
From: Harper Lake Association
Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2016 7:15 PM
To: kkbrower@charter.net
Subject: Harper Lake Assn Fall Newsletter

Welcome to the new format of the Harper Lake Association newsletter. We hope this will make it easier for members to read the news on their mobile devices.

CHANGES TO HARPER LAKE ASSN BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Following the Board of Directors election at the September meeting, there are two new members on the HLA board and we say farewell to two others who have served the membership.

Leaving the board are Kathy Abbott and John Gochis. Kathy served as the secretary on the HLA Board, and as a full time resident, Kathy handled many administrative duties for the Board. Kathy along with her husband Jim were responsible for the success of the poker run and for maintaining the Harper Lake membership roster.

John took on the responsibility as the Harper Lake Historian when he joined the Harper Lake Board. Over the past several years, John created a historical narrative of Harper Lake and the surrounding areas through research and interviewing long time Harper Lake residents. John has graciously volunteered to continue updating the history and interviewing anyone who would like to share their stories.

Thank you Kathy and John for your commitment and service over the past several years.

New to the board are Kevin Storberg and Dawn May. Kevin and Ann Storberg have been on the lake since April, 2009. Kevin is retired and Ann works for the state treasury dept. They have two female Golden Retrievers and enjoy getting away from the hustle and bustle of Rochester Hills for weekends at the lake.

Dawn May, from Sparta, is married to Steve, whose family has been on the lake for

over 55 years. Their sons Andrew and Brandon weren't born at Harper Lake but they were introduced as soon as possible. You can find them at the diving board dock!

FISH STOCKING AND WEED CONTROL UPDATE. Fish stocking took place on May 26th. We received 900 4"-6" hybrid Bluegill and 5 gallons of Fathead Minnows. I met the Stoney Creek delivery truck at about 4pm that afternoon and split 900 fish up into 8 five gallon buckets. The fish were distributed throughout the lake, in an effort to avoid concentrations that would attract larger fish looking for a quick dinner. The delivery and distribution took about an hour. There was no indication we had any mortality during the planting.

I received many reports of good bluegill catches with some folks taking fish in the 9" to 11" range. We believe this effort has and continues to pay off and hope to continue stocking in the future.

2016 turned out to be far better in terms of the lack of milfoil. The June survey and treatment turned up very little evidence of milfoil with small treatments applied in two locations. July turned up even less, with just an occasional spot treatment. PLM advised that we skip August and do an early September treatment, which we felt would be more advantageous. The September survey took place on the 13th and again turned up no new milfoil sightings. PLM have predicted 2016 could be a bad year for milfoil, due to the unseasonably warm winter and the fact that the ice was off the lake quite early, so we really have experienced an excellent outcome.

We plan to have a water quality tested in 2017. The water quality program, offered by PLM, includes three sampling, one in the spring and summer and one mid-season E.coli test.

PLM reports our lake to be in very good condition which can be attributed to the management practices we have used through past years. Continued monitoring and treatment will always be part of our lives.

Jim Brown, HLA Board



The white deer are considered by some as honorary mascots around Harper Lake. This photo was taken on Big Bass Lake Road on September 3 just before the HLA membership meeting.

FIRST ANNUAL FLOAT PARADE WAS HELD IN JULY. We estimate around 50 boats participated in this inaugural event. Dock captains reported a very friendly crowd of visitors on a beautiful summer Saturday.

Congratulations to the grand prize winner Syd Masou who won the floating mat that's sure to be a hit on Harper Lake every summer. Other prize winners were

: Steve Noble, Shelia Reifsnyder, Dave Hovinga, Nick and Kolleen Chulski, Eric Gill, Chris Urbanski, Brooks Brown, Travis Grassmid, Deb McAlpine, Nicole Austin, Eric Syren, Andrew May, Garry Roon, Phyllis Reyburn, Danielle Redman, Denise Arrans, Rick Chulski, Karen Lemieux, Mike Stathakis, Eric Woodwyk and, Tony Maggini.

And a huge thank you to the many who donated the prizes for the event: Tim & Christina Urbanski, Sue Badalucco, Mike & Karen Brower, Rhonda LeMieux, Marcae Johnson, Richard & Lynn Allenplease, The Mays & the Santos, Lisa & Howie Mullen, Nancy Randall, Julie & Bill Mullaly, Phil & Annette McCormack and John Gochis.

From coffee mugs to toys for summer fun on the lake, all prizes were greatly appreciated! Thanks for all the input we received so we can make it better for next summer. Watch for this event again in July 2017.

FINANCIAL REPORT. Thank you to the 101 dues paying members that contribute to our lake improvement programs, fish restocking and weed control! Our revenue consists mainly of dues with directory ads and retail monies being offset with those costs. We continue to monitor our expenses with the largest amount going towards Milfoil control. Because of our due diligence, we have been able to keep those costs down. Thank you, Weed Committee! The 2017 dues form will be emailed separately. Please continue to show your support so we may continue our programs.

HARPER LAKE APPAREL UPDATE. This past year, the HLA offered the "Take Stock in Harper Lake" Tee to raise money for the 2017 Fish stocking. We collected

\$180 from the sales of these T-Shirts. These Shirts are still available thru special order; please contact Susan Badalucco at [248.891.3028](tel:248.891.3028) if you would like to place an order. Many other items are available as well. Send Susan an email and let her know what you're looking for and any suggestions for new designs or items you'd like to see in 2017.

TRASH BAG COLLECTION. As of Tuesday, September 6, Elk Township is no longer providing the blue bag trash collection sites around the township due to abuse of the program. Residents are now responsible for contracting their own curbside trash collection. Please do not leave bagged trash at the former collection sites as this is now considered littering since they will not be picked up by a trash service.

AREA WATERSHED INFORMATION. Joyce Durdel from the Little Manistee River Watershed Conservation spoke at our Fall membership meeting. Joyce explained the mission of the Little Manistee River Watershed Conservation and the roll and impact Harper Lake has on the watershed. This organization would like the Harper Lake Association to become a partner and support the Watershed Conservation. The Board would like further discussion with the membership to determine if this is something the membership would like to be a part of. Anyone interested in learning more about the watershed, get involved or become a member of their steering committee can contact Joyce at littlemanwsassy@gmail.com or [231-590-0046](tel:231-590-0046).



CLEAN BOATS, CLEAN WATERS PROGRAM.

Michigan Clean Boats, Clean Waters Program: Created to Help You Prevent New Introductions of Exotic Aquatic Invasive Species. Always strictly adhere to the mantra "Clean - Drain - Dry – Dispose." More information at www.micbcw.org

REMINDER OF LAKE RULES.

- SLOW, NO WAKE for all motorized watercraft shall be between 7:30 pm and 11:00 am
- Speed boating, water skiing, and operations of personal watercraft shall be between 11:00 am and 7:30 pm
- All water craft must circle the lake in a COUNTER CLOCKWISE direction
- Discourteous and / or reckless boating conduct should be reported to the Lake County Sheriff /Marine Division. Include the MC numbers, if possible, and location when calling the Sheriff. [231.745.2711](tel:231.745.2711)
- 100 FOOT RULE: SLOW-NO WAKE speed must be maintained within 100 feet of a shoreline, any watercraft, docks, fisherman, rafts, swimming areas, and swimmers. SLOW-NO WAKE is required in waters less than 3 feet.

- All watercraft covered by the Michigan Marine Law must be registered and the license must be displayed. Approved personal floatation devices are required.
- All watercraft shall stay at a reasonable distance from fishing boats and shall pass on the deep side of boats fishing the shallow waters of the shoreline.

Copies of the Lake Rules are available or you can run your own copy. [Lake Rules](#)

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION TO FISH STOCKING

You'll see a new addition to your Harper Lake Association's dues invoice for 2017 – a spot to voluntarily contribute to the annual fish stocking program. At the last three general membership meetings, residents have spoken in favor of stocking Harper Lake with fish and asked for a way to increase the number of fish released into the lake each spring. The association will continue budgeting \$1,500 each year for fish, but members may contribute additional funds to stock more fish. Suggested donation is \$10 per property, but feel free to contribute any amount you wish.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK. To get your news and important updates faster, follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/HarperLakeMI/>

Our mailing address is:

Harper Lake Association

P.O. Box 53

Irons, MI 49644

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

MailChimp