



Harper Lake Association

P.O. Box 53, Irons, MI 49644

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- JANUARY 1, ANNUAL ASSOCIATION FEES \$55.00
- MAY 25, SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING
9:00 AMELK TWP HALL
- JULY 6 POKER RUN 2:00 PM CHECK IN
- JULY 20 HARPER LAKE PICNIC
- AUGUST 31 FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

2012 / 2013 Board of Directors

- Dick Blumenstein President
- Randy Heemstra Vice President
- Kathy Abbott Secretary
- Lisa Mullen Treasurer
- Lance Lamar
- Fletch MacGregor
- John Gotchis
- David Kott

Phone numbers and email addresses can be found in the Harper Lake directory. Members with a question or a desire to get involved are urged to contact any of the board members.

WELCOME JOHN GOTCHIS

At the annual fall meeting, four vacancies on the board are voted upon and filled by members. While several residents were re-elected for another two years, we would all like to welcome John Gotchis to the Harper Lake board.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR



ALMOST TIME FOR ICE FISHING

Presidents Update

As we say goodbye to a great summer and welcome the upcoming winter, we reflect on how fortunate we are to live not only in Michigan, but on beautiful Harper Lake. Once again, we had an excellent summer season on the lake. Although we had a month of low water levels and high weed concentration, our fish population increased. The heavy rain fall this autumn has already returned the water levels, and with a good winter of solid ice and snow pack, our lake weeds should be reduced next year.

In order to maintain the weed program, the association brought in Professional Lake Management Corp for a complete weed survey and recommended 3-5 year plan. We need your input to help establish the 2013 program. Please take the time to read the survey summary below and respond to the questionnaire.

Big thanks to all involved in this summer's poker run! Once again we had a great turnout and the kids enjoyed the ice-cream social. As we settle in for the winter ahead, we give thanks for our wonderful family and friends of Harper Lake and wish everyone a blessed Christmas and safe New Year. See you all next summer!

Richard Blumenstein

SPRING MEETING

Mark your calendar for May 25, 2013. Our Spring Membership Meeting will be held at the **ELK TOWNSHIP HALL** south on Bass Lake Rd. Come a little early and share a cup of coffee with your neighbors.

POKER RUN

The 2013 Poker Run is scheduled for **July 6th**. Howie & Lisa Mullen, Roger & Kathy Zeh and Jim & Kathy Abbott are heading up the event this year, but we still need volunteers, and seven dock captains. At the Fall meeting, several families volunteered for 2013 including:

- Gary and Karen Humfleet
- Steve and Dawn May
- Sue Badalucco
- Bob and Nancy Randall

We need at least three more.

Dock captains have as much fun, if not more, than all those who participate in the Poker Run. If you are ready to party on your dock and meet a lot of great people on the lake, let us know by the Spring Meeting!!

ICE OUT

Every year we haul out the Ice Out bouy on the north side of the lake. When it falls through the ice and the flag begins to fly, Spring is officially declared...much more accurate than the groundhog.

Last year Howie Mullen won the Ice Out pool with being the closest to guess when the lake thawed. Watch for the sign up being passed around between January 1 through March 1st.

YELLOW BAGS & TRASH BINS

Thanks to Jim Abbott, several additional trash bins are available on Granger and over on Bass Lake Rd. These are only for Allied Waste/Republic **YELLOW BAGS** purchased at Dublin Store and other retailers in town. Allied will not pick up black, white or any other kinds of bags, nor will they pick up boxes, appliances or loose trash.

Harper Lake volunteers have helped to keep these trash areas clean, but your help would be appreciated. Purchase and use only the **YELLOW BAGS**. If you know of someone who leaves anything else, let them know how we are trying to offer a service and are working to keep our community clean.

Thank you for all those who have helped keep the roads and trash areas clean this year.

MISSION STORE

Good quality household goods, clothing, furniture and non perishable foods are welcomed at the Irons Union Church Mission Store, open on Friday and Saturday afternoon. These donations help the community. This is also a great place to find some new treasures. If you have questions, call Connie Helder at 266 2039.

FINANCES

Lisa Mullen has reported that we are ahead of last year in collecting Association Dues. A special thanks goes out to all those members for their unwavering support. All residents around Harper Lake who benefit from the efforts to preserve our home values, and quality of our lake by all our volunteers are urged to participate and join the Association. Lisa will update the Treasurers Report at the Membership Meeting on May 25th.

COMMUNITY NEWS

ORVS AND QUADS

Elk Township and Lake County have approved the ORV Ordinance which opens the roads to ORV, Quad, ATV and Golf Cart use. Google the Lake County ORV Ordinance for 2012 for details or look for the new Trail Maps at Big River Properties or Borema Hamm Insurance.

Restrictions include but are not limited to:

- 25 mph or less speed
- Helmets or roll bars
- ORV stickers (\$16.25)
- Licensed drivers 18 years or older
- Seat belts and lights
- Roads open April 1 to Dec. 1.
- **Respect for others and property.**

HARPER LAKE PICNIC

Over the years, the Harper Lake Picnic has been a wonderful occasion for residents to meet and fellowship with each other. This is a particularly good time for new residents to learn about our lake community and why so many of us enjoy being here.

In the last three years, the number of members attending has been dwindling. Residents are invited to suggest how we can increase interest in attending this event.

Maybe we need to invent another kind of event?

Maybe the south side of the lake would like to challenge the north side to a muddy tug-of-war?

Maybe we need sponsor a fund raiser or food bank drive for those in need?

We need suggestions? If you have any fun ideas for a family oriented event, please email Kathy Abbott at kdabbott54@gmail.com or call 574-532-4058 with your ideas. The tentative date is July 20, 2012.



HARPER LAKE TOURIST ATTRACTION

Harper Lake Christmas Shopping

Sweatshirts, Sweatpants, Tee Shirts, Hats and more....all available for purchase before the Christmas. If you would like a particular item now or would like to order something for the spring, contact:

Randy and Molly Heemstra
heemstram@yahoo.com
(616) 987 4287



HARPER LAKE ASSOCIATION DUES INFORMATION

HARPER LAKE ASSOCIATION DUES FOR 2013 are payable to:

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

Property Owner

Home Address (Mailing Address)

Home City _____

State _____

Zip _____

YOUR FEEDBACK!

As a Harper Lake land owner, your thoughts, opinions and needs are important. Help your Board to represent you by providing the necessary feed back to make the most appropriate decisions.

Weed Control

For 2013, we would like to increase the level of weed control while maintaining a proper balance of native weeds. This approach will benefit the water quality and fish habitat. Out of the 80 acres on Harper Lake, we treat between six and eight acres but need to know if you...

PREFER TO LEAVE THE LAKE FRONT NATURAL WITH MINIMAL OR NO WEED CONTROL _____?

PREFER TO HAVE THE WEEDS BY YOUR LAKE-FRONT TREATED _____?

PLEASE RETURN

PLEASE REMIT BY JANUARY 1, 2013 You are invited to use the enclosed envelope

Property Address

Lot#s _____

Subdivision _____

Home Phone _____

Lake Phone _____

Email Address _____

Dues

Enclosed **\$55.00** _____

Check # _____

(Please complete the above information so that we can make sure our directory is up to date.)

HAVE A SUGGESTION? LET US KNOW!

WANT TO VOLUNTEER TO BE POKER RUN DOCK CAPTAIN? LET US KNOW!

