

March 2011
Volume 2011, Issue 3



Happy Mother's Day

From the President-

Well the calendar says that it is suppose to be spring and we should be seeing May flowers. Well here at Bellevue we have seen nothing but snow, rain and lots of mud lately. The campground came through the winter with only a few minor things that need attention. The major item is that a few shingles were blown off of the Rec. Hall roof. This will have to be taken care of soon.

The fence at the curve in front of the campground was hit twice by cars running off the road this winter. Herman and Tom have contacted the county to see if we can have a guard rail placed on the north side of the curve. No action yet.

By the time that you see this newsletter the spring Board of Directors meeting will be history. We have spent a lot of time getting ready for the meeting and I think things should go well. I have asked each campground to pick a project that needs to be done and present it to the Board for funding approval. Because of the restricted spending last year, I would like to get some spending approved for each campground this year.

Because each campground used restraint in spending last year the treasurers report that I sent to each Chapter President shows that we had a profit of just over \$6,000. Because the report is not yet approved you will see the complete report published in the next newsletter.

It won't be long and it will be Memorial Day Weekend, or as we say here at Bellevue, Pig Roast Weekend. This year the Double Dozen has added a new twist for the weekend. They are planting trees for Arbor Day. Some of them have already arrived and have been planted in pots until they can be planted in their final chosen spot. Herman, Tom and I have been working on the second roaster for the second pig. They provided the fuel oil tank and raised the money for material. It is almost ready and will be used this year, provided that enough of you send in your weekend reservations that are elsewhere in this paper. Last year they served over 230 people. Let's try to do better this year.

Because of the crazy gas situation no one is for sure what this year's summer will bring. Save money by using your campground and its storage area.

Reminder, the window for anyone getting a resume into Tom Crisfield has closed. However you could still run for an office as a write in, if you chose.

Please remember that both campgrounds will be having GARAGE SALES this summer. They both need all the stuff that each of you can get your hands on. Just bring it to one of our campgrounds the next time you are there.

Dick Hamlin
President TTCM

From the Secretary's Desk-

WELCOME CORNER

Welcome back to those members who re-instated in March & April:

Doug & Debbie Hutchins #4128 MAL
Johnathon Hutchins #4689 MAL
Paul & Carol Johnson #4690 MAL
Harry & Juanita Underwood #4437 MAL
Brian & Pamela Ensing #4677 MAL
George & Cheryl Horn #4336 HW
Mike & Belinda (Chase) Smith #4500 MAL

Welcome to our newest member:

John & Stef Van Domelen #4718 MAL from Allons, TN.

We are glad to have these members join us again. We hope all have a good camping season. We want to thank our Associate members M&M Camping Centers Inc. & Caswell & Co for renewing this year. Let's stop in and thank them for their support.

CORRECTION BY SECRETARY

I had published in last month's newsletter the correction on the pumper fee. Well, when I got home I researched the minutes and found that at the 2009 Board of Directors meeting the fee was changed to \$2.00 per dump. Before that time the fee was \$3.00. I hope that is clear now.

Sharon Westerhouse, Secretary



News from the North-

Well, another camping season is under way. So please come up and support your campground. We are planning on a GOOD year. I would like to say THANK YOU to Scott and Lori Bouwman and Bill and Tammy DeVerr for all the work that they did in the club house. And a big THANK YOU to Grand Valley for the donation of two new electric fry pans. I would also like to THANK Bob Robins for coming out the week before to help me get the tractors ready and for blowing the leaves away from the club house.

We had a planning committee meeting on the 16 of April. We have some projects on the agenda for the months to come. Thank you, to all that came to the meeting. Don't know how many of you remember Mike and Jewell Wilson. They have been members for several years. We just got news that Mike has died on April 19. Please remember the family in you prayers. Lets us have a good year camping.

--Lefty--

Yard sale update from the North--Hesperia---

Remember that this year our sale is on June 15-16-17. So we need all that good stuff that you have been saving for this special weekend. You can start to bring everything at the first of June. Come and join us, we have a busy time getting ready, but we also have good fellowship and a time to know each other.

Hope to see you there.

THANK YOU--The Hesperia Yard Sale Workers



News from the South-

Thanks to those who came out for opening weekend. Al & Georgie Ramos, Bob & Phyllis Perry, Sharon Westerhouse, Inez Cummings, Dick Hamlin & Tom & I. Although it was wet & cold, we got most everything done. Thanks to Inez for making chili lunch for the workers. Along with the other items to eat and a warm fire we had a good meal.

All water samples were taken & approved and ready for the 2011 camping season. When it quit raining, Dick managed to get a few tables around the campground before the rain came again.

Being so wet this spring, we have not been able to get any grass cutting done. All equipment is ready so when it dries up we are ready to mow. We are looking for property tenders again this year. With the duties being published in the newsletter, we are hoping that some of our members will come forward and volunteer for a week. If you can only take care of the weekly book, take care of trash and freshen up the out houses because of health etc. that's ok because we are here to mow. If you are interested please sign up on the property tenders book in the clubhouse or give us a call.

We want to remind all that we are looking forward to the Family Campers coming to use our campground on May 19-21 the 3rd weekend of May. 50 to 75 units are expected and will be using all the buildings. This will be added income for Bellevue this year. Then with the pig roast to follow over Memorial weekend, we will have a very prosperous May.

We need the playground repainted this year. If any individuals or a Chapter is interested let us know. We have money allocated for the playground. So, sprucing it up a little will give it a nice look.

We are trying to get the potholes filled on Baseline Rd. hopefully by the 3rd weekend of May or as soon as possible. We are also trying to get a guard rail put up on the curve by the campground. Our fence has been damaged several winters now and this year it was damaged quite extensively.

We will be submitting our plan for electric & water update of 5 more stanchions to the Board of Directors at their meeting in May. If this project is approved, we will need volunteers to help. More will be posted in the newsletter.

We want to remind you all of the garage sale coming up the 3rd weekend of June. We need your items to sell. Whatever you can donate will help us achieve our goal so we can put new roofs on the picnic shelters.

We hope to see you at the campground this summer. Come out and enjoy your campground.

Herman & Tom

GARAGE SALE AT BELLUVE-

We need ALL YOUR GOODIES for the sale on June 16-17-18. Our proceeds will go towards new roofs on the two picnic shelters. That has been voted on by the planning committee. You can bring your items any time. So, clean out the garage, attic or basement and bring your items out. Your trash is somebody else's treasures!! We need your help for a successful sale.

Bob & Sally Booker donated a 4X18 swimming pool complete with pump, filter, ladder, hoses etc. Garage sale price \$135.00 – to a TTCM member the price is \$100.00. Call us!!!!

OFFICAL NOTICE-

Resumes postmarked by May 1, 2011 will be presented at the board meeting in May. Once a list of candidates is formed, it will be forwarded to the newsletter editor for posting in the newsletter. According to the by-laws, all resumes must be mailed to the MAL president, post marked no latter than May 1, 2011. Resumes not sent to the MAL president will not be recognized.

Thanks,
Tom Crisfield
MAL Representative
187 N 22nd Street
Battle Creek, MI 49015
TTCM #4565

Bellevue Pig Roast-

Plans are underway for this year's Bellevue Campground Memorial Weekend Pig Roast.

The Duneland Winnies have volunteered to take care of the breakfast.

We would like to continue to have the auction so that we can raise money to bring the band back the following year. In the past the auction items came from Sharon Westphal, she was able to get these items at deep discounts from a department store that she worked at. Unfortunately she no longer works there. So what we would like to do is have each camper bring a nice item to donate to the auction. In the past it seems like the theme baskets do well and so do items that are wine and beer related.

There will be a PIG ART coloring contest for the kids. Friday night kids will pick up their sheet to color. Using their own materials they will decorate it. The sheets will be turned in on Saturday. Prizes will be awarded and the art will be displayed for all to enjoy.

There will also be a tree planting project. Please see the attached flyer regarding this.

From the Newsletter Editor-

I have been doing the newsletter for a few years now. I have decided that I am ready to pass this job on to someone else. If you are interested in taking over as the Newsletter Editor please contact myself or Dick Hamlin.

From the Editor-

The next newsletter will be the June Newsletter which will be sent out the beginning of June. If you would like an article in the next Newsletter please submit them to me by May 28.

If you are receiving your newsletter by mail and would like to start receiving it by email please send me an email with your name and email address.

You can mail newsletter articles to: Debbie Steenbergh, 28231 Lorenz, Madison Heights, MI 48071.

Or you can email them to: dsteenbergh@aol.com

CAMPGROUND DIRECTOR DUTIES

According to the By-laws **Article X Duties of Officers** paragraph **F**:

The Campground Director/Trustee shall, as a member of the Board of Directors, represent the campground committee and the needs of the campground to the Board of Directors; shall provide detailed reports of all income and disbursements on executive committee approved forms for the treasurer's inspection and critique thirty (30) days prior to the May and September meetings. Shall provide a detailed report of all moneys received and disbursed on a monthly basis no later than the **15th** of the following month to the treasurer so that such information may be incorporated into a complete annual report of all the accounts by the treasurer, and by **November 15th** all moneys are to be turned into the treasurer, except for an amount set by the Board of Directors along with a final year-end report; shall maintain in a safe and secure manner in the club provided offices all paper work and drawings required to maintain all state and county permits and licenses; and shall maintain in the same offices or maintenance building a file of all maintenance manuals and operation instructions for all TTCM owned equipment on the campgrounds; shall maintain an inventory of all equipment over one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

The campground directors shall have the authority to conduct day to day campground operations, pay bills, obtain necessary permits and attend to any other routine campground needs.

1. All major improvements to the campgrounds shall have the **campground planning committee** approval and majority approval of the Board of Directors prior to funds being committed disbursed. The planning committee shall have three (3) meetings per year scheduled on the 3rd Saturday of April, June and August, with a quorum of 2/3 of the members present needed to do business. All members need to be notified thirty (30) days in advance of the scheduled meeting via the TTCM newsletter.
2. Campground directors will provide a budget for operation and improvements for the current fiscal year at the May officers meeting.
3. A joint session of the campground planning committee will be held at the All American rally each year. The hosting director will chair the meeting and take minutes of said meeting and forward them to the TTCM secretary. The campground directors if needed may call special meetings, and these meetings will be held in Lansing or some equal distance place. The joint session should be scheduled when it would cause the least interference with rally activities.
4. Each campground planning committee is to bring its own three (3) year plan projects to the September meeting to be voted on by the joint committee. All major projects for the coming year must receive approval by each development committee. These projects will be presented to the TTCM president and all chapter presidents (address' to be supplied by TTCM secretary) for review before March 1st so all are informed before the Board of directors meeting in May.
5. There shall be no equipment disposed of with a value of more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) without the approval of the campground planning committee. It then shall be offered to the membership for sale via the newsletter. The monies received shall be returned to the campground maintenance fund.
6. No meeting of this committee shall become official until minutes of that meeting (that meets Roberts Rules) are received by the president and TTCM secretary.

Note: 2009 Board of Directors meeting voted and approved the use of Quick Book Pro for all financial reporting. All TTCM computers were equipped with this program. It is required of the campground directors and their treasurers to know and work this program for their reports. The secretary uses this program for reporting the membership dues also.

Under **Article VII Officers and Others** paragraph **E**:

For the convenience of the campground director, if they wish another person to act as campground treasurer, they must submit the names to the president prior to the May officers meeting and said person must be approved by the Executive Board. Both campground director and campground treasurer has the authority to sign checks. The campground director is responsible for the campground treasurer and all records and reports produced. The campground treasurer must be bondable to hold this position.

BELLEVUE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
April 16, 2011 at 2:00 PM

Present for meeting:

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Draggin Train | Dick Hamlin |
| Happy Campers | Gene Conklin |
| MALS | Tom Crisfield |
| River Raisen | Darlene Owens |
| Double Dozen | absent |
| Dune Land Winnies | absent |
| Happy Hitchers | absent |

Four out of seven chapters present; a quorum was called. Herman called the meeting to order and thanked those who came to the meeting. He and Tom then went over the projects that had been finished and listed the items needed. A brush hog is needed and Darlene Owens will look into the possibility of acquiring one. The pop machine needs to be replaced as the dollar changer doesn't work.

The garage sale proceeds will go towards putting on metal roofs of the upper & lower picnic shelters. So items are needed for the garage sale.

A reminder that a current proof of insurance is needed to be on file for the golf carts. Fence repair on the curve of Baseline: The fence is down and damaged. We need posts; we have the fencing to fix it. Tom & Herm will go to the county office and see about getting a guard rail put in for our protection. All agreed to go ahead with the repair. We would like to present to the Board in May our proposal for electric & water update on the east of main road across from the rec hall. 4 stanchions are needed. It was voted upon to put in stanchions of 50-30-20 and run the water lines also. It was also proposed to put in a permanent stanchion down at the basket ball court for the haunted forest, lights to the out houses and the teen area.

This proposal would cost **\$3,500.00**. All agreed to this project and voted to have this presented to the Board in May. If approved, the digging would begin after the Pig Roast. We have a safety problem with the 2 huge Oak trees on the hill by the flag pole. There is a large amount of dead wood that needs to be taken off as this is a safety hazard. Speculated amount to do this would be about \$600.00.

Winter storage was discussed. We are having problems with putting large rigs on a level and long area. We now put them on a site in the temporary storage by the lower picnic shelter with Directors approval. We discussed bringing in gravel and leveling off an area for winter storage.

There is money set aside for up keep of the play ground. There was a suggestion that it be painted in different bright colors. This is a project that any chapter can do if they wish. Moving every 21 days is not being followed. Direction is needed by the Board of Directors in May as to a solution for this problem.

Units that are parked continuously in storage and never moved - direction is needed by the Board of Directors in May to solve this problem.

Work weekends will be posted in the newsletter for projects. If your chapter or any individual wants to come out and work on a project, let us know.

With no more business, meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM.

Minutes taken by Sharon Westerhouse

Debbie Steenbergh
28231 Lorenz
Madison Heights, MI 48071



President:
Dick Hamlin
2288 Dorothea Road
Berkley, MI 48072
(248)877-6304
Double0636@aol.com

Vice President:
Bill Rollenhagen
PO BOX 115
Copemish, MI 49625
(231)735-4541
brollenhagen@aol.com

Secretary:
Sharon Westerhouse
PO BOX 336
Olivet, MI 49076
(517) 285-4111
tandsfourfun@hotmail.com

Treasurer:
Kathleen Rollenhagen
PO BOX 115
Copemish, MI 49625
(231) 735-4541
brollenhagen@aol.com

Senior Advisor:
Don Westphal
439 Johnson Rd
Michigan City, IN 46360
(231) 773-9501
westwam@sbcglobal.net

Reporter:
Ruth Heimann
3367 Reginald Dr
Muskegon, MI 49444

Editor:
Debbie Steenbergh
28331 Lorenz
Madison Heights, MI 48071
(248)930-6897
dsteenbergh@aol.com

Bellevue Director:
Tom W (517) 285-4111
Herman H (989) 274-5307
7418 Baseline Rd
Bellevue, MI 49021

Hesperia Director:
Phillip McGahan
400 E Michigan Ave
Hesperia, MI 49421
(231)854-1404

Bellevue Campground: 7418 W Baseline Hwy., Bellevue, MI 48021 (269)763-3551
*From I-69/I-94, north on I-69, exit #48. Go west on M-78, approx. 2 miles. South on Ionia Rd. to West Baseline Rd. East to 16th. Turn left at stop sign and follow for ¼ mile.

Hesperia Campground: 6777 M-20, Hesperia, MI 49421 (231)854-9913
*From Hesperia, head 3.5 miles west on M-20.
*From White Cloud, West 16.5 miles on M-20, campground on south side.

Please visit out associate members:

M&M Camping Center Inc.
2960 W Jefferson
Trenton, MI 48183

Caswell & Company
260 S Dexter St
Ionia, MI 48846