



# ANN LAKE WATER LOG

A Newsletter of the Ann Lake Property Owners' Association (ALPOA) – June 2008

## 2008 ALPOA

### BOARD MEMBERS

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BETH DANNECKER-NOE  
275-7911

#### VICE PRESIDENT:

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#### SECRETARY:

BECKY MACGIRR –  
275-6297

#### TREASURER:

SHIRLEY DREWS – 275-5270

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KIM BECKER – 275-5823

#### DIRECTORS:

ANN SKORY – 668-6538

JOHN DYKSTRA – 275-6804

DAVE MAXSON – 275-7732

## Notes from the Acting President

*By Beth Dannecker-Noe*

My name is Beth Dannecker-Noe. I am the acting President of the Ann Lake Property Owners' Association. My history on Lake Ann is long, as my family has been collectively commuting from Indiana to this area to summer for 100 years. My family has a deep passion for this part of the country. One of the benefits of belonging to the property owners' association is the ability to have a voice in issues concerning the Lake. Though we own property on the lake and have for many years, we do not have the ability to vote on issues that impact our properties. Therefore, the property owners' association is an avenue for us to express our concerns and help to preserve the quality of the lake. We encourage everyone owning property on the lake, new owners and people who have owned property for many years, to become involved in the association.

This year all paying members will be receiving a copy of the magazine "The Michigan Riparian," which deals with ownership issues as well as other topics relating to lake front property ownership.

The board encourages all new ideas or issues concerning the lake to be brought to their attention. Currently, we are focusing on several issues. Of primary concern in this newsletter are boating safety, water quality, and wildlife issues.

## Boating Safety

We all need to be aware of boating regulations on Lake Ann. Enclosed is the "the Handbook! of Michigan Boating Laws and Responsibilities" furnished by the DNR. This reference manual is convenient and lists the responsibilities of boaters. Also included in this mailing is a copy of the "Ann Lake Boating Regulations." Please note the hours of high-speed boating and water skiing are between 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

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## Wildlife Issues

It has been reported that there are several pairs of loons with babies on the lake. Their nests are typically located near the shore. Several jet skis have come dangerously close to the nests at high speeds. This endangers the nests and subsequent hatching of the young. As a result, the board is attempting to install buoys approved by the DNR near the nests as a means of informing boaters where the nests are and to stay clear of the nests.

## Water Quality

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

As always, 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.

We would like to thank Dave Maxson for his on-going efforts at measuring the quality of the lake. Following is Dave's report on Lake Ann.

ALPOA participates in the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP), a statewide volunteer monitoring program that's administered through an agreement between the Michigan Lakes and Streams Association and the DEQ. This reporter is currently the designated "lake steward"; i.e., the volunteer who conducts the exercises to collect samples or record observations, and submits the results for analysis.

A lake's condition is influenced by many factors, including the amount of recreational activity, shoreline development, and water quality. "Water quality" is a general term covering many aspects of chemistry and biology. "Productivity" refers to the amount of plant and animal life that can be produced within the lake. The CLMP classifies lakes based on their productivity. Low productive lakes are generally deep and clear with little aquatic plant growth, while productive lakes are generally shallow, turbid, and support abundant aquatic plant growth. Increasing lake productivity can impact water quality and result in excessive weed growth, algal blooms, and mucky bottom sediments.

For several years, ALPOA volunteers have participated in the monitoring of

- Secchi disk transparency,
- Phosphorous,
- Chlorophyll, and
- Dissolved oxygen and temperature

While data have been collected and recorded for several years, which establishes reliable benchmarks and trends for our lake, data for 2007 were regrettably incomplete.



## Water Quality (continued)

**Secchi disk transparency** is a measure of the clarity of the water, and an indication of the amount of algal growth. Readings were collected 16 of the 18 weeks during the monitoring period, with results indicating that our lake is above average in clarity. The productivity classification in this regard ranks us near the bottom of the range of lakes around the state.

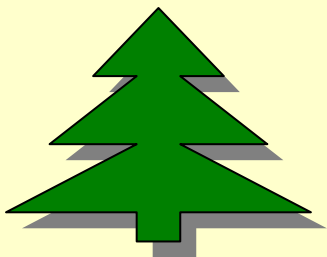
**Phosphorous and Chlorophyll** data were incomplete, because I had a mistaken notion of the deadline for submitting the final samples in the fall, and missed it. So, we had input for only a portion of the year. Plant nutrients are a major factor that causes increased productivity in lakes, and phosphorous is the nutrient most responsible. Our results, albeit incomplete, indicate that the productivity classification for phosphorous and chlorophyll in our lake again ranks us near the bottom of the range.

**Dissolved oxygen and temperature** tests measure the amount of oxygen in, and temperature of, the water at depths from top to bottom every two weeks throughout the summer. The amount of oxygen in the water is an important indicator of overall lake health. No data were collected in 2007 because the measuring device, which is owned and maintained by the DEQ and loaned for use by lakes in our area, malfunctioned and was not repaired in time to be of any value. (Data are being collected for 2008.)

I've attempted to give the reader a very brief report of the activities conducted by ALPOA on your behalf. If you would like to learn more about the CLMP and the factors that affect the health of our lake, you're welcome to borrow a copy of the CLMP's annual report. Just give me a call (275-7732) and I'll be happy to see that you get one.

Dave Maxson

Prior to receiving Dave Maxson's report, I contacted the Department of Environmental Quality to get their input on Lake Ann's water quality. I thought everyone would be pleased to know that the DEQ officer complimented our lake owners on the gentle use of the shoreline and maintenance of the tree line. In addition to the annual CLMP report, the DEQ mentioned the website [www.micorps.net](http://www.micorps.net) as another source of information on water quality.



### Interested in Planting Trees?

Recently, my husband and I were discussing planting some additional trees around our shoreline. The trees help prevent erosion into the lake and help maintain the shoreline. The Department of Natural Resources referred me to the Benzie County Conservation District. I was informed by the Department of Natural Resources that this organization is helpful both for information on the types of trees that grow well and the sale of trees. If you are interested, their number is 231-882-5607.



## Fishing

Mr. Bob Sutton, a long-time resident and extremely successful fisherman, has generously agreed to include some information pertaining to fishing on the Lake. The Board would like to thank Mr. Sutton for his input.

In the words of Bob Sutton ...

My effort here, I hope, will be neither trying nor wordy. Let's all go fishing!

There are endless methods to fish a lake and I'm not going to focus on any one method. I'm also not going to focus on any one species of fish, this is to be a general guide to help anyone catch fish.

You must have some basics. You must have access to the lake; from the shoreline, a dock, or from any basic boat, manual or motorized, with adequate space for a tackle box, a stringer or bucket, and room to manipulate a fishing pole. Umm - and - oh yes, I forgot, some bait - live or artificial. Worms, crickets, dough balls, minnows, or crank baits (plugs, spoons, etc. - talk to your dealer).

Your choice of rods, reels, line, hooks, weights (tackle) should be determined by input from relatives, friends, books on fishing, and nothing would be lost by talking to your minister or choir director. Every little bit helps.

Lake Ann really does make fishing easy. It is well stocked with blue gills (small hooks and worms), rock bass (standard hooks with small minnows), perch (small hooks and small minnows), bass - large and small mouth (artificial baits, standard hooks, standard minnows), and an occasional trout (any of the above), and Great Northern Pike (sounds like a highway - i/o hooks minimum, large minnows 4" to 6" jigged along the bottom, near weeds). Bobbers are generally used for blue gills, rock bass, and perch, but they can also be caught by dropping your line into the water and fished just off the bottom.

Check to see if you need a license to fish and, please remember to not go near the lake if a storm is brewing.

If you feel that you are just not having any luck fishing, reminding the lord that you're trying to put food on the table, wouldn't hurt.

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***"Lake Ann really does  
make fishing easy!"***

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## The Beach Project

The grant for the proposed beach in the Village of Lake Ann was rejected by the State Trust. Subsequently, the proposal has been pursued by the Township. Questions should be directed to Steve Puchovan, Township Supervisor at 231-275-5862.

## Annual Association Meeting

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*July 19<sup>th</sup> from 12 – 2  
p.m. at the Almira  
Township Park pavilion.*

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The annual association meeting is Saturday, July 19, 2008 from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. Please attend and bring a covered dish. Sloppy Joes and drinks will be provided. As some food is being prepared, please call Beth at 275-7911 or Shirley Drews at 275-5270, as the number of individuals attending is important for food preparation.

## Pontoon Boat Parade

It is rumored that the unofficial 4<sup>th</sup> of July Pontoon Boat Parade will be held again this year. All participants should meet at 1:00 p.m. at the big bar. Please participate at your own risk.

## Annual Dues

The 2008 annual dues are \$20. If you have not already paid them, please complete the attached form and remit your payment as possible. Thank you for your support. An additional form is included if you know of someone interested in joining the Association.