

# Glidden Drive Association

#### **Around The Drive...**

By The Old Beachcomber

With summer here, it's time to get busy, take care of the endless guests (never knew how many friends and relatives you had until you bought the house in Door County!) and enjoy the beach and weather. The lake level is near its 100-year low, and isn't expected to change much soon except for seasonal decline. *Cladophora* is still a serious problem in many areas, but much worse in other parts of Door County.

#### **Security is Important**

Notes from nearby: Ruth Sandor from the Lake Forest Park Association reports that there have been some recent break-ins in her area near the canal. Tools, electronics, beer, a telescope, beer, linens and beer were among items taken from two houses. One owner says a truck was backed right up to the door. Ruth says, "These are equal-opportunity burglars who like tiny simple cabins and all-the-comforts homes."

It pays to be vigilant, and maybe if you have enough beer, they will forget about the rest. 911 should be called for emergencies, and the sheriff's non-emergency number is 746-2400.

#### **Fire Signs**

No, it's not Glidden Drive astrology: Your Association erected three fire danger signs on the Drive —



one at each end and one in the middle, at Pebble Lane. Somebody forgot to check with the County first, and the road crews removed them as fast as we put them up. After going through the proper channels, we now have the County and Town's official blessing, and they are back up again.

The signs are there to remind you to take extra caution with outdoor fires, as the woods around us are volatile even in the wettest seasons. Our fire marshals, Tom Girman, Dick Shappell and Rich Kinka, will be responsible for keeping the changeable parts of each sign current, going from *High* to *Medium* to *Caution* according to the danger level

#### Let's Talk Trash

**Trash pickup offer:** Don Schweer's efforts to obtain a more favorable price for this service have been successful, but if you haven't signed up for the discount with Onyx, we need your account to help keep the costs down for all of us. Contact Don Schweer for details.

#### **WGLC Meeting held**

Thanks to the organizational skills of Glidden Drive resident Joe Boos, the Wisconsin Great Lakes Coalition held a presentation at Donny's Glidden Lodge Restaurant on July 8 on the topic of our favorite green stuff, *Cladophora*. Chris Pagels of the Wisconsin DNR was the fea-

#### **Around the Drive...**

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tured speaker.

This event was videotaped and shown on our local cable access channel, Charter 19. If you missed it and would like to view a

copy, contact Laddie Chapman.

#### **Stormy Weather**

Tree Trimming on the Drive: What the County didn't cut, Mother Nature is handling for us. A violent storm arrived early morning on May 11, with driving rain and high winds. Many large trees fell across the Drive, severing power lines in several places. Kudos to the County & City utility crews, who were able to keep up with the situation.



Cal Bonnivier ponders how to get home after her car was blocked by a fallen

#### **Forest Fires: Not Fun**

Below are before and after pictures of Frank and Ferny Keller's other house, a cabin in Big Flats, Wisconsin. They were not present when the fire happened. This should be a lesson to all of us who live in the woods.

#### Wildlife Bounds and Abounds

Noticed a shortage of chipmunks, squirrels and rabbits recently? Perhaps the reason is a burgeoning red fox population. Biz Virlee and many others have reported seeing foxes, often



carrying dinner back to the den. He snapped these pictures of one fox who visits his back porch for handouts.

#### **Summer Picnic**

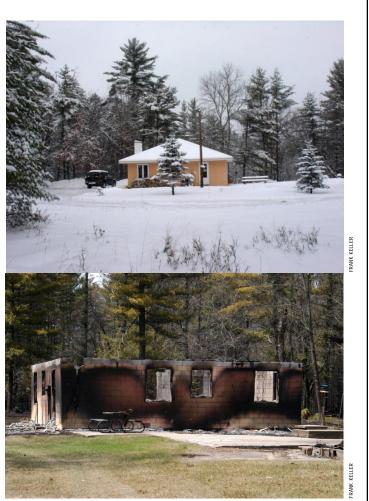
We will be holding our summer picnic/dinner at Crossroads on August 26 this year, 5:00 PM. All food

and drink will be catered, so bring only your hungry selves and guests. The cost is \$12 per person, children 10 and under are free.

Please RSVP by August 18. If you did not get a reservation form with this newsletter, you can download one from our web site, or call Kay Glessner.



One of our new fire signs





#### A Five Star Natural Area

By Carl Scholz



In 1935, a study was undertaken by the then Wisconsin Conservation Commission to identify natural

areas of Wisconsin that should be preserved and protected for the next 50 years. (Native Americans project protection of our environment for the next seven generations.) About three years ago, this study format was replicated and reported in a fantastic book, *Wisconsin Land Legacy Report*. Every household should have a copy—it is available at the Sturgeon Bay DNR Service Center, 110 South Neenah Ave. (Sturgeon Bay's West Side) for \$15.00—a "real deal."

The Shivering Sands Wetlands Complex has been identified as one of Wisconsin's Five Star Land Legacy Areas. This is another jewel in Glidden Drive's crown. Interestingly, in 1905, Teddy Roosevelt commissioned Gifford Pinchot to tour the United States and identify areas that should be preserved. Subsequently these dunes were recommended by President Theodore Roosevelt for preservation. The highest dune and deepest kettle in the Shivering Sands tract is the Scheig Dune and Kettle. They are directly across the drive from 4130. Of course, the dunes at Whitefish Dunes State Park were included in Roosevelt's recommendation.

Shivering Sands has a mixture of dunes, kettles, swales, old and present shorelines, four small lakes, two streams, ponds, fens, bogs, beaches, a Great Lake and forests. There are 19 landscape types. Fens are the rarest wetland in the country. In about 1850, Sibley, a federal surveyor, recorded notes on the trees and other plants of this area. Amazingly, the species of trees and their sizes compare very much to today's.

The total environmental diversity of this area is unmatched anywhere; Glidden Drive has more biodiversity than any other Rustic Road. Wisconsin's famous ecologist, Jim Zimmerman stated, "Shivering Sands is the largest unbroken natural area in Door County and has the largest white cedar tract in Wisconsin."

Besides the remarkable plant life, there is a paralleling animal fish and bird population: otters, fishers, snowshoe hares, cottontail rabbits, porcupines, mink weasel, badgers, gray wolves, deer, red and gray foxes, porcupines, possums, skunks, pygmy shrews (smallest mammal in Wisconsin) squirrels, turkeys, sandhill cranes, bald eagles, 110 other species of breeding birds, salamanders, frogs, turtles, snakes,

suckers, northern pike, spawning rainbow trout and even an occasional chinook salmon.

It should be mentioned, too, that there is one federally threatened plant, the dune thistle, and three state endangered species, the dune goldenrod, dwarf lake iris and the Heinz emerald dragonfly.

We wish to recognize and thank the following people and organizations for their efforts and other contributions in preserving and conserving this treasure: Dick and Joan Baudhuin, Herb Klein, Gladys Smith, Doug LaFollette, Henry and Mary Scheig, Glidden Drive Association, Doorland Preserve, Lincoln and Flo McGurk, Ted Lange and The Nature Conservancy.

Knowledge and understanding are essential for appreciation, pleasure and respect. I hope this statement adds to knowledge and understanding of this super natural area.



otos this page: Laddie Chapman

### Mark Your Calendar



#### Monday, August 21:

Sevastopol Town Board meeting, town meeting room behind Sevastopol Schools, 7:00PM



**Saturday, August 26:** GDA picnic, Crossroads at Big Creek, 5:00 PM



**Monday, August 28:** Sevastopol School Board meeting at Sevastopol Schools, 7:00PM



**Tuesday, August 29:** Sevastopol Schools Annual Meeting at Sevastopol Schools, 7:00PM



**Monday, September 11:** GDA Board meeting, Hitching Post, 9:00AM



#### Monday, September 18:

Sevastopol Town Board meeting, town meeting room behind Sevastopol Schools, 7:00PM





The utility crew clears trees in the May storm

## Glidden Drive Association, Inc. Directors 2006-2007

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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.

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