

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 1973

GRAND MERE ASSOCIATION

Box 140, Stevensville, Michigan 49127



Welcome to all of the new members who have joined with us since our last newsletter. Our membership is growing rapidly and, while we are unable to list each individual name, we extend a greeting to each one of you.

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It has been a little while since our last letter, but we assure you that the Grande Mere Association is alive and well and things are happening.

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The first item of business is to announce the current slate of officers following the recent election:

President	John Florian
Vice President	Mrs. F. V. Cupp
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Dean Asselin
Executive Secretary	Karl H. Goy
Treasurer	Dr. J. Sharon

Other Directors are:

Charles Nelson	Robert Hammond
Clete Brummel	Don Galloway
Max Medley	Peter Roe
Dale Park	

Five alternates to the Board were appointed and they include Mrs. J. L. Hren, who will serve as assistant to the secretaries, Frank Lahr as auditor, Jeff Brown, a high school senior who will be representing the student membership, Mrs. Fred Donnell, a past Board member and Mrs. Thomas Wach, a past secretary. One more appointment will be made soon.

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Newsflash ... Currently the chief project that the Grande Mere Association has been concerned with is the publishing of a new reference book on Grande Mere. Much research has gone into the writing of this book in order to insure its authenticity. The book will have a complete listing of all plant life, birds, animals, and reptiles of the area, as well as the geological and archeological history,



spiced with human interest stories and many photographs. It is reasonable to assume that the book will sell for approximately \$2.00 and those wishing to order now may do so. A big thank you to The Kalamazoo Nature Center, especially to Dr. H. Lewis Batts who so kindly consented to edit the material. We are deeply indebted to a number of our conservation friends who have contributed substantially to the underwriting of the book. More about all of this in the next newsletter.

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Newsflash ... The Berrien County Coordinating and Development Council has requested the Berrien County Parks and Recreation Commission and the Berrien County Board of Commissioners to purchase 20 acres in Grande Mere immediately adjacent to the 22-acre Nature Study Preserve. This acreage is a beautiful section of Grande Mere and by all means should be kept in its present condition. The PRC has responded to the Coordinating Council's request by instructing Mr. William Gebbard to ascertain from Manley Sand Mining Company if they will sell the 20 acres to the County for preservation purposes. Our membership should support this effort and, hopefully, purchase will be made and provide a little more of our natural resources for us all to enjoy.

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Plans are well on the way for a number of spring activities, one of which will be a joint meeting between the Grande Mere Association and another conservation group, United for Survival. This event will be held sometime in April. Don Galloway will be one of the co-chairmen and will provide a program which will be representative of the Grande Mere Association's prime interests.

Of course, the annual spring hike will be conducted during the month of May with Clete Brummel, Instructor at Lake Michigan College, as the chairman. All final details will be outlined in the next letter.

Our President, John Florian, is about to appoint a chairman and committee for the annual Grande Mere cleanup campaign and we hope that it will be the success that it was last year.

At the last meeting of the Board of Directors it was agreed that student membership should become an integral part of GMA activities. Students will be accepted as associate members for \$1.00 annual dues.

Appointed to the Chairmanship of the Membership Committee was Karl Goy who so thoroughly enjoys picking up the mail each day at Box 140, Stevensville, and finding checks from new members as well as long-time friends of the Association. In this respect, he urges all members to interest their friends and encourage them to become members.

Juniata Cupp was reappointed as Legislative Chairman. All of us who know Juniata, know that she will not slacken her efforts for legislation for the acquisition of Grande Mere.

According to the newspapers, our Mrs. Peter Roe has been appointed by the Lincoln Township Board to the Parks and Recreation Committee in that Township. We are hopeful that this appointment will serve as a liaison between the Township and the Grande Mere Association.

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