

# ANN LAKE WATER LOG

A Newsletter of the Ann Lake Property Owners' Association (ALPOA) – June 2012

## 2012 ALPOA

### BOARD MEMBERS

#### PRESIDENT:

LEE MUEHLMANN-357-6768

#### VICE PRESIDENT:

KEN TAYLOR -275-6804

#### SECRETARY:

AL MURLEY-

#### TREASURER:

DAVE MAXSON-275-7732

#### PAST PRESIDENT -

ELLIE FLAHERTY - 275-6313

#### DIRECTORS:

BETH DANNECKER-NOE -  
275-7911

DREW PETERSON - 633-9396

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734-905-3158

## Notes from the President

Lee Muehlmann

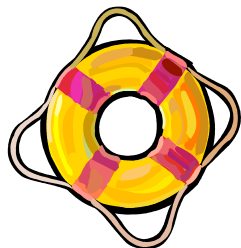
Hello all:

I imagine that everyone has been busy opening their properties, putting docks in, washing windows (well maybe thinking about it), etc. That's good, and soon we will be enjoying summer on our lake. All too soon the process will be reversed so get out and enjoy it!

Your Board has had a busy spring as well. The Association's priorities for the summer were mentioned in the Winter Newsletter. In addition to those, your Board has, among other things, set the 2012 Budget, attended an Aquatic Invasive Species Seminar, written Newsletters, attended many Government meetings, found the Loon nest and set out Loon Buoys, and tweaked our Web Site – [www.annlake.org](http://www.annlake.org). The Nominating Committee has obtained candidates to fill 3 Board positions. If you are interested in helping to protect this most valuable resource, as well as joining a pleasant and friendly group, volunteer for the Board, or helping with a Committee, please contact Kent Taylor, either through the web site or by calling him at 1-708-347-1849.

Exciting information from the Benzie Conservation District was received last week. They have won a grant from MiCorp for a Volunteer Stream Monitoring program that will include the Platte River. As we understand it, the Benzie Conservation District will initiate and supervise the project. The study will begin near the mouth (Ann Lake) and go all the way to Lake Michigan. Other waterways included in the study are the Betsie River and Herring Lakes.

Don't forget to attend the General Membership Meeting, **June 23, 12:00 A.M.- 2:00 P.M.** at the Township Park. Elections will be held then, and Michael J. Jones, Environmental Outreach Coordinator, Benzie Conservation District will be our guest speaker. Please join us. Other events this summer include the PPPR, and Pontoon Boat Parade. Mark your calendars now!



## Boating Education/Safety

Annually, the Benzie County Sheriff's Department offers boating classes. The next boating class is scheduled for June 16, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. A test is taken at the end of the course with a Boating Safety Certificate being issued upon completion of the course. The class is offered at the Benzie County Sheriff's office. The classes are free. To enroll, please call 231-882-0060, ext. 350.

## Water Quality

*Once again, the board and association are indebted to the individuals who have participated and continue to participate in water testing. Water testing is a means for us to determine the status of the lake's health and our impact on that health. Following is DaveMaxson's report on Ann Lake.*



### WATER QUALITY

ALPOA continues to monitor the quality of the water in our lake. We collect data on clarity, phosphorus, chlorophyll, dissolved oxygen, and temperature, all of which contribute to the overall "quality" of the water. Results that are compiled and published annually via the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP) indicate that (a) the overall condition of our lake has remained very stable since 2000, when our volunteers first began collecting data, and (b) our lake compares quite favorably with other lakes in the state in every measurement.

The test for clarity, for example, involves a Secchi disk, about eight inches in diameter, with alternating black and white quadrants. The test consists of lowering the disk into the water until it is no longer visible. We measure and record these depths weekly from mid-May through mid-September. The major cause for changes in the clarity is the growth of algae, a product of nutrients in the water. Last year the maximum Secchi depth was 31.5 feet in May and the minimum was 8.0, in mid-July. The average for the season was 17.5 feet, which puts us in the top 10% of the 221 lakes around the state, which participate in this measurement.

Dave Maxson

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*"We would like to thank Dave Maxson for his on-going efforts at measuring the quality of the lake."*

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*June 23 from  
11:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
at the Almira  
Township Park  
pavilion.*

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## Annual Association Meeting

The annual association meeting is Saturday, **June 23, 2012 from 12:00 – 2:00 P.M.** Please plan on attending. We would appreciate everyone bringing either a covered dish, side item such as chips or vegetables, or a beverage.

Please contact Kent Taylor at 275-6804 if you are attending, as some food and beverages are provided and a count of attendees is helpful. As previously mentioned, the speaker for this year's meeting is Michael J. Jones, Environmental Outreach Coordinator, Benzie Conversation District. The topic of Mr. Jones' discussion is the changing conditions of invasive species and what we as riparian owners may do to help prevent the spread of these species.



## Annual Dues

The 2012 annual dues are \$20. Please complete the attached form and remit your payment as soon as possible. Please note, to conserve mailing fees, the registration form for the PPPR and the membership form are combined on one page.

## SAVE THESE DATES!!

**June 23, 2011 – 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. – Annual Association Meeting**

**UNOFFICIAL 4<sup>th</sup> of July Pontoon Parade**

**Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> – 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m - 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL PADDLE, PEDAL, PADDLE, ROW**

## LOON UPDATE

Around May 1, 2012, the loons returned to the existing nest in Mudd Bay. After approval of the buoy permit, three loon buoys have been strategically placed to protect the nest. Should another nest appear, the third buoy will be moved to protect this nest. Please report any loon chick sightings to Kathy Garmes at [Kathy@prgchicago.com](mailto:Kathy@prgchicago.com) or by visiting the association's website at [www.annlake.org](http://www.annlake.org). In addition, the association is in need of some additional anchors for the loon buoys. Please contact Kathy with any donations of anchors.

## Membership

We frequently publish appeals for membership in this newsletter and this is no different. Except each year membership in the Ann Lake Property Owners' Association (ALPOA) becomes a more compelling place for you to invest. That's right; we look at your membership as an investment, an investment in the future of Ann Lake and your adjoining property. We promise to honor and provide a positive return on that investment going forward by striving to be even more effective, representative and meaningful to our lake owners:

Of late we have enhanced our **effectiveness** as stewards of the lake by ramping up our efforts to monitor the lake for invasive species, improving our participation and cooperation with local municipalities who impact our lake and reaching out to other neighboring lake associations; this to tap into their best practices, learning from their experiences so we no longer keep *re-inventing the wheel* here at Ann Lake. Besides leveraging knowledge, such relationships also provide us with some *critical mass* when taking on local political factions that may not have Lake Owner interests at heart.

We have recently been investing in various Internet tools that allow us to more faithfully **represent** the wishes of our lake owners. Besides communications like this newsletter, we are now able to conduct on-line surveys of our membership to stay in touch with your opinions on a myriad of topics. Our annual picnic meeting gives you a forum in which to vote, speak up and tell us what you think. Also at that meeting, hear expert speakers inform our members of changes in local ordinances, our riparian rights and how to maintain our pristine aquatic and lakeshore environment. We are also providing members with email contact to their board members through the new website [www.annlake.org](http://www.annlake.org).

We are striving to become more **meaningful** in your lives through the development of our website and the distribution of learning materials and *helpful hints*. For example, we want to help you maintain a natural lakeshore and avoid problems with the DNR on any development you plan for your property; understand the effect of and proper placement of septic and irrigation pumping systems; show you which plants will not only beautify your property but also protect your lakeshore from erosion and invasive species; to name some areas of common interest. Other member advantages of our website are discussed in other portion of this newsletter.

Now to do all of the above we of course need a vibrant and solid membership base. Long time residents will recognize that we are trying to do much more as a lake association than we have in the past, all in an effort to protect our mutual lake investments and make lakeside home ownership as easy and rewarding as possible. To do all this and more we need to expand our membership if we wish to maintain our low annual membership fee. We hope that you can see the various advantages of membership and will today fill out the membership form (included in this newsletter) and send in your annual dues. The earlier we get our members paid up the sooner we can plan budgets and programs and avoid costly additional solicitations for dues. So please take some time today to re-up your membership or join us for the first time as new members. Encourage your neighbors to do so as well. We need to hear your voice and gain your continuing support. We promise to earn it!

Kent Taylor [kent@annlake.org](mailto:kent@annlake.org)  
Interim Membership Chairman

## Treasurer's Report

<b>Ann Lake Property Owners' Association</b>				
<b>TREASURER'S REPORT: DECEMBER 31, 2011</b>				
Respectfully submitted by Dave Maxson				
Beginning Balance January 1, 2011				3,978.14
Income				
	interest income on savings		3.57	
	2011 membership dues paid (75)		1500.00	
	2012 membership dues prepaid (2)		40.00	
	donations		257.00	
	People Powered Paddle registration fees	555.00		
	PPP Tee's purchased by board members	161.70		
	Pizza Party fees paid	116.00		
	Total PPR Income		832.70	
Total Income				2,633.27
Disbursements				
	Michigan Lakes & Streams Association; annual dues		80.00	
	MLSA: enrollment in CLMP (lake monitoring program)		197.00	
	PPP & Pizza food and supplies		861.58	
	Rent pavilion for Annual Meeting		30.00	
	Postage for snail mail surveys		23.98	
	Postage for June newsletter		99.40	
	Copying & envelopes for June newsletter		137.80	
	Fees for website host through 12/02/2014		355.70	
	Annual filing fee; State of Michigan		20.00	
	PO Box Rent		26.00	
	Liability insurance; premium for one year		389.42	
	Deliver water samples for testing (mileage)		64.38	
	Subscriptions to Mich Riparian (for 2012)		272.00	
	Postage and supplies for membership mailings		90.11	
Total Disbursements				2,647.37
Ending Balance December 31, 2011				3,964.04

## Membership

Normally a week-end seminar at Boyne Mountain would merely be an excuse for a quick ski trip but this last April there was no snow but the seminars presented by [Michigan Lakes and Streams Association](#) made up for that by being both interesting, and quite important to us lake owners. This two day annual event provides an opportunity for concerned in-land lake and stream-side residents to learn the best practices for lake and fisheries management, invasive species identification and eradication, lake-friendly shore landscaping, along with seminars on such things as riparian rights and influencing local ordinances. The members of the Invasive Species Committee were particularly interested in a 3-hour session on how to conduct and document a lake survey of aquatic plants. This was taught by Dr. Jo Latimore of MSU's Department of Fisheries and Wildlife. The Committee felt that conducting such a survey of Ann Lake is the logical first step to developing policies and strategies needed to keep invasive plants from gaining a foothold here. Once we have a baseline measurement of where we are today, we can then note and measure any changes in our lake's biologics accurately.

Since the cost was the same no matter how many attended, six of us came into LA early to attend the training one Saturday in late April, some from as far as California. The training was both lecture and hands-on. The focus was on learning how to use various keys to identify most any aquatic plant found in Michigan. Following the initial lecture, we all eagerly dug into various fresh samples of aquatic plants the Professor provided to test our newly-learned skills at identification. We also learned how to dry and mount plant samples for use as learning and identification tools. Finally we were taught how to map and sample a lake, how to document findings and what to do with suspicious samples. This course is a necessary prerequisite to spending a day on our lake with Dr. Latimore as she assists us with the mapping and sampling effort in late July.

We will be transecting the lake into several sectors with a special emphasis on incoming streams, the boat launch and other nutrient sources. That day we will scrape the bottom for a few feet in four directions at each pre-determined sampling point. Each sample's plant material will then be identified and recorded for future analysis. Later on shore, all plants will be identified and categorized. Once complete, we will have a scientifically developed survey of the plant life currently residing in our lake. We will also, hopefully, find any invasive plant populations, recording their location and prevalence. After this process is complete, we will present the Committee's findings to our Lake Association (ALPOA) board. If there are threats identified, the board will have to consider remedial actions to eliminate these risks to our lake's eco-system. If we are lucky and find only native plants in our sampling, we will have important base-line information that will allow us to react to any future sightings of invasive plants in an appropriate, prudent, scientifically measured manner.

We will be conducting this survey later this summer. If you see half dozen people out on a pontoon boat this summer repeatedly throwing a rake over the side collecting vegetation and then digging into whatever surfaces, you'll know what we're up to and hopefully appreciate why. If you would like to join our committee and/or become a lake monitor, responsible for a

given area of the lake on the look-out for new plant invasions, please contact me; we will be trying to train staff for such efforts in the near future.

Kent Taylor  
kent@annlake.org

## GOVERNMENT

### ALMIRA TOWNSHIP LAKEFRONT PARK UPDATE

The Almira Township Lakefront Park plan was **approved, with conditions**, by the Lake Ann Village Council, March 13, 2012. The **CONDITIONS** are: 1) **Fencing** from Ann Lake to the Maple Street right-of-way on both sides of the property; 2) **Flush toilet(s)**; 3) **Paved off street parking** for 23 vehicles; 4) **Swim buoys**, placed in accordance with an approved DNR Permit, to mark the beachfront to protect swimmers and to prevent boats from being beached on the shoreline; 5) **Hours of Operation** (9:00 AM to 10:00 PM) shall be prominently displayed at the park; 6) **Rules of the Almira Township Lakefront Park** shall be posted ; and 7) The Lakefront Park shall not be open for use **UNTIL the seven CONDITIONS are COMPLETED**.

The following **SUGGESTIONS** from the Village Planning Commission will also be implemented: 1) a **border** will be placed **around the sanded beach** area to prevent migration of the sand into the lake; 2) **ground cover** and other vegetation will be planted on the hillside above the shoreline to prevent people from wearing a path straight down to the water which would cause erosion debris to flow into the lake; 3) **continuation of the Park pathway** all the way to Maple Street so vehicles and pedestrians would have separate/safe access points to the Park; and 4) **A list of Township names to be called** if any problems occur.

The Township anticipates that they will take bids for the project this summer. Funding for this project is coming from increased Michigan State Revenue Sharing Funds Almira Township received due to the increase in the Township's population from 2,811 people in the year 2000 to 3,645 people in the year 2010.

A new "Mass Gathering" Ordinance was approved at the May 14, 2012 Township Board meeting. Any group over 300 people will be required to get a permit from the Township.

The Platt River Bridge on South Reynolds Road is going to be replaced this summer. Estimated start date is July 9, and finish date is September 4, 2012. Plan your travel accordingly.

Ellie Flaherty, Chair ALPOA Government Committee

## WEBSITE

Please take a look and peruse the Ann Lake website at [www.annlake.org](http://www.annlake.org). The website contains a variety of information and is beneficial to all existing members. This is one of the benefits of joining the lake association and includes the ability to advertise items for sale or rent. The benefit of advertising items for sale or rent for members is the cost of joining the association, \$20.00. The cost of advertising for commercial businesses is \$50.00. The cost of advertising for non-members is \$20.00.

Much effort and time has been invested in the development and implementation of this website. The more association members utilize this site for forms and information, the less money we need for mailings. This money may then subsequently be used to fund other issues involving the association and lake.



### 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL PADDLE, PEDAL, PADDLE, ROW AROUND ANN LAKE

For kayaks, pedal boats, canoes, row boats, paddle boards ONLY . No motors, no sails.

**THIS IS NOT A RACE.** It is a slow, fun way to enjoy all the wonderful nooks and crannies and wild life around Ann Lake. And, you'll be able to brag, "I went all the way around Ann Lake under my own power!"

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 8:00AM TO 11:00 AM** (no wake boating hours). SUNDAY, AUGUST 5 is the alternate date, if the weather/wind is unfavorable on August 6.

Committee docks or boats will be labeled A, B, C, D, E, F, and anchored around the lake in alphabetical order. You will check in at the Committee dock or boat closest to your launch area, then, move in a counter clockwise direction (the shore line always on your right) in alphabetical order, checking in at each Committee dock or boat. For instance, if you start at "D", then move to "E", "F", "A", "B", "C" and BACK to "D" to complete your circumnavigation of Ann Lake.

Certificates of Accomplishment will be awarded to all who check in at all 6 check points thus completing the circumnavigation of Ann Lake. These people will also have their name put into a hat for a drawing for various prizes.

**REGISTER NOW** for the August 4, 2012 People Powered, Paddle, Pedal, Paddle, Row event. \$ 15.00 for each person participating covers the cost of a special tee shirt, plus water and snacks along the course. **PLUS**, a Post Paddle, Pedal, Paddle, Row Pizza Party for Participants, Phamily, and Phriends.

**What:** Eat Pizza; maybe win a Prize Drawing; Reminisce about your Participation.

**When:** 12:30 PM after PPPR Event

**Where:** location TBA

**Cost:** \$4.00 person over and above the PPPR registration fee

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#### REGISTRATION FOR ALPOA PEOPLE POWERED EVENT AUGUST 5, 2012

Number Registering for PPPR Event _____	@ \$ 15.00 per person.	Amount Due _____
Number for Pizza Party _____	@ \$ 4.00 per person....	Amount Due _____
		Total Amount Due _____

Name(s) of person(s) registering for PPPR Event:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please Print

Number of each shirt size needed: Adult: S \_\_\_ M \_\_\_ L \_\_\_ XL \_\_\_ XXL \_\_\_ 3XL \_\_\_ 4XL \_\_\_  
Youth: S \_\_\_ M \_\_\_ L \_\_\_

**Make check payable to** Ann Lake Property Owners' Association

#### Send to:

Dave Maxson, Treasurer  
Ann Lake Property Owners'  
P.O. Box 184  
Lake Ann, MI 49650

#### YOUR SUMMER ADDRESS

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION MUST BE IN BY JULY 14, 2012 NOTE:** Tee shirts should be picked up Friday, August 5 between 5-6 pm at the Pavilion in the Lake Ann



**ANN LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**P.O. Box 184**  
**Lake Ann, MI 49650**

**YEARLY MEMEBRSHIP DUES: \$20.00**

**I/We would like to make an additional donation to support the Ann Lake Association activities.**

**YEARLY MEMEBRSHIP DUES: \$ 20.00**

**Additional Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Total Amount Paid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Thank you for your support!**

**Please PRINT the following Information:**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_**

**City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone # \_\_\_\_\_**

**Summer Address \_\_\_\_\_**

**City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_**

**E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please print clearly, as using this will help to save on postage.**

**COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please check one of the following:**

- ( ) Yes, I would like a subscription to The Michigan Riparian magazine**  
**( ) No, I do not want a copy of The Michigan Riparian magazine**