



Schuss Mountain Views

Fall 2009 Edition

President's Message

At the SMPOA Annual Meeting on September 19th we paid tribute to our former President, Bob James for his past years of service as President. We also recognized Terry Willenborg and Mike Shagena for their years of service as board members. The newly elected SMPOA Board includes Pat Burnell, Ed Musser and Marcia Winters.

We'd like to thank everyone who attended our Annual Meeting. We appreciated your support on the issue of eliminating the tent worm (caterpillar) problem. Julie Peters presented an overview of what happened, why and how it can be solved. Those members in attendance voted overwhelmingly to assess all property owners to help pay for aerial spraying next spring. The Resort, Summit and Cedar River are also partners in this project. Schuss is responsible for 560 acres. The Schuss area was hardest hit. For over a month (June) we suffered the effects. An estimate of 1-2 million caterpillars per acre will give you an idea of why the golf greens looked like living carpet! We have a one shot deal next spring to get ahead of this infestation.....PLEASE HELP!

A separate billing will be sent in early November to assist in paying for the aerial spraying. We are expecting homeowners to be assessed \$50.00. Condo and lot owners are expected to be charged \$25.00. However until plans are finalized we will not know the amounts for certainty. Any additional donations will be cheerfully accepted. As one neighbor said, "It cost me three times as much in clean-up costs." Please see the article on page 2 for more details.

The new board has been hard at work. At our October meeting we approved plans to develop a new website that will be user friendly and easier to update. Our intent is to save postage and mailing fees by emailing the newsletter in the future. Therefore we must have updated email addresses in our system. Please email our office at: administrator@smpoa.net with the email address you would like your next newsletter sent to.

Two new committees have been formed. The Facilities and Grounds committee will be headed by Vice President Ed Musser. Please email or call the office with any maintenance needs you feel we should address. The Membership committee will be headed by Treasurer Meredith Reschly and Pat Burnell.

I want to thank Pat Burnell and Julie Peters for their efforts to determine the number of acres SMPOA covers and how many each neighborhood/association covers as well as how many lots and homes are in the SMPOA boundaries. They have spent hours pouring over records at the county office and/or maps at home. Julie has also represented SMPOA on the issue of the tent worms (caterpillars.) See her article in this newsletter.

The Resort held their annual meeting prior to ours on September 19, 2009. They reported that they are cutting their losses each year by half. In spite of the economy they have increased their convention business. Ski ticket sales have also improved. New members of the management team were introduced. One new area of sales has been the Destination Wedding market.

Please check out the Shanty Creek Resort website on a regular basis. They have announced that the ski season will begin on Thanksgiving weekend (weather permitting). A new deal this year will be \$10 per day for lift tickets at Summit Mountain. At this point Summit will only be open on weekends. Other specials are posted and there is a monthly calendar posted with special events for the ski season so that visitors can plan to attend special events. The Resort is also making repairs at Schuss. They are repairing the roof at Ivan's and the ski rental building and replacing/repairing the windows and frames at the indoor pool area.

Thank you for your support and have a nice fall!

SMPOA President

Contact Information:

P.O. Box 332, Bellaire, MI 49615

231-533-3950; 810-922-8952

Email: info@smpoa.net

2009-2010 Board of Directors & Committee Assignments

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Jan Lindsay, President

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Ed Musser, Vice President

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Committee: Executive & Newsletter

Meredith Reschly, Treasurer

17195 Silver Parkway #302
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517-881-4249; email: mlr@oldsproctr.com
Committee: Executive & Website

Julie Peters, Secretary

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Bud Hierlihy

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Committee: Architectural

Bob Richter

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Committee: Snowmobile

Larry Bourassa

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Committee: Association Bylaws

Administrative Assistant

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Pat Burnell

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Committee: Newsletter

Ray Karabin

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231-587-9141; email: n.barak@charter.net
Committee: Architectural

Marsha Winters

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231-916-9022; email: mwinters9022@charter.net
Committee: Contracts

CATERPILLARS

Shanty Creek Resort was hit hard this past spring by an infestation of caterpillars. The Eastern Tent Caterpillar, which forms the "bag" in the V of trees and the Forest Tent Caterpillars were two of the culprits. The Forest Tent Caterpillar ingested most of the leaves surrounding the Schuss Golf Course and adjacent property.

If you live here or happened to visit during May and June of 2009, you were greeted with an eerie feeling that it was mid winter due to the lack of leaves on the trees. In addition to the lack of leaves, caterpillar excrement fell as if it were raining. Millions of cocoons and moths created an unpleasant atmosphere. This stressed our trees leaving them vulnerable to disease and possible death if they are invested with caterpillars again next spring/summer if hit again.

At the SMPOA meeting on September 19 those in attendance overwhelmingly approved the decision to partner with Shanty Creek Resorts to do an aerial spray for the prevention of caterpillars in the spring of 2010. The spraying will be done when the leaves are at least 25% out. The spray that will be used is called Bacillus Thuringiensis. It is a naturally occurring bacterium. BT is NOT harmful to humans, animals, birds, insects or sources of water. The caterpillar ingests the sprayed leaves and dies within a day or two.

The infestation of caterpillars is a cyclical event. The MSU Extension Service, The Michigan Department of Agriculture and The Department of Natural Resources have indicated that the infestation will be worse in 2010 than it was in 2009. Therefore, the decision has been made to help prevent the caterpillar infestation next spring by spraying.

Further meetings regarding the resolution of this matter are scheduled for the near future. Once costs are agreed upon you will be receiving a special assessment invoice. Please do your part to help us control this infestation in 2010.

Thank you very much!!

Secretary, Julie Peters

TREASURERS REPORT

By Meredith Reschly

The current financial statement through September 30, 2009 is below.
THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Balance Sheet

As of September 30, 2009

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

1000-00 · Cash in bank - Huntington Bank 5,042.42

Total Checking/Savings 5,042.42

Accounts Receivable

1100-00 · Association Receivable 2,520.00

Total Accounts Receivable 2,520.00

Other Current Assets

1030-00 · Investments

1030-10 · Alden Bank-Reserve Acct 14,127.66

1030-20 · Huntington Bank Money Market 31,749.15

Total 1030-00 · Investments 45,876.81

Total Other Current Assets 45,876.81

Total Current Assets 53,686.16

Fixed Assets

1200-00 · 5 Corners Lot 625.00

Total Fixed Assets 625.00

TOTAL ASSETS 54,064.23

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity

3040-00 · Retained Earnings 36,691.21

Net Income 17,373.02

Total Equity 54,064.23

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 54,064.23

SHANTY CREEK RESORTS

Shanty Creek Resorts (Trinidad) has several projects in the works for the Schuss Mountain community. They include:

- Replacing the roof at Ivan's at a cost of \$35,000.00
- \$19,000.00 will be spent on the roof at the ski rental building
- They are securing bids for the repair/replacement of windows at the Schuss indoor pool
- Working on improving the parking lot lights at Ivan's
- Watch for pond improvements next year

Schuss Pool Fees

There has been some discussion with the Resort about our pools. They saved \$40,000 by not having the indoor pool opened this summer.

We have heard that letters have gone out to the Summit Association indicating that there will be a yearly fee of \$75 to use their pools. We may also receive such a letter in the near future. Some issues will need clarification. We will provide further details as they become available. Please check our website in the next few weeks for more information.

DID YOU KNOW?

There are 442 vacant lots and 410 homes/condos in the Schuss Mountain community making up 28 different associations.

Three Schuss Mountain Views Newsletters are published each year.

Newsletters and other important dates and information can be found on the Schuss Mountain Property Owners Association website at www.smpoa.net.

The dumpsters located near the tennis courts as Schuss Mountain are for HOUSEHOLD TRASH ONLY! No building material or appliances are to be dumped there.

NEW—Antrim County recycling stations are located in the parking lot of the Antrim County Transportation Building located at M-88 and Shanty Creek Road. Mancelona Township Recycling Stations are located in the parking lot of the Mancelona Township Offices on M-88.

Volunteers are always needed to help our community grow and improve. If you want to get on the volunteer list, contact Patti Mueller at the SMPOA website.

Schuss Mountain is a GREAT place to live, relax and play. Together we CAN make a difference at the Mountain!

Pat Burnell



Schuss Mountain Views

P.O. Box 332

Bellaire, MI 49615

DUMPSTERS & RECYCLING

Meredith & Betty Reschly and Bob James have been vigilant in patrolling the dumpster area and cleaning up when necessary. We would like to thank them for their efforts in this area. We are lucky to still have the dumpsters. They will be moved to the back of the lot this winter to create more parking spaces during the ski season.

Please remember that all items put in the dumpsters must be bagged.

Antrim County has implemented a Recycling Program. The two locations closest to us are M-88 and Shanty Creek Road in Bellaire and at the Mancelona Township building on M-88. Visit the recycling website at www.Antrimcounty.org/recycling.asp.

As the holiday season and the cold winter months approach, many people in the community will be needing help. There are several organizations that will accept donations. The Restore (Habitat for Humanity) in Mancelona is on 131 south of M-88. There are also two thrift stores in Mancelona as well as the one in Bellaire.

Calendar of Events

Three Villages Holiday Dinner

December 17, 2009

6:00 pm—Cocktails

7:00 pm—Dinner

See insert for details.

Important Contacts:

Great Lakes Landscaping: 231-587-8027

Northern Tree Transplanting Service: 231-533-8122

SMPOA Admin.: 231-533-3950 or 810-922-8952