



2009 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

FEBRUARY 2009

We invite you to renew your membership or become a new member of the Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association. As always, we want to thank all our current members for their continued support and we welcome all new families to join.

The dues remain the same at \$35.00. If you feel you can donate any additional money with your membership, we provide a line for you to do so. We thank everyone for their support.

We encourage everyone to use our web site, www.hiscfa.org, and to remember to write your email address on your membership form. We would like to begin saving money on our mailings by using the internet to disseminate timely information to our members.

If you want to get involved, please attend our regular membership meetings. We meet at 9 am the 2nd Saturday of the Month at the Lion's Hall. Everyone is welcome to join.

Volunteers are Welcome and Needed

What you don't see outlined below are the many hours of volunteer service that our director's perform, along with many of our dedicated members. We want to thank them all for this service. Without these volunteered hours, the Association could not adequately perform all the work that gets done in one year.

Topics of Interest for Our Members

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

In November, FEMA announced that it was planning to revise the Flood Insurance Rate Maps for a number of areas in St. Clair County. The proposal would increase the floodplain elevation from 578.5 feet to 579 feet. Large sections of Harsen's Island are impacted by this plan, especially those families in the flats. The comment period on the proposal begins January 30 and runs for 90 days. Islanders have been working closely with Clay Township and Rep. Phil Pavlov in structuring a substantive appeal to stop this initiative. Letters must be addressed to Mr. Jay DeBoyer, Township Supervisor, and must address the technical basis for the change only. If you have an elevation certificate from FEMA, check to see if it has expired — you may need a new survey. For more information on this issue, log in to ccctwp.org and click the FEMA link.

Browne's Field Improvements

In an effort to reduce damage from vandalism at the field, the Association has completed the installation of lighting around the field and in the pavilion. Working with Detroit Edison, a number of posts were installed in critical places around the perimeter of the field to prevent damage from wheeled vehicles. The pond renovation continued in the fall with the spraying of the phragmites. Over the winter and spring, the dead material will be cut and burned so we can begin the next phase of renovation by re-sizing and deepening the pond. We hope to have a beautiful and useful pond area for members this summer and a skating rink in the winter!

MDOT Repairs at the Ferry Landings

As a result of aggressive action by the Association, MDOT has determined the maintenance of the approaches at the ferry is their responsibility. Asphalt patching has begun and resurfacing is anticipated in the spring.

Excessive Speeding

In response to growing concerns of the Islanders, HISCFA has asked the St. Clair County Road Commission to examine the location and spacing of speed limit signs in the residential areas of the Island.

Island Transport during Ice Jams

HISCFA has assumed an important role with Clay Township, Bobby Bryson and the DNR in the finalization of the transportation plan for non-emergency transport of Islanders across the North Channel during ferry closures. HISCFA has provided the funds to obtain a special-use permit with the DNR to allow access to the boat landing opposite the Boy's Club for the duration of any ferry interruptions. In addition, we are working out plans with HISCFA volunteers to provide volunteer shuttle service during daylight hours from the parking area at Browne's Field to the Boy's Club embarkation area. Clay Township and the Harsen's Island Fire Department will continue to ensure that emergency (911) transportation is provided for medical emergencies. The Township will cover any plowing at the DNR site as needed.

Grande Pointe Development

The DEQ permit was denied as was the re-zoning petition. Both are under appeal.

The Harsen's Island Bridge

The DEQ permit was denied. The Ambassador Bridge Company has subsequently purchased additional property on the mainland to facilitate a different crossing over the North Channel. The change will require a re-submission of the DEQ permit and a new public hearing.

We Need Your Email Address!

This year, please fill out our email address on your membership form. To save mailing costs, we can send you important information via email and save a stamp!



Internet Site

www.hiscfa.org is updated and maintained to keep you informed.

Use www.hiscfa.org to contact us!

What Do Your Dues Help HISCFA Maintain?

Browne's Field

This beautiful and manicured field is one of the first places our residents and visitors see when they come onto the Island. It includes many facilities: a pavilion and kitchen area, tables and benches, play grounds, tennis courts, a baseball diamond, horse shoe pits, a volleyball pit, a basketball court, and this year a new addition of goal posts that will allow play for football and the addition of nets for soccer. As you drive from the ferry, this is a reminder as to how some of your dues are used for the beautification of the Island.

Advertising Sign

Our advertisers help with the upkeep and lighting. Please support your local advertisers!

Field Day

Mark your calendar for our annual field day event, August 1st, 2009 a summer event for the whole family and friends.

Water Station on the North Channel

Unfortunately the revenue generated does not come close to covering our expenses. This spring the board will be reviewing our options and take a look at raising the cost of water to our bulk water users.

Park & Ride

This area is near the ferry and intended for all the people on the Island to use. It is maintained and lighted by your dues.

Port-A-Johns

These are placed at Browne's Field, downtown Sans Souci in the summer and at the mainland side of the ferry launch for winter.

Scholarships

Every spring our scholarship committee meets and awards deserving graduating seniors who reside full-time on Harsen's Island. Remember this can be a graduating Harsen's Island senior at any school.

Charitable Donations

We take money that has been generously donated and designated by our members (mostly during our membership drive) and donate additional money to our Fire Department, Reader's Cove, Lion's, school programs or other community needs.

Delta News Magazine

For your membership you are enlightened every year with a copy of the Delta News. We strive every year to have this supported by our advertisers. But as you can imagine, we are getting fewer advertisers while the cost of the magazine stays the same. If you have a business and would like to advertise, there will be a space on your membership form where you can contact us.

Distribution of the Delta News

Last year, for the first time, we handed out the Delta News on a designated weekend at The Waterfront Shoppe. Look for this again — details will be in The Flyer. The savings on mailing costs was significant, and we thank everyone who picked up their copy. Like last year, your copy will be mailed if you cannot pick it up in town.

Informational Mailings

Over the past years we strive to keep our membership informed on special issues that may impact you as a property owner on the Island.

Personal Ads

This year we invite our members to put in a personal greeting (for a nominal fee). See the membership form for information.

\$25

Your Ad Here

Sample Size 2" x 3.75"

\$15

Your Ad Here

Sample Size 2" x 1.75"

– Sample Ad Copy –
Thanks to the Police and Fire Departments for doing such a great job this past year.
We appreciate your service!"
From, Jane Doe

2" x 3.75" ad can hold approximately 140 words.
2" x 1.75" ad can hold approximately 50 words.

Board of Directors:

Barbara Crown, President
(810) 748-8803 | b.crown@hiscfa.org

Ann Merle, Vice President
(810) 748-3060 | a.merle@hiscfa.org

Lois Whipple, Treasurer
(810) 748-8854 | l.whipple@hiscfa.org

Chuck Miller, Executive Secretary
(810) 748-7209 | c.miller@hiscfa.org

Whitney Simon, Chairman of the Board
(810) 748-3975 | w.simon@hiscfa.org

Confirm Your Membership

Complete and return the enclosed application and mail it with your check in the enclosed pre addressed envelope on or before **April 15, 2009**.

Old Club Members: This letter is provided to you to keep you updated. Your dues are paid directly to us through The Old Club. We want to thank all of you for your continued support of the Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association.

Additional Donated Money: We want to thank our members for their generous donations last year. The membership form indicates allocated areas.

Visit us online to learn more! www.hiscfa.org