



SUMMER 2022 NEWSLETTER

A Letter from the President

Dear Islanders,

Thank you to all who participated in the Memorial Day ceremony and to Kathy Engelhart and her crew for organizing the event. The Junior Color Guard of St. Clair County added some pageantry to the ceremony that was appreciated by all. The kids and families of the Color Guard had never been to Russell Island, and they were charmed by our wonderful setting. We hope to get them back next year with their play clothes and bathing suits!



During the Memorial Day ceremony, we also honored our island veterans from the Vietnam War. And we created a handout listing information from all our living and deceased island veterans. All in all, it was a very moving day.

Thank you to Missy Poynter for chairing the very successful RIF Silent Auction at the Belmont Stakes party. She did an awesome job, and we could not have done it without her!

I am looking forward to the Musicfest on Saturday, August 13th, details below. Dave Mason is organizing this event, keep your fingers crossed for good weather, and see you there for an afternoon of music, dancing, food, drinks, swimming, and fun!

Also, our annual meeting of the members is coming up on Labor Day weekend, details below. I hope to see all of you there.

Warmly,

Karen Ridgway, President

Music Festival

The third annual RIF Musicfest is only days away!

This year's Musicfest will again host live music and is scheduled for Saturday August 13, 2022. Activities will begin around 2:00PM, with music starting around 3:30PM, and last until about 7:00 PM. Food and beverages will be available along with T-shirts commemorating the event. All proceeds will go to the Russell Island Foundation.

Brandon Pavlov's solo classic rock and folk performance will open the afternoon show. Headlining will be the return of Jimmy Dehen's Henhouse Boys. Their combined talents in the Americana/bluegrass genre are a real crowd pleaser.

Food and beverages will be available for purchase. Among them will be the return of the Goike street tacos and Smith's hotdog bar.

Since this event is a fundraiser for future RI improvements and maintenance, wrist bands will be issued at the ticket booth for a \$10 donation.

This is a great opportunity to give back to an Island that has in many ways remained a yesteryear existence. Thanks to RIF, our roads, bridges, and Park have been maintained and improved for all to enjoy. As always, we welcome volunteers to help run the event. Any ideas to enhance the day are welcome as well. Please contact Dave Mason (586-899-0404), or Jeanne LoVasco (313-378-1477).

With water levels continuing their decline, we're sure to have a dryer, and hopefully, fewer mosquito summer.

So mark your calendars and plan on a day of fun music, good eats, and a need for sunscreen. It's a great time meant for all to enjoy a summer event on Russell Island.

Russell Island 5K

It is hard to believe the Russell Island 5K is going to be holding the 9th annual run along with a pancake breakfast, September 3, 2022! Thanks to the support of our islanders, the RI5K and Pancake Breakfast, has made numerous donations to RIF, RIPOA, purchased dock benches, park benches, a ladder at the river access, and now a piece of playground equipment at the beach. Last year's funds paid for the material to replace the Russell Island sign, (thank you to Tony Ruggirello for his hard work repairing it), and we contributed \$310 to the RIYC, as matching funds, to Michele Preston's bingo shirt fundraiser.

The RI5K made a profit last year of \$3,709.09. RIF received \$1,335.00, RIPOA received \$320.00, RIYC received \$310.00, material for the sign \$471.07, and the remaining balance of \$1,273.02 is going towards the new playground equipment with a credit of \$79.92 being owed to RI5K from our upcoming 2022 run. Russell Islanders are very generous and supportive of the many fundraisers on our beautiful island. A big thank you to those who have helped the RI5K be successful by helping with set-up, race times, pancake flipping, running the bloody Mary bar, raffles, donations, etc. Also, thank you to all who have participated in our RI5K run and walk and Saturday breakfast for the past eight years!

Janice Smith

RIF ANNUAL MEETING

Notice of Annual Meeting: The Sunday of Labor Day Weekend

The Annual Meeting of the Members of the Russell Island Foundation, a Michigan non-profit corporation, will be held this year on Sunday of Labor Day Weekend, September 4, 2022, at 10:30 am at the Russell Island Park Pavilion located on Russell Island, Algonac, Michigan.

Agenda items to include:

- Treasurer's Report
- Election of Board of Trustees
- Other business that properly comes before the Board prior to and at the Annual Meeting

Please contact a Board Member by August 27th if you have a topic you would like to see included on the agenda.

Dues

Foundation dues of \$100 are payable by August 31st to entitle you to vote at the Annual Meeting. Dues are payable to the Russell Island Foundation, P.O. Box 361322, Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan 48236 or may be given to Rob Smith, RIF membership chair. Envelopes are on the ferry. Alternatively, dues may be paid via PayPal by accessing our website at russellisland.org.

PROXY FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

This Proxy is solicited on Behalf of the Board of Trustees of RUSSELL ISLAND FOUNDATION and will be voted.

The undersigned hereby appoints _____ and _____ or any one of more of them acting in the absence of the others, as attorneys and proxies of the undersigned, with full power of substitution, for and in the name of the undersigned, to represent the undersigned at the Annual Meeting of the Members of RUSSELL ISLAND FOUNDATION, a MICHIGAN non-profit corporation, (the Company") to be held at the Russell Island PARK PAVILLION located at Russell Island, Algonac, Michigan at 10:30 a.m. local time, September 4, 2022, and at any adjournment or adjournments thereof, and to vote in the name of the undersigned, with all of the powers the undersigned would possess if personally present at such meeting. Copies of the Notice of the Meeting have been received by the undersigned. PLEASE DATE AND Sign HERE

Dated: _____ Name: _____

PLEASE DATE, SIGN and return this proxy.

Please check here if you plan to attend the meeting. _____

Kroger Community Rewards Program / AmazonSmile

Kroger:

To get enrolled in the program, all you need to do is register online at www.krogercommunityrewards.com. Be sure to have your Kroger Plus Card handy and register your card with the Russell Island Foundation after you sign up. If you do not yet have a Kroger Plus Card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger store.

Here is a step-by-step explanation of what to do to get enrolled in this beneficial program:

1. Go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com and click on MICHIGAN, scroll down the page and click on the ENROLL box.
2. Click on SIGN UP TODAY in the “New Customer?” box.
3. Sign up for a Kroger Rewards Account by entering your zip code, clicking on favorite store, entering your email address and creating a password. You will need to agree to the terms and conditions.
4. You will then get a message to check in your email inbox and click on the link within the body of the email. Follow the instructions in your email.
5. Click on MY ACCOUNT and use your email address and password to proceed to the next step.
6. Click on EDIT KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS INFORMATION and input your Kroger Plus Card number. Update or confirm your information.
7. Find Russell Island Foundation which can be selected from the drop-down list (or enter the NPO number – 90286) click SELECT in the next section and Click SAVE CHANGES in the third section

To verify that you are enrolled correctly, you should see Russell Island Foundation on the bottom left portion of your information page. It will take 7-10 days before your purchases will begin earning rewards for the Russell Island Foundation after you have registered your Kroger Plus Card online. You will know that you have successfully registered your Kroger Plus Card because at the bottom of your Kroger receipt you will see: ***“At your request, Kroger is donating to The Russell Island Foundation”***.

REMEMBER that purchases will not count for the Russell Island Foundation until after you register your card – so please take the time to do that now! You will need to swipe your registered Kroger Plus Card or use the phone number that is related to your registered Kroger Plus Card when shopping for each purchase in order for it to count towards the quarterly rewards check sent to the Russell Island Foundation. For those of us who regularly shop at Kroger – this is an easy way to help the Foundation accrue monies.

AmazonSmile:

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know with the added benefit of supporting charitable organizations like the Russell Island Foundation! It offers the same products, prices and services as Amazon.com. AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization.

To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked “Eligible for AmazonSmile donation” on their product detail pages.

On your first visit to: you will need to select the Russell Island Foundation as your charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. AmazonSmile will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make on AmazonSmile will result in a donation to the Foundation. Please take advantage of this program, encourage family and friends to sign up also! This is just another way to add money to the Foundation by doing what we normally do....shop!

Membership and Dues

The Russell Island Foundation was established to financially support Russell Island improvements and beautification projects. Many Island projects have been accomplished thanks to your continued support.

Please consider becoming a member. You do not have to be a cottage owner to be a member. A membership in the Foundation may be a great gift idea for a birthday, anniversary, Christmas, or any other special occasion.

RIF dues of \$100 are payable by August 31st to entitle you to vote at the Annual Meeting. Visit the RIF website (russellisland.org) for a link to "PayPal" or during the on-Island season, cash/checks may be given to Rob Smith, RIF membership chair. Envelopes will be on the ferry in the Spring of 2022. Otherwise, please send Annual dues and/or donations made payable to: **Russell Island Foundation**

Mail to: Russell Island Foundation
P.O. Box 361322
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

My gift is in: Dues _____ A contribution (\$100, \$150, etc.) _____
Memory of _____
Honor of _____

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____

Russell Island Foundation Board

President – Karen Ridgway
Vice President – Claude Caponi
Secretary – Jeanne LoVasco
Treasurer – Peter Bardin
Trustees: Dave Mason
Dan Hickey
Rob Smith
Emil Holka
Robert Sloan
RIPOA President:
Steve Engelhart

