



Harper Lake Association

P.O. Box 53, Irons, MI 49644

AUGUST 2012

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST 18,...FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

In God We Trust

Fall Meeting

Mark your calendar for August 18, 2012. Our Fall Membership Meeting will be held at the **Irons Union Church at 9:00**. Come a little early and share a cup of coffee with your neighbors. This will also be an opportunity to meet the candidates filling board vacancies this year.

PRESIDENTS LETTER

As fall approaches some of us may be happier than others to finally get some relief from the heat, but what a great summer we have had.

The poker run was a huge success and a great time was had by all. Congrats to all who won and a big thanks for everyone's participation again this year.

The annual picnic was very nice but it continues to be a challenge to increase attendance. At our fall meeting we will discuss your ideas and thoughts concerning the lake picnic. Here are few shared ideas that have been suggested; combine the picnic and poker run on the same day, change the schedule to every other year, have it with the fall association meeting or possibly make this past year our last. Please give this some thought, and bring any ideas or comments to our next meeting.

Professional Lake Management Corp. treated the lake with our supervision in June of this year. The overall treated areas were reduced from the previous year. As you know the milfoil will never be eliminated but we have to treat yearly to control its spreading. Our three year contract with PLM has been completed. We are in the process of getting quotes from at least one other lake treatment company for the coming year or years. We will keep you updated as this progresses.

As we bring the summer to a close, we look back and are thankful for all the great memories made. We are so fortunate and thankful to all that come together to make our lake a "family". Can't wait to see what next year brings, looking forward to our fall meeting where we can discuss the continued plans for keeping our lake safe, beautiful, and a wonderful place for all of us to enjoy.

Richard Blumenstein

POKER RUN

The 2012 Poker Run was held July 7th and was a rousing success. The weather was perfect and our 7 dock captains did a fabulous job of providing entertainment, snacks and liquid libation.

Joe and Erin Kozak organized the largest crowd with jello cups and an unexpected welcome of water canons.

Curt and Kim Walbridge followed up with candy and Gator-Aid and little guys willing to show how well they could get us wet.

Scott and Phyllis Reyburn provided cheese and pineapple on a stick and an assortment of hors d'oeuvres.

Sue Badalucco and family presented the most delectable chocolate cups with Baileys and the most potent whipped cream available.

Mark and Deb McAlpine definitely had the coldest and most potent pudding cups.

Bob and Nancy Randall and family entertained us all and offered the biggest jello cups on the lake.

And finally, Richard and Mary Blumenstein on dock 7 finished off the menu with Hot Dog roll ups and candy.

As the boats rolled into Roger and Kathy Zeh's dock to discover if their Poker Hand was a winner, Donna Kott and Kathy Abbott served up Root Beer Floats and the kids shot water balloons.

WINNERS:

RAY LANNING HAD THE BEST HAND AND WON \$840

ERIC WOODWYCK FROM THE MAXWELL CLAN WON \$480

KATHY ZEH CAME IN THIRD AND WON \$240

NANCY RANDALL WON \$120

Many thanks go out to Howie Mullen and Jim Abbott who co chaired this year's Poker Run, and many thanks to all the other volunteers and families that made this year's Poker Run so much fun.

We always are looking for new families to be Dock Captains. Apparently we had several families that had volunteered and were left out. We'll try harder next time.

To prevent this from happening in the future, we are taking names now for those who would like to volunteer to be Dock Captains for 2013.

CONTACT DICK BLUMENSTEIN rblumenstien@sbcglobal.net or call 231 266 8315 and sign up now for next year.

HARPER LAKE PICNIC

The Harper lake picnic was held on Saturday, July 21, 2012. Forty-five Harper Lake family members attended and enjoyed a beautiful afternoon. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this a great success.

Nancy & Bob Randall - hosting of this year's picnic which began at noon

Mary & Dick Blumenstein – set up and coordination of volunteers

Donna & Dave Kott – set up and 50/50 raffle

Molly & Randy Heemstra – purchasing of raffle items

Grant Riggs (Dublin) – fantastic broasted chicken

Lisa Mullen – children's games

Jim Abbott – set up

2012 Harper Lake Picnic Winners

Susan Badalucco – Dublin gift card & Folding Table

Lisa Mullen – Cooler filled with assorted drinks

Dick Blumenstein – \$20 worth of HLA apparel donated by Becky & Steve Veneklase

Larry Noble – Grill tools and Dublin gift card

Erin Kozak – Basket filled with beer and nuts
Karen Humfleet – HLA tote with beach towels and floats
Bill Royce – Grill & pancake ingredients

50/50 Winner

\$87 – Howie Mullen

\$87 – Susan Badalucco

Children Game Winners

Guess the number of popcorn kernels – **Jack**

Hula Hoop Contest – **Aidan**

Bozo Balls – **Jacob**

All children did receive a gift bag of goodies.

Kathy Abbott

THANKS TOM ELENBAAS

The local community came together on Sunday, July 8th for his retirement party and to pay tribute to and to thank Fire Chief Tom Elenbaas for his 16 years of service to the Sauble, Elk, Eden Fire Department and the people of Elk Twp. Chief Greg Baumbek has stepped in to fill Tom's shoes. Good luck to Greg and Thanks again to Tom.

THANKS TO JIM HICKEY

Jim Hickey has been around Harper Lake for more years than some of us can remember. During that time, Jim has served on the board numerous times and has been a source of information for a lot of us. Jim has always been an advocate of the gypsy moth control as well as preserving the quality of Harper Lake.

Jim's most recent service to the Harper Lake board is coming to an end this year. Thank you Jim for your past service and on going contribution to the community!

LAKE RAKE REMINDER

We purchased a 48" heavy-duty lake rake with an extra long handle. This is a great rake for leaves and weeds by your shore. To sign it out, call David Kott at 231 266 6034.

YELLOW BAGS & TRASH

The trash containers built by Jim Abbott for Elk Township have been very successful. The one on Granger Road and the other in the old K & K Parking lot have gotten plenty of use. We would like to remind everyone that these are only for trash in Allied Waste YELLOW BAGS purchased at local stores... Other bags will not be picked up. Local volunteers have attempted to keep these areas clean but we could sure use everyone's cooperation.

FINANCES

Thank you to all who have contributed to Harper Lake Association and paid the 2012 dues.

As of the end of July, we have 87 dues paying members. Expenses incurred have been the fish planting, milfoil maintenance and permits, picnic, poker run and various insurances. For a full report, please attend our August meeting on the 18th. It is never too late to contribute dues. If you have questions and not sure if you have paid, please feel free to email Lisa Mullen at howiemullen@comcast.net. Thanks again for all your support.

Lisa Mullen

THE FISH ARE GETTING EVEN BETTER

On June 19th, we had another 1500 Hybrid Blue Gill planted in the lake. It appears that our yearly stocking of fish is having a very positive affect and we are seeing signs of reproduction. These are a fun fish to catch, especially for the grandkids. The Lake Committee will continue to monitor the progress.

Whether we should step this program up in volume or species will be an issue at the upcoming fall meeting. Thanks again to Lance Lamar for his years of dedication to this project.



What do you do when it's hot? Have hot dogs on your pontoon and jump into Harper Lake!!!

DREDGING PROJECT

The Dredging Project along the SW shoreline is nearing completion. The contractor has been very easy to work with, has done a good job, and has avoided any disruption of weekend activities on the lake. All equipment should be off the lake by early August.

Fletch MacGregor

SAYING GOODBYE.....

Laurence Van Dolsen, long time friend of so many here and a good neighbor fought his battle with cancer, but passed away on July 13th. Laurence retired to Harper Lake in 2004 and, with his wife Linda, owned and operated the Harper Lake Resort.

His dedication to updating the Harper Lake Web site will always be appreciated and his talents will be sorely missed. Goodbye Laurence Van Dolsen!

SOMEBODY HAS TO DO IT!!!!

Every year we elect 4 Harper Lake Members to serve two year terms on the eight member board of directors. These are volunteers who work throughout the year to maintain the quality of water in Harper Lake and the surrounding land area. These volunteers also organize the Poker Run, Picnic and other social events open to all residents. With input from our senior members as well as our newest residents, the board is dedicated to preserving what we all enjoy at Harper Lake.

New recruits are always welcome. Please plan on attending the August 18th meeting to not only vote for our new board members, but to volunteer your time for 2012/2013. It really is more fun then work!

ELECTION BALLOT FOR 2012

(Note: Residents Members who have paid Association Dues for 2012 are eligible to vote. If by some chance you have overlooked paying dues for 2012, please feel free to send in your \$55.00 along with your ballot)

Please vote for 4 candidates and return your mail-in ballot by August 12th to:

Harper Lake Association
P.O. Box 53
Irons, MI 49644

Or better yet....vote in person at the HLA meeting on August 18th.

_____ Dick Blumenstein _____ Kathy Abbott _____ Lance Lamar

_____ John Gochis _____ Write In Candidate