

# ANN LAKE WATER LOG

A Newsletter of the Ann Lake Property Owners' Association (ALPOA) – June 2016

## 2016 ALPOA BOARD MEMBERS

### PRESIDENT:

SCOTT HEDBERG

### VICE PRESIDENT:

KENT TAYLOR

### PAST PRESIDENT

OPEN

### SECRETARY:

MAGGIE SOWERS

### TREASURER:

KATHY GARMES  
TAYLOR

### DIRECTORS:

SVEN ANDERSON  
TERRY DORGAN

## Notes from the President

The Annual meeting is scheduled for June 25<sup>th</sup> (please review ALPOA Special Events). At this meeting, we will vote on the 2017 Board of 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 *DNR Forestry Management*. Tim Webb will speak on the forest management project scheduled for Almira Township in 2016-2017; Q & A to follow. We hope to see you there!

We share the lake with our family, friends, guests, visitors & loons. Please stay a football field & a half from the loons especially their nesting area. A reminder, boating activity is 11 am to 7:30. Last, our phosphate level in the lake has doubled in the last 10 years. Please read up about these in this newsletter.

Scott Hedberg, [Hedberg@umich.edu](mailto:Hedberg@umich.edu)

## Treasurers Report

Kathy Garmes Taylor - Treasurer

The Treasurer's report can now be found on the website at [www.annlake.org](http://www.annlake.org). The budget, along with a column showing running expenses, will be updated on a monthly basis. The 2015 books were successfully audited in January. We ended the year with a balance of \$7,251.48, including reserves.

## Loon Update

Kathy Garmes Taylor - Loon Ranger

Spring arrived and so did the loons! They have been back since April singing and fishing. This year, however, the loons did not stay in Mud Bay. The water level was high again this year and, more significantly, the eagles have a permanent nest where they have a "bird's eye view" of the old loon nesting area. We moved the Artificial Nesting Island (ANI) we built 3 years ago in anticipation of this day, to a new location in the southwest corner of the lake near the reed bed. Fortunately, the loons have followed. Our post on the [front page](#) of the web site chronicles their nesting activities. They began nesting the first week of June. The buoys are in place but please **STAY CLEAR OF THE NESTING AREA**. Remember, they are endangered and this area is new to the loons. Jet skiers, kayaks and boaters, please be alert!



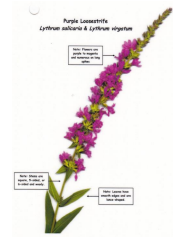
## Invasive Species Report

### Submitted by Kent Taylor

Last year we completed another bi-annual plant survey that confirmed the good news that we have no known invasive plants populations in Ann Lake. Last year we also started to broaden our efforts and monitoring into the wetlands which border our lake. With little in the way of invasive aquatic plants to concern us this year I expect we will again plan to concentrate on our adjacent wetlands.



We have two major areas of concern in our wetlands, areas we spent considerable efforts on last year. One large infestation of Purple Loosestrife (right) was located on a large wetland on our southern shore with an infestation of Japanese Knotweed (left) nearby. Other smaller Loosestrife infestations were found around the lake. Last year all areas were addressed aggressively by members of the committee but these areas will be visited again. We went at the Purple Loosestrife with shovels and removed most of the offending plants, though some particularly large plants still remain to be dug up. Our backs gave out last year before we could take them on. We're looking for younger, stronger backs this year. Any volunteers?



## Geese Concern

### Commentary by Kent Taylor, Chairman of the Invasive Species Committee

There is a species in ascent here on Ann Lake, the Canadian Goose. Though not technically an invasive species many on the board and in our committee are concerned that these geese, which used to only visit our lake, have successfully bred here this past year. These are graceful and beautiful birds but they do bring with them some negative aspects:

- First they do not co-exist well with loons and in sufficient numbers can make it impossible for the loons to breed and thereby drive them off the lake.
- They mess up our lawns with their droppings, especially those lawns that go all the way to the lake and have few nearby high grasses (that could hide predators).
- Large numbers of geese leave large quantities of feces. A single goose can defecate every 20 minutes (Bowen and Valiela 2004) up to 1.5 pounds of feces each day (French and Parkhurst 2009). These are not clean birds.

We therefore may be soon confronted with a dilemma, do we allow the geese to flourish or do we continue to nurture our thin loon population? Many of us live this far north to hear and see the loons, a rare spectacle we are fortunate to have on our beautiful and clear lake. Discouraging the geese from breeding here ties nicely into the Water Quality Report (page 3) on our lake's phosphorus content, another by-product of beautiful, green, fertilized lawns that stretch to the lakefront. So here is another reason to promote a green belt on our lake frontages. If you insist on the green lawn, please refrain from fertilizing close to the water to both protect our waters and to reduce geese habitat. If you must have that lawn, get a dog, they love to drive geese crazy.

## Non-Aquatic Invasive Plant Reminder

### Commentary by Kathy Garmes Taylor, Member, Invasive Species Committee

While ALPOA is not involved in managing terrestrial invasive plants, the newsletter provides an opportunity to remind people to check their property for invasive plants. One plant which seems to be prevalent in the area is garlic mustard. June is a prime month for pulling this invasive plant. Please seal these plants in garbage bags. This sealed bag can be placed in your garbage or there is a disposal site located in Frankfort. DO NOT PLACE IN YOUR COMPOST.



## Membership Report

### Kent Taylor - Membership Chairperson

Welcome to the 2016 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 over 50 paid current members, 2/3rds of last year's membership; our postcard reminders appear to work. This year, we adjusted how ALPOA submits its subscription request to the MLSA magazine, The Riparian, a magazine we've been supplying to membership for years at considerable cost to the ALPOA. In the past, subscriptions were not submitted until end of the fiscal year so members received the magazine a year after they renewed their membership with ALPOA. We now subscribe starting with the April edition of the magazine. Next year, membership renewals are required by the END OF JANUARY in order to continue receiving The Riparian magazine uninterrupted.

Next year, we will also be asking members who would like to receive The Riparian to make a contribution towards the subscription. When ALPOA was first founded, most members requested the magazine; so the price of the magazine was covered by your membership fees. Over the years, most members have dropped their subscription requests where now only about a quarter of the members get The Riparian. Rather than having this cost subsidized by the entire membership, we are asking those who would like to continue receiving the magazine to make an additional contribution of \$6 to cover half the subscription cost. The membership form NEXT YEAR will be modified with this change.

Becoming a member is easy with this year's membership form attached to this newsletter or simply go to our fantastic webpage at [www.annlake.org](http://www.annlake.org). Please support this association and its dedicated board. Thank you!

## WATER QUALITY REPORT

### Sven Anderson - Water Quality Monitor

An old African proverb states, "It takes a whole village to raise a child". Likewise, it takes a whole community to watch out for the well-being of a lake. The ALPOA board is very concerned about the condition of Ann Lake, however, we are only six people and do not actively police the lake. It will take a community effort to keep our lake pristine.

Our water testing program has discovered that the level of phosphates has been dramatically increasing in Ann Lake. Phosphates are responsible for increased plant growth in lakes. This plant growth can cloud the water with phytoplankton, clog waterways with weeds and increase the formation of muck. Possible sources of phosphate are septic fields, but given Benzie County's relatively strict septic enforcement, it is more likely coming from people who fertilize their lawns near the lake.

The Benzie County Planning Commission and local jurisdictions will adopt changes in zoning ordinances to prohibit the application of fertilizers containing phosphorus within 100' of lakes, rivers, drains and streams. The Platte Lake Improvement Association (PLIA) also identified both water quality and recreational use concerns if this chemical remains plentiful in our lakes and streams. The PLIA recommends an elimination of phosphorus fertilizers within 500' of the lake through an ordinance, vegetative buffer zones, an ordinance to prohibit leaf dumping in the lake, regulations to prohibit salt/chloride use within 500' of rivers or streams and continued support of Benzie County's septic laws. [http://www.benzieco.net/document\\_center/Planning/Sensitive\\_Lands\\_and\\_Water\\_Resources\\_Report.pdf](http://www.benzieco.net/document_center/Planning/Sensitive_Lands_and_Water_Resources_Report.pdf)

While these ordinances are well intended, they are hard to enforce. It would be nice to think that when people are educated about the possible ramifications of poor fertilizer application practices that they would self-monitor. However, that is often not the case. As a member of the Ann Lake community, we should all be part of a pro-active movement to encourage our neighbors to adhere to sound application practices so that we all do not suffer from compromised lake conditions.

# ALPOA SPECIAL EVENTS 2016

Maggie Sowers - Special Events Chairperson

Memorial Day weather was glorious on Ann Lake. The summer forecast is more of the same. Before you get too busy with your summer plans mark your calendars for the upcoming ALPOA events.

As always, we'll start with our annual meeting, Saturday June 25 at the Almira Township Park Pavilion. Bring a dish to pass- our traditional pulled pork sandwiches will be ready for you to enjoy.

Decorate your boat and join your ALPOA friends on the lake for the annual Fourth of July Boat Parade . August 6 is the Pedal Paddle Pedal Row. This is the high point of ALPOA activities each year. Sign up today and get your Event T Shirt. There is a Pizza Party to follow in Burnett Park. The sign up sheets are in this Water Log. The Summer Swan Song Soiree is your chance to bid your ALPOA friends farewell before the weather cools and we pull in our docks. But, don't let the cool weather keep you from the Oktoberfest %Unofficial Pub Crawl+.

## Hope to see you soon! MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR:

1. **Saturday, June 25 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. **Monday, 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 6 for the 7<sup>th</sup> 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, 2016** so tee shirts can be ordered in time for the event.
4. **Sunday, September 4, 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. Mid October (Date TBA) **THE 2ND ANNUAL UNOFFICIAL PUB CRAWL.** This event is for the die hard folks who cannot miss one more opportunity to gather with friends and family. Spend a social evening at the Lake Ann Brewery, eat dinner from the carry out restaurant of your choice, watch football, and visit with other Riparians and neighbors. The 2015 gathering confirmed the desire for another in 2016.



## 7th 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, %went all the way around Ann Lake under my own power!+

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2016 8:00AM TO 11:00 AM** (no wake boating hours). SUNDAY, AUGUST 7 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.

Registrants will be entered into a drawing for various prizes. Drawing is at the Pizza Party

**REGISTER NOW** for the August 6, 2016 People Powered, Paddle, Pedal, Paddle, Row event. \$15.00 for each person participating covers the cost of an event 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 in Burnett Park- bring your lawn chairs or sit upons

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

### REGISTRATION FOR ALPOA PEOPLE POWERED EVENT AUGUST 6, 2016

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- use back of form if necessary**

**How many children younger than 10 are in your party** \_\_\_\_\_

**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, 2016 so shirts can be ordered on time**

**NOTE: Tee shirts should be picked up** Friday, August 5, 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](mailto:Kathy@AnnLake.org)

or

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