

# THE DRUMBEAT

Potawatomi Property Owners Association

December 2013



## President's Corner

### Season's Greetings from Potawatomi.

For those who were not able to attend the September board meeting and are not aware of current activities, allow me to enlighten you.

PPOA currently operates with a \$ 7000 to \$9000 a year loss. Our income comes primarily from assessment (\$24,000) and island rentals (\$16,912). Our expenses are primarily property taxes (\$12,118) and employee expenses (\$23,000), with some maintenance expense, mostly on the island.

At our annual meeting in July, the past board, with the exception of myself, were promoting the idea of doubling the assessment fee over the next three years and eliminating the policy of multiple property owners combining lots for a single assessment. This was met with property owner resistance and three new directors were voted in. They replaced two directors who were voted out and one who stepped down at the end of the term. The following week Past President Greg Roman and caretaker Jeff Brittan resigned from the board. I was then elected as President of the board.

The goal of the current board is to restore PPOA to a profitable status by reducing expenses and labor costs and not burdening property owners with an assessment increase. There are capital improvements that are needed, such as roofing and log repair the will be explored with input from the property owners. We are also working on improving transparency and fairness with our new rental policy and web site showing the recent audit, board meeting minutes and board activities. The minutes are available now on the Town of Barnes website.

Our mission is to return control of PPOA to the property owners. We welcome your input and look forward to your participation in 2014.

Sincerely, Vern Wilcox

From the editor

The board had an audit for the fiscal year 8/1/99 to 7/31/00 where the board was cautioned against deficit spending. This has been a problem for at least 14 years.

In 2005 the board proposed and increase in assessments from \$50 to \$100 and this was voted down. In 2007 a vote was taken to sell common property and 2 lots on George Lake were offered for sale. One lot was sold and this gave us a few years of breathing room.

Next year we are planning to contract the maintenance out and give the renter do the option to clean before they leave. Because the renters are all to be sponsored by property owners, according to the bylaws, you the property owner will be responsible for your renters. We are also going to track the renters in each cabin and the campground to determine the profitability of each property.

Please contact the board members for possible ideas that will let us know what you envision PPOA to be in the future. Please us the contact information in The Drumbeat to accomplish this. These ideas are for information only and will be compiled into a survey.

Some suggestions that we have received include:

Raise assessments

Sell property

One time assessment to make major improvements to cabins to make them easier to rent out

Get out of the rental business. Just have 1 or 2 building for a community center and beach access.

It is very important that we hear from everyone.

What we decide to do going forward has to come from you. This cannot be a decision made by the current board, because as the board changes the plan going forward will always be changing. It is up to you to make your voice heard. And stay involved to make sure the board works to keep what the majority want.

## 2014 CALENDAR



- Feb 1**      Emails accepted for weekly rentals
- Feb 14**    Emails accepted for all other rentals
- April 26**   Board meeting Wanigan 9 am.
- May 24**    Board meeting Wanigan 9 am
- June 9**     Firewise brush pick up
- June 28**   Board meeting Wanigan 9 am
- July 26**    Board meeting Screen Porch 9 am. Picnic for everyone at noon
- Aug 23**    **Annual meeting VFW 1 pm . Picnic at noon.**
- Aug 30**    Board meeting Wanigan 9 am
- Sept 15**    Firewise brush pick up
- Sept 27**    Board meeting Wanigan 9 am

## 2014 CABIN/CAMPGROUND RENTAL

Rental reservations will be accepted by emailing Andy Lohman at [ppoa.rentals@yahoo.com](mailto:ppoa.rentals@yahoo.com). You must send you check to PPOA 2026 Island Lake Rd Barnes, WI 54873 within 2 weeks to keep your reservation. Checks and emails are only accepted from PPOA members with current assessments paid. Weekly rentals can be made starting February 1 and all other rentals can be made starting February 14. You will receive your cleaning deposit back if the cabin is clean when you leave.

Check in time is 4 pm. Check out 11 am.

The wanigan is not a rental cabin. Pets may not be left alone inside or outside and must be on a leash at all times.

**Cabin 1: \$55 per night. Cleaning deposit \$30. Accommodates 2 people. 1 double bed, refrigerator, sink and toilet**

**Cabin 2 : \$45 per night. Cleaning deposit \$30. Accommodates 2 people. 1 double bed, refrigerator, sink and toilet.**

**Cabin 3: \$45 per night. Cleaning deposit \$30. Accommodates 4 people. 2 double beds, sink and refrigerator.**

**Cabin 4: \$45 per night. Cleaning deposit \$30. Accommodates 4 people. 2 double beds, sink and refrigerator.**

**Cabin 5: \$45 per night. Cleaning deposit \$30. Accommodates 4 people. 2 double beds, sink and refrigerator.**

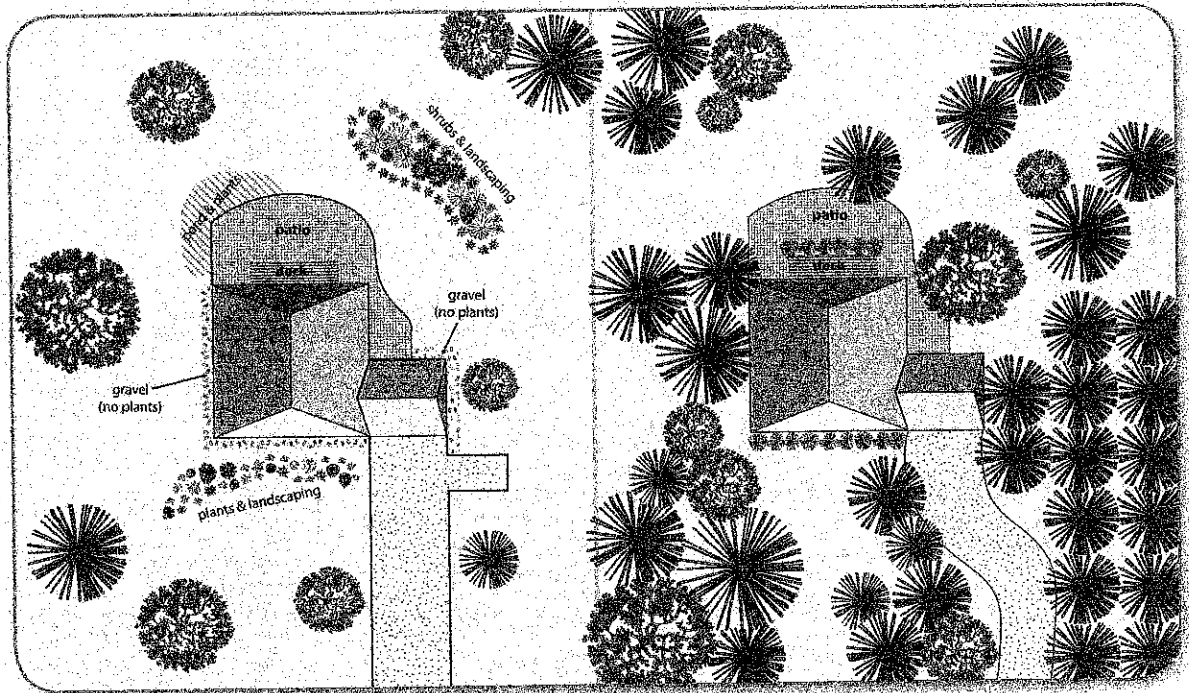
**Cabin 6: \$45 per night. Cleaning deposit \$30. Accommodates 4 people. 2 double beds, sink and refrigerator.**

**Cedarwood: \$60 per night(2 night minimum). Cleaning deposit \$30. Accommodates 2 people. 1 double bed, stove, refrigerator, sink and toilet.**

**Lakeview: \$105 per night (2 night minimum.) Cleaning deposit \$75. Accommodates 6 people. 2 double beds, 2 single bunk beds, double hide-a-bed couch, kitchen, bathroom with sink, toilet, shower and gas fireplace.**

**Lodge: \$125 per night(2 night minimum). Cleaning deposit \$75. Accommodates 9 people. 3 double beds, 3 single beds, double hide-a-bed, kitchen (downstairs), ½ bath upstairs and ¾ bath downstairs. Heated.**

**Whole Island \$500/ night(9 units) (2 night minimum). Cleaning deposit \$350.**



Well-designed landscaping (left) can be attractive and will also help keep fire away. Landscaping that is not Firewise (right) could allow crown fires and surface fires to reach the house.

Illustration by Amanda Sargent, UVA Extension Environmental Resources Center

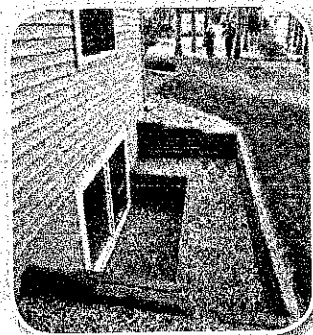
# Landscaping to Protect Your Home

“...A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF HOMES LOST TO WILDFIRE IGNITE WELL AFTER THE MOST INTENSE PORTIONS OF THE WILDFIRE HAVE PASSED.”

## Foundation to Immediate Landscaped Area

Experts recommend keeping the first 3-to-5 feet around the base of the house and any outbuildings completely free of any fuel for a fire. It's easy to understand why tall grasses or evergreen shrubs near the house are risky – when ignited, they could put hot flames directly against the siding and eaves. However, other materials can ignite when dry and should also be kept away from buildings. These include things such as leaves, pine needles, straw bales, and organic landscaping mulch. These materials can host a smoldering fire long after the main fire has completely passed. In fact, a high percentage of homes lost to wildfire ignite well after the most intense portions of the wildfire have passed.

Moving farther away from the house, landscape trees, shrubs and plants should be managed to ensure that any fire in this area remains on the ground and burns quickly (i.e. no smoldering) and with low intensity. That means keeping the lawn clean of fallen pine needles and leaves. All vegetation should be well manicured, green, and healthy.



A 3-to-5-foot “fuel free zone” keeps flames away from siding.

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