voters may choose up to two.

Moravec is the current Board President, Kaye is the Vice-President.

There are no local offices on the Primary ballot in our area.



Above are the latest architectural drawings of the proposed new Sevastopol Town Hall. A larger version can be downloaded from our web site.

Thad Ash says:

- Privately installed reflector discs should be blue, not red or yellow
- Permits are required from the County to put in a driveway or to make any improvements on the right of way, which is 33 ft from the road centerline.
- The County Mailbox Ordinance requires the front face of the vertical post to be no closer than 18 ft from the road centerline. Minimum distance to the front of the box is 16 ft. Minimum ground clearance is 43 inches from road to bottom of box. The County will not pay for snowplow mailbox damage by if the box and mounting does not meet this ordinance.



THE GREATEST NATIVE

By Carl Scholz

Unquestionably, the white cedar, *Thuja occidentalis*, has more uses and virtues than any other tree in Wisconsin (maybe the U.S.).

Many know it as *arbor vitae*, Latin for “tree of life”. The crew of Cartier’s expedition suffered from scurvy when they arrived in America. Native Americans prepared a broth of white cedar needles that cured them. Hence, the tree was named *arbor vitae* and became the first exported to Europe.

Its wood, being very weather resistant has many uses—posts, building siding and other items exposed to the outdoors. Even the wood chips, bark and needles are highly desirable for mulch and trail cover.

Because of its valuable oil used for furniture polish, an oil extraction operation in Door county during the late 1800’s, used the needles and bark of cedars. This enterprise was located on the Mink River property formerly owned by the Schoenbrunn family and now by The Nature Conservancy. Juice Mill Road is named after this site.

Deer relish the flat needles and they are a major winter browse for them. The browse lines on many of these fine trees are evidence of its value in deer sustenance.

Few trees respond as positively to pruning as this tree. It can be shaped and cut as a hedge without adversely affecting its growth.

Birds love the cedar tree, and having some near bird feeders attracts birds to the feeders.

Windbreaks have become increasingly popular as an energy saver. No tree is more effective and beautiful as a “break” of *arbor vitae*.

Do you want a no-needle drop Christmas tree? The cedar is it!

The grain and knots of white cedar are very attractive and the lumber is used for furniture and wall paneling. This is knot art.

Even though the wood is soft, it is strong and flexible. Walking sticks from saplings and branches



are easily made, attractive and strong.

One of *arbor vitae*’s greatest attributes is the ability to reproduce where other trees will not. The northeast corner of Highway 57 and Loritz Road was once a large gravel pit. It was scraped bare of soil, but this area now has a relatively dense growth of cedars. This property is part of the Logan Creek property owned by The Ridges.

About 20 years ago, a beaver dam at the outlet of Lower Dunes Lake raised the water level two feet, resulting in the death of acres of white cedars. Ten years later, after the beavers and the dam disappeared, the lake level dropped, and today, virtually all the trees have rebounded. The areas around Dunes, Schmock and Schwartz Lakes are now the largest contiguous white cedar forest in Wisconsin. (This stand of cedars is part of the Five Star Land Legacy Shivering Sands Wetland Complex).

Many cultivars have been developed—all shapes and sizes, even strange colors. None, however, compare to the native.

Another unusual characteristic of this plant—some live to over 1000 years of age.

Everyone should have some of these natives in their meaningful yard!

Door County and My Glidden Drive

By Ryan Patrick Moss

When people think of Door County, they envision the many small bustling summertime towns nestled into bays and harbors along the slender peninsula's western side. Towns filled more so with tourists than with the residents themselves. In my life, however, I have become more than acquainted with another, more remote side of Door County. It is the side of Door County called "the quiet side." It is indeed a side that can, at times, be almost silent. It is dotted with a few small villages, which by most standards don't even constitute towns. These villages remain all but dormant for most of the year, and have, at times, an almost lifeless, abandoned feeling to them. It is in this part of Door County, snuggled into the side of a large dune on the lake, that one of my favorite places in the world exists.

Several times a year, my family packs up and heads north to Door County. It is a route which, after many years of traveling and after the discovery of countless shortcuts, we have whittled down to 2 hours and 45 minutes. The roads follow a gradual pattern of constant dwindling, slowly becoming smaller, slower, and more overlooked as we get further and further from the large cities. Interstate turns into state highway, which turns into county road, and on down the line until, eventually, a bend in the road appears where a sign is mounted. It reads: "Rustic Road: Glidden Drive." It is at this point where something occurs that I find very profound. Placed in the road before Glidden Drive begins is a rumble strip, positioned there to make drivers on the road slow down. While to most it is nothing more than a reminder to slow their cars in preparation for the extraordinarily curvy road, to me it is a metaphor for just that: slowing down. The slowing of the mind and body down to the infamous "Door County Time," which in relation to the rest of the world barely creeps along at all. It reminds me that I am in a place where there is no rush on life, and everything is done at the speed that you wish. After the strips have rumbled under our tires, sending a coarse vibration through the bodies of everyone in the car, we proceed onto the smooth and winding road that is Glidden Drive. We pass the numerous cottages on the road, given names such as the "Almost Home" and the "Surf N' Turf," until we come to what I believe to be hands down the best of them all:

Ed. Note: Author Ryan Moss is Len Moss' grandson. This was written not long ago when he was a sophomore at Marquette University High School in Milwaukee.



Ryan Patrick Moss and friend on the dune.

4008 Glidden Drive.

It is the house of my grandparents, introduced by a driveway that requires every ounce of a car's muscle to climb. In one word, the house is simply stunning. It is monstrous, stretching what seems to be an endless distance from one end to the other. It is built of light tan logs, one on top of another, with a coal black roof. In front of the doorway is an extensive and striking garden, meticulously kept in pristine condition by my grandmother. The inside of the house, however, is even more incredible than the outside. Upon first stepping into the house, I see what my grandparents refer to as the "Great Room." And it is indeed great, both in size and splendor. It is a perfectly square room with an extremely tall A-frame ceiling, where every year a Christmas tree is placed that is so tall that it requires a large team of many people armed with ladders to set it up. Outside of the great room is a large deck, suspended above the sand dunes by columns, and overlooking the beauty and simplicity of Lake Michigan. Here we have sat for hours looking at the stars, admiring the northern lights, or watching a dazzling array of fireworks launched into the sky from further down the beach. Sometimes, very early in the morning before anyone else is awake, I get out of my bed, tiptoe up stairs, trying not to let anyone be aroused by the light thud of my feet, and recline in a beach chair on the deck. I gaze over the seemingly endless waters of Lake Michigan, and watch as the sun

climbs over the horizon, shooting rays of colored light all across the sky in shades of red, orange, purple, and green. I sit and watch as the heads of the deer, after gnawing on bundles of sea grass, quickly shoot up, take on the famed “deer in the headlights” look, and then suddenly dart away.

The house has a studio in which my grandmother spends a great deal of her time sewing, painting, or quilting. Every time I visit Door County, she always seems to have crafted a few new pieces of art, which she happily displays throughout her house. On the lower level, among many other rooms, is a billiards room, just barely large enough for a pool table. This room is lined with dozens of pictures, about half of which are pictures of New York Yankee baseball players, placed there by my grandpa, who has almost an obsession with the Yankees. Aside from these, another picture that stands out. It is entitled “Lunchtime Atop a Skyscraper, 1932,” and depicts a dozen men sitting on a steel girder suspended high above Manhattan. While the picture itself is quite stunning, it is especially so to me because the man third from the right is my great grandfather, who sits intently looking at the lunch of the man directly to his left.

While the house in itself is nothing short of incredible, even more beautiful is the land on which it is built. The house is cuddled up in the side of a vast sand dune, which rises up from what I feel is the single greatest part of the place: the beach.

Going to the beach is definitely my favorite thing to do at the house on Glidden Drive. As I step out of the large sliding glass pane doors, I saunter down a pathway, made of small wooden planks laid side by side on the sand, and loosely connected by a frayed yellow rope. Surrounding the path are rolling sand dunes, covered in patches of jade green sea grass, delicately swaying in the wind. I approach the bridge, which passes over a



RYAN MOSS

depression in the sand, too filled with pointy sea grass to walk through. I near the stairs at the end of the bridge, and suddenly, I can see in front of me the expanse of sand that lays just in front of the water, which gently laps up onto the ground in its rhythmic pattern. Looking down the beach, I see an almost unending band of tannish yellow sand, dotted with small stones and pebbles every step of the way. The beach continues for miles in what seems like layers. After the beach disappears beyond one point, another spit of land protrudes out from behind it, and on and on until it becomes lost in the soft almost perpetual fog that sits over the lake. This fog is not like that which we normally see in the city, but more of a constant haze over the lake, regardless of how sunny and beautiful the weather is. Seagulls pass overhead, creating a constant high pitched, harsh cacophonous noise. These seagulls, better known as “rats with wings” by my father, occasionally land on the beach, only to take to flight again when they are startled. The water stretches out as far as the eye can see, until it meets and joins with the sky. On the water, the reflection of the sun bounces off the prevailing waves, making it almost too blindingly bright to look at. The lake seems to have all the emotions of a human, ranging from a light peaceful mood, in which waves are virtually non-existent, and the surface of the water takes on the form of a single pane of glass, to that of an enraged madman, in which waves taller than I come crashing into the shore with an almost threatening “BWOOSH.”

In the winter, the lake freezes out about 100 feet in a huge, thick sheet, until it drops off into the lake in an almost cliff like fashion. Every so often, a wave will hit the sheet with enough force that a chunk of the ice separates from the rest, and plunges into the dark, cold water with a monstrous splash. With every snowfall, a blanket of white powder covers the landscape, and the tallest dune becomes a long, slender snow tubing chute,

(continued on page 8)



RYAN MOSS

Shivering Sands Update

By Mike Grimm, *The Nature Conservancy*

Located along Glidden Drive, on Lake Michigan just north of Sturgeon Bay, the Shivering Sands wetland complex is exceptional in both size and natural community diversity.

Shivering Sands supports an impressive suite of mammals, including short-tailed and masked shrews, fisher, otter, red fox, snowshoe hare, mink and possibly bobcat. More than 110 different bird species also use the site. Black terns as well as sandhill cranes are regular breeders on Dunes Lake, and the forest is home to woodpeckers, warblers and thrushes. Spring peepers, wood frogs, and blue-spotted salamanders are just a few of the amphibians that thrive at Shivering Sands.



Cal Holvenstat and Herb Klein took a canoe trip down Geisel Creek into Dunes Lake, and it was made into a video by Laddie Chapman to show on Charter's TV Channel 19. All of these images were taken from that video.



Herb Klein describes the ecology of Dunes Lake. Parts of the bottom are heavily silted from topsoil runoff. Other parts have a hard, sandy bottom and clear water.

The Nature Conservancy began its work in the Shivering Sands area in 1984 with bird and plant inventories. In July 1991, the Conservancy entered into an agreement with a landowner at Shivering Sands to manage 190 acres. Since that time, thanks to generous donors and committed neighbors, the Conservancy has acquired nearly 578 acres. The Conservancy continues to work with local landowners and public agencies to protect this nationally significant wetland area.

Future Opportunities

A new key land acquisition will be pursued in 2008; donor interest and the potential for major support will play a lead role in achieving this opportunity. Additional gifts to the Nature Conservancy for Shivering Sands Preserve would support a variety of conservation, from land management to ground water research.



Cal Holvenstat paddles down Geisel Creek from Haberlie Road.



The canoes enter Upper Dunes Lake from Geisel Creek.

ALL IMAGES ON THIS PAGE DIGITIZED FROM VIDEO BY LADDIE CHAPMAN

Shivering Sands Protection Fund Timeline

December 2001: Shivering Sands Protection Fund launched by Herb Klein and Cal Bonnivier in celebration of Herb's birthday

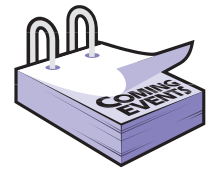
2002-2006: The Nature Conservancy protects 312 acres at Shivering sands Preserve (Geudtner, McGurk, Schaefer, Lange properties). Private fund raising goal for these properties is \$550,000.

The Nature Conservancy capital campaign raises \$1,000,000 in pledges for Door County. Some of these funds are directed to Shivering Sands.

June 2006: Shivering Sands Protection Fund has raised \$70,000 (all of these funds support land acquisition at Shivering Sands Preserve).

September 2007: Success! Donors achieve the \$550,000 goal to The Nature Conservancy for Shivering Sands Preserve.

Mark Your Calendar



Friday, January 25: Sevastopol Town Building and Property Committee meeting, town meeting room behind Sevastopol Schools, 9AM



Monday, January 28: Sevastopol School Board, Sevastopol Schools, Institute, 7PM



Friday, February 1: Sevastopol Town Building and Property Committee meeting, town meeting room behind Sevastopol Schools, 9AM



Sunday, February 17: GDA Brunch, Cherry Hills Lodge, 11AM to 1PM



Monday, February 18: Sevastopol Town Board meeting, town meeting room behind Sevastopol Schools, 7PM



Tuesday, February 19: Primary election, polling place is Sevastopol Schools, 7AM-8PM



Monday, February 25: Sevastopol School Board, Sevastopol Schools, Institute, 7PM



Monday, March 3: GDA Board meeting, Hitching Post, 9AM



Monday, March 24: Sevastopol School Board, Sevastopol Schools, Institute, 7PM



Tuesday, April 1: General election, polling place is Sevastopol Schools, 7AM-8PM



Monday, April 8: Sevastopol Annual Town meeting, town meeting room behind Sevastopol Schools, 7PM



Monday, April 21: Sevastopol Town Board meeting, town meeting room behind Sevastopol Schools, 7PM



In Memoriam

Ginny Gonnering

Russ Gonnering

John Saake

Ed Kust

Georgiana Lingelbach

Alice Shoman



Snow on Glidden Drive.

Ryan Moss' Glidden...

(continued from page 5)

which, after several tubing runs, will stretch all of the way down to the beach and onto the frozen ice atop the lake.

When I think of this glorious place, it causes me to recall a time when everything was simple, fun, and joyous, when I would spend weeks in Door County in the house on Glidden Drive, playing, laughing, running, swimming. When I really think back to what this little slice of heaven means to me, I think of the name of the cottage which is no more than a mile away from the house; I think of the "Almost Home." And that is what this place really and truly is to me. To me, 4008 Glidden Drive is Almost Home.

Glidden Drive Association, Inc.

Directors 2007-2008

Officers

Frank Keller	President
Len Moss	Vice President
Kay Glessner	Secretary
Kaare Wold	Treasurer

Board Term expiration

Jocelyn Barnes	2010
Laddie Chapman	2008
Roger Peterson	2008
Susan Peterson	2009
Carl Scholz	2009
Biz Virlee	2010

Glidden Drive Association Newsletter January 2008

Published by the Glidden Drive Association, Inc., P.O. Box 261, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

Editor and electronic pre-press composition: Laddie Chapman

Proofreading and additional valuable assistance: Jocelyn Barnes, Ferny Keller

The Glidden Drive Association Web Site is at www.doorbell.net/gda, where you will find newsletters (in color!) the latest news, and other items of interest to members.



Copyright © 2008 Glidden Drive Association, Inc., all rights reserved. Except as otherwise provided by law, this document may not be reproduced, transmitted, stored or retrieved in whole or in part, in any form or by any means now known to exist or yet to be invented, including, but not limited to, photocopying, scanning, recording, transmitting, uploading or downloading without the express written permission from the copyright owner.