



Harper Lake Association

P.O. Box 53, Irons, MI 49644

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 1, ANNUAL ASSOCIATION FEES \$55.00

MAY 24, SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING
9:00 AMELK TWP HALL

JULY 5 POKER RUN 2:00 PM CHECK IN

AUGUST 30 FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

.....
www.HarperLakeAssociation.org

2013 / 2014 Board of Directors

Dick Blumenstein President
Sue Badalucco Vice President
Kathy Abbott Secretary
Lisa Mullen Treasurer

John Gochis
Joe Kozak
Jim Brown
David Kott

Phone numbers and email addresses can be found in the Harper Lake directory or on.....

www.HarperLakeAssociation.org

2014 HARPER LAKE DIRECTORY

This year's directory will include only paid-in-full members.

New directories will be distributed by Board Members in the Spring as weather permits and /or by mail upon special request.

Paid-in-full members can find the new directory on the web site. The directory is password protected.

- COMPLETE THE ATTACHED SURVEY AT THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER.
- INCLUDE YOUR MOST CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS
- MAIL BACK WITH THE 2014 ASSOCIATION FEE

Paid-in-full members will be emailed the password for 2014.

DECEMBER 2013

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

POKER RUN VOLUNTEERS

THANKS AGAIN TO ALL WHO VOLUNTEERED AND PARTICIPATED THIS YEAR.

Dock Captains for 2014 already include:

- Steve and Dawn May
- Frank and Jan Maggini.

We need five more dock captains. If you, your family and neighbors would like to have a fun afternoon as dock captains, let us know when mailing your Association Fees.

Dock captains received a token \$50 to help cover expenses, but it seems they raise the bar every year. **This year, there will be a special prize for the most creative dock!**

HARPER LAKE SHIRTS & HATS

If you have a Harper Lake logo shirt or hat, we would like a picture of you wearing the shirt or hat in an identifiable distant location...in front of the Eiffel Tower, on the Great Wall of China, in front of the Grand Rapids Museum, etc. You might win a prize for the most distant location. So far the Richard and Mary Blumenstein have the most distant picture...Alaska. You might just have your picture on Clothing page of the web site. Send pictures to:

dbadalucco@aol.com

HISTORY OF HARPER LAKE

Are you a long term resident of the Harper Lake area? Do you have documents, old photos, or knowledge of our history that you are willing to share? We want to hear about it.

The Harper Lake Board will be collecting and publishing historical stories and photos for our website and newsletter. Please mail, email or call me to share.

John Gochis jgochis@att.net

SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

NEED SOME HELP FROM A PROFESSIONAL?? THE ATTACHED SPONSOR LIST COULD BE YOUR ANSWER. THEY SUPPORT OUR NEWSLETTER AND WEB SITE. KEEP THEM IN MIND FOR YOUR NEXT PROJECT.

A letter of appeal to fellow residents of Harper Lake

Dear Neighbor,

As most of you know, in the summer of 2012, five families in the channel to the west of Harper Island made an investment to assure our boat access to the lake.

Because of limited access to the lake due to low mid-summer water levels in the past, we consulted with the DNR, obtained the required permits, hired a commercial dredger to remove several thousand yards of the marrow bottom and paid for its disposal. At the time we were investigating in this project, we asked the association if the other residents of the lake wanted to contribute and open the access through the entire channel. We were told the majority didn't wish to contribute to this much larger project.

We then down sized the project and the five of us fully funded (over \$45,000) the dredging of a small channel just off our docks for lots 63 to 67. The channel does not go through. It is only a 20ft wide cut from the north part of the lake, south down to lot 67, (McGreger's) and ends there .

While we understand your curiosity, when motors are used near the east edge of the newly created channel, marrow is forced back into the dredged area. We are asking that you respect our significant investment and try to avoid this area with motorized watercraft. With your help, we hope to be able to use this channel for access for several years.

Please stay east of the drop-off just east of the marker buoys and rafts we have placed along this fragile wall.

Thank You !

Robert and Joyce McDonald
And Neighbors



Call Toll Free - (888) 873-3353

BUDGET UPDATE

Calendar year 2013 finished strong for Harper Lake Association. A total of 96 members supported the Association this year and allowed the board the needed income to complete a number of important projects.

The annual fish planting came in on budget.

The most successful Poker Run with 360 participants virtually paid for itself.

The upgraded water quality monitoring and weed control program came in under budget.

A lack of gypsy moth infestation for the last several years has also helped provide a surplus in our checking account, but that has begun to shrink with the added weed control contracted for in 2013.

The board is committed to monitoring and maintaining the quality of the lake for fishing, boating, swimming and general recreational use as much as possible and has made every effort to spend your dollars as wisely as possible.

As all of our yearly costs rise, we are preparing to tighten the budget to coincide with our fixed income.

We are asking the members to start giving us feedback on the continuation of both the fish planting and weed control programs. At this point, our fund balance allows us to continue both programs for the 2014 calendar year. However, we will start to have a shortfall if we move forward at the same spending levels. Our options would be to increase revenue or find ways to cut service. Your input is valuable.

Please forward your comments to any board member and feel free to respond to the survey questions on the last page of this newsletter.

Thanks to all those that generously volunteered their time this year and especially to all who have paid their association dues for 2013.

Please take the time to complete the information update and the survey as you submit your association fee for 2014.

Results of the survey and budget questions will be discussed at the Spring membership meeting.

The Harper Lake Association Board

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL
 REQUESTED
 INFORMATION AND MAIL
 YOUR RESPONSES BACK
 WITH YOUR
 ASSOCIATION FEE.

HARPER LAKE ASSOCIATION DUES FOR 2014 are payable to:

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

PLEASE REMIT \$55 BY JANUARY 1, 2014
 You are invited to use the enclosed envelope

Property Owner _____
 Email address _____
 2nd Email address _____
 Primary Home Phone _____
 Cell Phone _____
 2nd Cell Phone _____

2nd Property Owner _____
 Email address _____
 2nd Email address _____
 Primary Home Phone _____
 Cell Phone _____
 2nd Cell Phone _____

Harper Lake Property Address

 Irons, MI 49644
 Lot#s _____
 Subdivision _____
 Lake Phone _____
 Dues
 Enclosed **\$55.00** _____
 Check # _____

Primary Mailing Home Address

 Home City _____
 State _____
 Zip _____

.....

PLEASE CHECK OR RESPOND.

VOLUNTEER TO BE DOCK CAPTAINS FOR THE
 JULY 5, 2014 POKER RUN
 Yes _____ No _____

CONTINUE WITH THE EXPANDED WEED CONTROL
 PROGRAM NEXT YEAR.
 Yes _____ No _____

CONTINUE WITH THE FISH STOCKING PROGRAM
 NEXT YEAR.
 Yes _____ No _____