



ANN LAKE WATER LOG

A Newsletter of the Ann Lake Property Owners' Association (ALPOA) – June 2015

2015 ALPOA

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT:

SCOTT HEDBERG

VICE PRESIDENT:

OPEN

PAST PRESIDENT

KENT TAYLOR

SECRETARY:

AL MURLEY

TREASURER:

KATHY GARMES TAYLOR

DIRECTORS:

DREW PETERSON

BETHANY ONTHANK

MAGGIE SOWERS

CHERYL THOMPSON

SVEN ANDERSON

Notes from the President

The Annual meeting is scheduled for June 27th (please review ALPOA Special Events). There are two important issues that will be covered at that meeting. The first and foremost is a change to the bylaws. In the past, we have had difficulty finding volunteers to fill board positions. The changes proposed will facilitate our ability to keep the ALPOA board running efficiently. You should have received our proposal either by email or 1st class/ snail mail. Secondly, we will vote on the 2016 Board Directors. We need volunteers to be Directors. Please consider and contact me soon.

You must be a paid member to vote. Payment will be accepted at the meeting. The meeting will include a presentation by the *Benzie Conservation District Staff*. They will speak on the Platte River watershed and riparian concerns; Q & A to follow.

Scott Hedberg
Hedberg@umich.edu

Township Planning Commission's Greenbelt Ordinance Committee

After ALPOA expressed our concerns, the Almira Township Planning Commission formed a special committee to study and recommend improvements to the Township's Greenbelt Ordinance. I (Scott Hedberg) will represent ALPOA and welcome any comments or concerns you might have (scott@annlake.org). As you should know, we have been keeping a watchful eye on our lake's chemistry, clarity and native plant populations. A new issue we need to focus on as well is water level. Monitoring has started this year as lakes in our area have seen higher water levels over the last several years. There are multiple impacts (see website for more information).

Invasive Species Report Submitted by Kent Taylor

The Invasive Species Committee will be active this year protecting our beautiful lake from biological threats. In August we will be conducting a ‘mapping’ of the entire lake, noting the locations, depths and prevalence of the various species of aquatic plants present. Three years ago, after training by the Michigan Lakes and Streams Association (MLSA) we did our first such mapping and found no harmful invasive plant species in the lake. That report can be found on the ALPOA website under Committees, Invasive Species, Committee Reports, Ann Lake Invasive Committee 2012 YR. End Report. In 2013 we conducted a partial mapping of 8 sites to ensure we were still looking good. In August we will be mapping the entire lake again as in 2012, all 17 sites. Such extensive volunteer efforts are required to ensure any unwanted, non-native plants do not gain a foothold in Ann Lake. Given what we know from the experiences of other lakes in the region, one or two years of inattention could cause a lake-wide problem which could prove difficult and expensive to solve. We work to ensure this does not happen to us; we don’t want to be surprised by the arrival of a new, unwanted threat.

Other tasks we may entertain include publishing additional, laminated “species alert” cards for distribution to members, continuing our efforts to educate boat and cottage rental companies/owners about the dangers of hitch-hiking species, and staying in close communication with other lake associations in our watershed, along with the DNR/DEQ/MLSA and other agencies about their issues and what may be emerging threats in our area. If you are a member and never received your card package or would like to join us on this committee please contact me at kent@annlake.org.

2015 Loon Update Kathy Garmes Taylor - Loon Ranger

Spring is here and so are the loons! They have been back since April singing and fishing. While they did start nesting activities in Mud Bay, it appears that the nest was again attacked and the loons abandoned their nesting efforts.

Following is a chart from *Michigan Loonwatch*, the program that tracks loons throughout the state of Michigan. It includes 2013 data and partial 2014 data (missing National Forests as well as other areas)

Year	# of Loon Pairs	# of Chicks Hatched	# of 2 Week Chicks	# of 6 Week Chicks	# of Chicks Fledged	Nests This Year	Hatch per Pair	Fledge per Pair	Fledge per Hatch	# of Lakes Reported
2013	202	188	178	171	163	151	.931	.802	.862	275
2014	152	114	92	90	55	120	.757	.362	.482	135

In 2013, Ann Lake accounted for 2 of the chicks that hatched and flew away! 2014 was a tough year for the loons all over the state. The figures were lower than MLPA has seen in a long time; greatly due to natural causes. The increasing warming is having a bad effect on loons as well as other wildlife. While we haven’t had recent luck with chicks, we should all be glad that the loons love our lake and return each year. So we need to return the love and give them the space they need to ensure another return next year.

Remember, they are endangered, please keep 300’ away. Jet skiers and boaters **be alert!**



2015 Spring Treasurers Report

Kathy Garmes Taylor - Treasurer

The Treasurer's report can now be found on the website at www.annlake.org. The budget was approved at the June meeting. This budget, along with a column showing running expenses, will be updated on a monthly basis.

When reviewing the approved budget, you will see that ALPOA will run with an extremely small deficit. Since most committees come in under budget, this was viewed as acceptable. Income is based on a slight increase to membership from 2014. Expenses are similar to previous years with three exceptions. The payment for the Riparian has been reduced based on the proposal discussed under membership. The Newsletter budget has been increased for 2 reasons. First, the printing of the newsletter had been subsidized in previous years; this is no longer available. Second, the printing of the ALPOA flyer has been included within this committee's activities.

ALPOA MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Bethany Onthank - Membership Chairperson

Welcome to the 2015 summer season. ALPOA exists and functions only with the financial support of membership. The ALPOA membership is in good shape for this time of year with almost 50 paid current members. While this is still far short of our annual average, I am positive that many folks will be sending in their dues very soon if not paying at the annual membership meeting later this month. Membership is \$30.00 and this helps support the association's ongoing efforts to combat invasive species, educate and inform members and help pay for the ongoing water testing for water quality. These are all vital to maintain a healthy and enjoyable Ann Lake.

Becoming a member is easy with a membership form attached to this newsletter or simply go to our fantastic webpage at www.annlake.org. This is strictly a volunteer effort to educate the membership and perhaps more importantly the public on any potential threats to our precious ecosystem.

Please support this association and its dedicated board. Thank you!

WATER QUALITY REPORT

Sven Anderson - Water Quality Monitor

The water quality in Ann Lake is of paramount importance to the ALPOA board and most of the riparians around the lake. What many people don't realize is that many of the things that some consider common practice can have detrimental effects on our lake's water quality. It is already illegal to establish new septic fields on the lake side of waterfront cottages. Septic fields can leach phosphates and other nutrients into the lake which can result in excessive aquatic plant growth. This plant growth can cloud the water with phytoplankton, clog waterways and increase the formation of muck. Similar results can occur from riparians that fertilize their lawns near the lake. Rain and excessive watering can wash these fertilizers into the lake and, like septic fields, can result in increased aquatic plant growth. A limnologist suggested that to ensure that lawn fertilizers don't leach into waterways, one should not apply these fertilizers any closer than 1000 feet from that waterway. If you think the little bit of pollution that you may be adding won't hurt, your neighbor (and their neighbor) may be thinking the same thing. Please take care of our most important asset.

ALPOA SPECIAL EVENTS 2015

THIS SUMMER PROMISES TO BE THE BEST EVER. KICK OFF OUR EVENTS WITH THE ANNUAL MEETING. PLEASE BRING A DISH TO PASS AND YOUR FAVORITE BEVERAGE. EVERYTHING ELSE IS PROVIDED. REMEMBER THERE ARE IMPORTANT ISSUES TO DECIDE. YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS EVENT. PLEASE RSVP.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR:

1. **Saturday, June 27 for the ANNUAL MEETING & PICNIC, 12:00 NOON TO 2:00 PM** at the Almira Township Park Main Pavilion on Ole White Drive. Pulled port barbecue, tableware and water provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. **Please RSVP if you are coming to Maggie Sowers (616-292-8364).**
2. **Saturday, July 4 for the ANNUAL UNOFFICIAL BOAT PARADE.** Gather at the big sandbar in the middle of the lake at **1:00 PM**. Then follow the lead boat with "Support ALPOA" sign as we cruise around Ann Lake to salute our wonderful country.
3. **Saturday, August 1 for the 6th ANNUAL PADDLE, PEDAL, PADDLE, ROW AROUND ANN LAKE, 8:00 AM TO 11:00 AM** followed by a **Pizza Party at 12:30 PM**. See registration form for complete information. **REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JULY 15, 2015** so tee shirts can be ordered in time for the event.



4. **Sunday, September 6, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM** weather permitting. **LABOR DAY WEEKEND SUMMER SWAN SONG SOIREE.** Say goodbye to summer while socializing with fellow Riparians, friends and family. Raft your boat with others over Ann Lake's center sandbar. Bring your own snacks/beverages/boat bumpers bow and stern lines.
5. **ALPOA PHOTO GALLERY** is an ongoing year round event. See website www.annlake.org Photo Gallery for information and to view photos.

6TH 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 1, 8:00AM TO 11:00 AM (no wake boating hours). SUNDAY, AUGUST 2 is the **alternate date**, if the weather/wind is unfavorable on August 1.

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 1, 2015 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, or \$5 with NO shirt.

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: Downtown Lake Ann Park, Burnett Park

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

REGISTRATION FOR ALPOA PEOPLE POWERED EVENT AUGUST 1, 2015

Number Registering for PPPR Event WITH Shirt _____ @ \$ 15.00 per person ÷ Amount Due _____

Number Registering for PPPR Event . NO Shirt _____ @ \$ 5.00 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: Treasurer

Ann Lake Property Owners Association

P.O. Box 184

Lake Ann, MI 49650

YOUR SUMMER ADDRESS:

Name _____

Address _____

Email: _____

REGISTRATION MUST BE IN BY JULY 15, 2015 so shirts can be ordered on time

NOTE: Tee shirts should be picked up Friday, July 31, between 5-6 pm at the Pavilion in the Lake Ann Village Park across from the LA Microbrewery.

ANN LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION



Annual Membership Application Jan. 1 to Dec. 31

Thank you for your continued support ! Dues and donations are not tax deductible. ALPOA is a 501c4 non-profit corporation and not a "charitable" organization.

Your contributions are used to protect the quality of our lake, protect the value of our properties and to promote social opportunities for our members.

Yearly Membership Dues \$_____ \$30.00 ___New ___Renewal

Additional Donation \$_____

Total Amount Paid \$_____ For calendar year 20_____

(Mail Check or go to website "Membership" pay online via PayPal link)

Please Enter Owner's Names:

Please Print Information:

Name/s: _____

Home Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Lake Phone _____

Summer Address: _____ Lake Ann, MI 49650

E-Mail Address: _____

I would like a subscription to the Michigan Riparian Magazine: Yes ___ No ___

(This costs the Association \$12 four issues, this is optional.)

I would like my Newsletter first class mailed to me: Yes ___ No ___ *(It will be emailed.)*

(Mailing costs the Association \$)

It can be accessed online as well.

I would like to volunteer to ALPOA: Yes ___ Committee: _____

Comments: _____

Scan completed form or print as a PDF and email to: Kathy@AnnLake.org

or

Mail to: P.O. Box 184 Lake Ann, MI 49650