



2014

# ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

[www.hiscfa.org](http://www.hiscfa.org)

## Greetings from the Harsens Island St. Clair Flats Association

It is hard to believe that it is time to send out the Annual Membership letter. The temperatures are cold, the ice cutters are running the river channels, and the Islanders are holding their breath that the ferry will continue to run this spring during the ice thaw. Is spring really around the corner? If you are not braving the cold of Michigan we hope this letter finds you enjoying some warmth!

We invite our current members to join us again this year, and if you are not a current member we would love to have you join our Association. The Association has been in existence for over 70 years and the Board of Directors would like to thank everyone for their support.

Your continued membership and generous donations enables us to maintain the many areas of our community involvement. This year we have raised our dues from \$35.00 a year to \$40.00 a year. It has been many years since we have increased the dues, but we find that the five dollar increase will help offset the increased costs of maintaining Browne's Field, the water station and our community outreach. Your dues and contributions are used solely to benefit the Island residents.

## WHAT DO YOUR DUES MAINTAIN AND SUPPORT?

### BROWNE'S FIELD IMPROVEMENT

When driving onto the Island, Browne's Field is one of the first areas that our residents and visitors see. With the help of your dues this area is maintained beautifully by many of our dedicated directors and volunteers. This year we are hoping to find an additional \$5,000 in our budget to upgrade our play area for our children. The play area is in critical disrepair, and the upgrade is needed to maintain the safety of this play yard, but the upkeep comes at a steep cost. This year we hope to raise some dedicated funds so that we can get this much needed work completed. The **Special Events** on Browne's Field are handled by director Cindy Pilato. Cindy coordinates the popular "*Concerts in the Park*", which are enjoyed under the pavilion during the summer by our Islanders. The concerts are provided for no cost to the community. However, donations are welcome! Besides the concerts, Cindy has done a fantastic job for Annual Field Day. The Pavilion is also available for those large family picnics and gatherings too large for the back yard. Please contact Cindy to make reservations, email [cindy.pilato@gmail.com](mailto:cindy.pilato@gmail.com)

### WATER STATION

Our dues, donations and the bulk water users have helped to offset some of the costs on the water station. However, the costs to maintain this station and the water at Bates Cut on the Island have been the topic of many discussions at Association monthly meetings. A committee has been charged this year to come up with a long term solution to alleviate the annual "drain" on our yearly budget. If any member would like to join this committee contact any director to express your willingness to help!

### ADVERTISING SIGN AT BROWNE'S FIELD

The Sign at Browne's Field is now equipped with an electronic messaging board, please watch this sign for special announcements, or emergencies. And please take the time to read and patronize the businesses advertised on our sign. If you wish to advertise on the sign please contact Barbara Crown.

**CONTINUED...**

### **ASSOCIATION MEETINGS - COME AND JOIN US!**

The HISCFA board meets every second Saturday of the month at the Harsens Island Lions Hall; 9:00 am May through November and 9:30 am December through April. Please come and join in, if the board members are not aware of an issue or concern we cannot address it. You can write letters to: HISCFA, PO Box 51, Harsens Island, MI 48028 or email the individual executive directors.

### **PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR MEMBERSHIP**

Complete and return the enclosed application and mail it with your check in the pre-addressed envelope on or before **April 20, 2014**. *Please be sure to give us your primary mailing address where you would like to receive mail.*

**PARK AND RIDE**

The Association volunteers maintain the **Park and Ride** for our Island residents. With the increase in ferry costs, many of our residents take advantage of our parking lot. The dues keep it lighted and plowed in the winter. During the winter we also provide a port-a-john on the mainland side of the ferry landing for anyone's use.

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Each year the Association assists the community for specified needs. On your membership application you can donate any additional money to the Lion's Hall, Scholarships, Readers Cove, Water Station, and Browne's Field etc. Last year we donated money to the Reader's Cove and for the maintenance of the Lion's Hall. For years the Lion's Hall has been used not only for the Lion functions, but as a community hall. At the end of last year the Lion's were coming dangerously close to having to close their doors. Due to a community outpouring of needed funds, they have remained open and we ask our members to continue to support the Lion's and their efforts.

**GOVERNMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION**

The Association strives to notify our membership of issues on local and state government levels that will impact you as a homeowner on Harsen's Island. Currently we are working with Clay Township on plans for Emergency Ice Jam situations. Also we are working with Clay Township and the EPA and their designates on the Krispin Drain Project. We hope this project will be completed by the end of 2014 and no later than the summer of 2015. See your new *Delta News* for more information on this project. Remember to look for updates on [www.hiscfa.org](http://www.hiscfa.org) or our facebook page **Harsens Island St. Clair Flats Association**. We will attempt to keep you updated in a timely fashion.

**DELTA NEWS**

This year will be the 71st issue of *The Delta News* magazine. This is a valuable bonus that you receive during the summer. The magazine is full of information on the Association's business, great articles that are current and stories of the past. It features the local clubs, churches, and announcements which include: weddings, anniversaries, new babies, graduating seniors, family gatherings and obituaries. If you have any family announcement that you would like to see in the magazine, please send it to *The Delta News*, PO Box 51, Harsen's Island, MI 48028. Send it with your membership and we will get it published.

Last year the *Delta News* had a section, "A Note of Thanks to Our Volunteers", and we would like to continue the article this year. If you have a person who volunteers their time or may work quietly behind the scenes, let us know who they are. They can be an individual or a group. Email to: [deltanews48028@yahoo.com](mailto:deltanews48028@yahoo.com) or mail to *Delta News*, 3284 S. Channel Drive, Harsens Island, MI 48028. Please include your name and phone number in case we need to contact you.

**VOLUNTEERS**

The Association is an all-volunteer organization. We do what we do because we are proud of the Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association and the outstanding community that it represents. If you have a special talent or gift and would like to volunteer your services please contact any director and we will be happy to get you connected or placed on a committee.

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The membership committee wants to thank you for taking the time to read our letter and we hope you will choose to be a member again in 2014.

Please have a safe and happy summer,

*HISCFA Membership Committee*

**VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED!!!**

In 2015 we are looking for a **new Treasurer for the Association**. You must be a member to volunteer and possess basic knowledge of the computer and accounting experience. Our long time Treasurer, Lois Whipple, is retiring, and we need a replacement. *The Association wants to thank Lois for her many years of dedicated service.*

**2014 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Barbara Crown, President.....	<a href="mailto:bcrown1999@att.net">bcrown1999@att.net</a>
Jim Laethem, Vice President.....	<a href="mailto:jim.laethem@comcast.net">jim.laethem@comcast.net</a>
Donna Halacoglu, Executive Secretary.....	<a href="mailto:dhalacoglu@yahoo.com">dhalacoglu@yahoo.com</a>
Lois Whipple, Treasurer.....	<a href="mailto:whipple@comcast.net">whipple@comcast.net</a>
Pat Feighan, Chairman of the Board.....	<a href="mailto:pat_feighan@yahoo.com">pat_feighan@yahoo.com</a>