



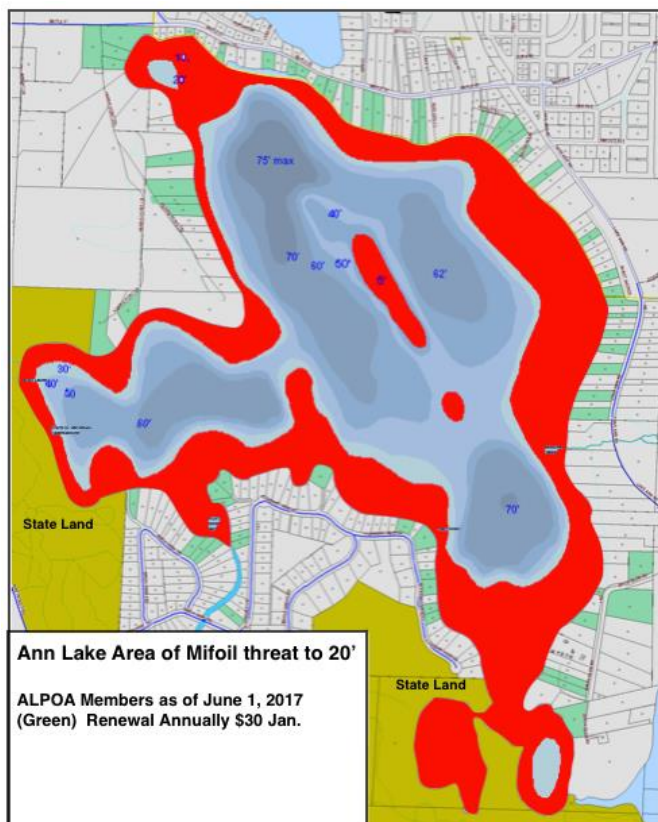
ANN LAKE WATER LOG

A Newsletter of the Ann Lake Property Owners' Association (ALPOA) – June 2017

Letter from the President

Ann Lake Property Owners, “Supporting Members” & those that enjoy using Ann Lake

Please share this news alert with your neighbors and friends. We all need to be aware and proactive to protect Ann Lake from a REAL THREAT from invasive plants. Specifically Eurasian Milfoil which clogs waterways, affects fishing, wildlife and reduces property values. It's been shown to reduce the property value by 20%. Let me put it in numbers, approximately 12.5 million dollars in property value of the combined Ann Lake Owners is at risk.



Consider the lake property owner's boats for the most part stay on the lake. It is the visiting boater who has visited other infected lakes in the region that can spread the invasive plants. We have a new sign at the boat launch to inform boaters. All it takes is one boater that doesn't think he has a problem and didn't properly inspect and clean his boat before launching.

If you have 20 foot or less in depth in front of your property, it is at risk of being so thick with weeds you can't swim, fish or launch your boat. What about those of you that don't support the Lake Association? Why not? \$30 is a small price to pay to help support the protection of your property. Together we can combat any invasive plant infestation at the very beginning. You can't make a better investment in your property & lake. Please join! Please support the funding of the invasive defense reserve! It will not be spent unless and until needed.

The 2016 Almira Twp Board Presentation on Invasives is at AnnLake.org. Consider making a generous donation to help bring our "Invasive Plant Reserve Fund" to \$10,000 which we dedicate for first-year response; we hope to

identify matching funds from government entities to meet the \$20,000 probably needed immediately if there is an outbreak.

I invite everyone to the Annual Meeting - June 24th, Twp Hall, downtown Lake Ann for a lunch lecture on invasives. Please bring a dish to pass.

Board Members for the 2018 Board are needed. Please contact me, if you have a suggestion or would like to volunteer on a committee listed on our website AnnLake.org.

Thank you,
[Scott Hedberg](mailto:ScottHedberg@annlake.org), President

ScottH@annlake.org

Ann Lake Property Owners Assoc P.O. Box 184 Lake Ann MI 49650

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Invasive Committee Report

2017 will be an extremely important one for this committee and our beautiful lake. Besides our annual weed sampling, we are planning a major educational outreach about aquatic invasive plants. Committee members have done a lot over the winter to get us going on these efforts. As you may know, the Committee Chairman made a presentation before the Township Board in November conveying our interest in cooperating with the Township in combating aquatic invasive species. The Winter Newsletter went into this at some length. We have strong indication that the Township will support, at the very least, our efforts at communication and outreach. This support will be confirmed at their June 12 meeting. As we work on other aspects of our requests of the township, it makes sense to take advantage of what they have offered to us. Our most virulent and dangerous threat in the area is Eurasian Water Milfoil. Since it is most likely to be introduced into the lake via our boat launch, we are working to erect signage there and spread the word in our local community about the need for proper boat cleaning. This is our first line of defense. To that and other important ends, here is what we've done and what we are planning that involves this committee.

- **Lake Ann Days:** We're going to put up a booth at the Home Coming or what is also known as Lake Ann Days July 1st. Our focus will be identification of Eurasian Water Milfoil plants and the proper procedures to use in ridding your boat of all hitchhiking plants. Representatives of the Benzie County Conservation District will be there to support our educational outreach that day and demonstrate both manual and mechanical boat cleaning techniques using their incredible portable boat washer. There will be bringing at least one boat to use as a demo. We will use the portable boat washer a few times that day. Jo Latimore of the MSU Extension has also agreed to lend her expertise and experience in designing our educational efforts that day. The Township supports our participation in LA Days and appears to be willing to provide some funds to off-set our printing costs for handouts. We will gather actual Eurasian Milfoil from Crystal Lake to compare with our native milfoil besides the pictures we will also provide in handouts. We further feel it is important to generate some excitement for this venture by getting kids involved.
- **Annual ALPOA Meeting June 24th:** We will be having this meeting at the Village Hall so Kent can make the same 15 minute slide presentation that he made before the Township Board to let membership know what we are up to. We will also try to pump up contributions to the fund we are creating/segregating to address the expensive first year costs of an invasive discovery in our lake.
- **Fundraiser:** So far we've collected \$592 with commitments of at least \$1000 more; we expect more to float in after the June Newsletter and annual meeting. We've created a webpage to track this on Lakeann.org. We need every one of us to support the fundraiser and work to solicit and involve more of the business community in this effort.
- **Boat Launch:** We met with Chris Stark of the DNR about signage there. He agreed to move the "Aquatic Hitchhikers" sign to a more prominent location and add a detailed sign of exactly where to look for weeds on your boat. We paid for the second sign, had it made and gave it to him. He has also agreed to put some of our weed awareness material into the existing sign board at the boat launch. We gave him the material to post. Within a week of that meeting the signage has been posted. This was a key 'get' from the DNR. We will be encouraging local agencies to check what signage exists at other nearby locations and to add any additional information that might be needed or desired. Keeping invasives out of local waters requires awareness at all such locations.
- **Lake Mapping:** With the rapid encroachment of Invasive Eurasian Water Milfoil into our area's lakes, we've decided that proper stewardship requires that we survey our entire lake each year instead of every other year. These surveys are published the Annlake.org website. Though it makes sense to concentrate our efforts on this species which is largely spread by humans lake-to-lake, lessons learned apply to other invasive threats.



I look forward to seeing you all at our Annual Meeting June 24th and at Lake Ann Days. Let's make this a terrific year for ALPOA. Everyone's efforts are needed to help.

Please email the ALPOA invasive committee at kent@annlake.org of any findings or concerns you might have. While you can remove the invasive land plants; the **aquatic** invasive plants will require the professional services discussed in this newsletter.

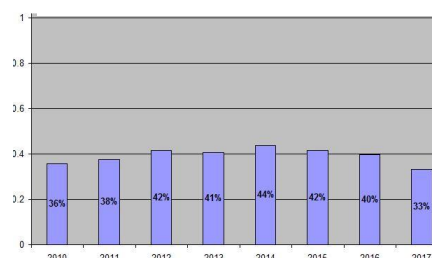
Kent Taylor

Membership Report

As of June 15, membership stands at 66, out of a potential 200 riparians. This is slightly below where we were at this time last year. Membership peaked in 2014 with 88 members. This was achieved by a membership drive conducted late in the summer. We again need volunteers this year to help with membership as well as the invasive species campaign. Please come to the annual meeting prepared to volunteer in your part of the lake.



Membership as a percentage of owners.



Treasurer's Report

The books have been closed and audited for 2016 with the final balance sheet posted on the [Treasurer's page](#) on the web. We currently have an operating balance of \$2,870.29 and additional reserves of \$5592 for invasive species, \$363.36 for website hosting fees, and \$600 for legal.

In addition to the money raised explicitly for the Invasive Species Reserve, we have received an additional \$367.45 in donations.

Loon Report



Two chicks were born June 12th! The Artificial Nesting Platform (ANP) was again installed at the west end of Ann Lake. Within several hours of installation, the loons were there checking it out. They have been on and off the nest since mid-May. We were worried that we may not have success; the loons left it "empty" several times in June but returned to the nest each time. Around noon on Monday, June 12th, you could hear the loons making a different, cooing call. We checked and there was not one, but two chicks. **PLEASE BE OBSERVANT TO NOT DISTURB THE LOONS. WE WANT TO WATCH THE LOONS GROW UP ON THE LAKE THIS SUMMER.**

Water Quality Report

Below is the summary statement from the 2016 water quality report.

"With an average TSI score of 34 based on Secchi transparency, chlorophyll-a, and summer total phosphorus, this lake is rated as an oligotrophic lake. The low level of nutrients in the lake results in dissolved oxygen being available throughout the water column for the entire summer. Long term monitoring shows slight upward slopes on phosphorus parameters, indicating a possible very slow movement toward higher nutrient levels in the lake."

The last sentence is especially noteworthy. While we did have a slight dip in summer phosphorus level, we still trend toward higher nutrient levels.

We all enjoy the beauty and pristine waters of Ann Lake. As indicated in the invasives species report, we are faced with the real potential of the introduction of Eurasian Milfoil. As riparians, it is our responsibility to help maintain our common asset - Ann Lake. One of the most impactful things we can do is to limit the inadvertent introduction of phosphates to the water. Phosphates are a fertilizer that can cause rapid plant growth. This is easiest and most effective by not fertilizing your lawn on the lake side of your house. Additionally, establishing and maintaining a green zone at the water's edge can help prevent nutrient introduction and erosion, as well as helping to keep the geese off your lawn.

Don't think that your actions won't make a difference. Everything we do impacts our environment. Will your actions be an asset or a detriment?

ALPOA HATS!

Order an ALPOA hat and have it for the PPPR! Forms are on-line at [www.annlake.org/Events Committee](http://www.annlake.org/Events%20Committee) . Choose from 23 colors! Order must be received by July 7th. A minimum quantity is required, so SPREAD THE WORD!



ALPOA SPECIAL EVENTS AND SAVE THESE DATES 2017!

1. **ANNUAL MEETING & PICNIC: Saturday, June 24, 12:00 NOON TO 2:00 PM** at the Almira Township Hall in beautiful downtown Lake Ann (note the change in location from last year). Pulled pork sandwiches will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. There will be a very important presentation on aquatic invasive plants that you will not want to miss. **Please RSVP if you are coming** to Maggie Sowers (616-292-8364 OR TSowers426@charter.net).
2. **UNOFFICIAL BOAT PARADE: Tuesday, July 4, 1pm.** Meet over the big sandbar and follow the lead boat around the lake. Decorate your boat for the holiday!
3. **8th ANNUAL PADDLE, PEDAL, PADDLE, ROW AROUND ANN LAKE: Saturday, August 5, 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM** followed by a **Pizza Party at 12:30 PM in Burnett Park.** REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JULY 7, 2017. This is a fun all-family event – the more the merrier!
4. **Summer Swan Song Soiree: Sunday, September 3, 4pm.** Tie up over the sand bar and bid summer good bye.
5. **Pub Crawl: Date TBA, Lake Ann Brewery,** This is an event for die hard Riparians. A chance to welcome in the winter holidays and share summer memories. Watch the [Event Committee](#) page on the web site for more information.



8th 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 5, 2017 8:00AM TO 11:00 AM (no wake boating hours). SUNDAY, AUGUST 6 is the **alternate date**, if the weather/wind is unfavorable on August 5.

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 **A**, then move to **B**, **C**, **D**, **E**, **F** and BACK to **A** 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 5, 2017 People Powered, Paddle, Pedal, Paddle, Row event. \$17.00 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, Family, and Friends.

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 upon

Cost: \$5.00 person over and above the PPPR registration fee

REGISTRATION FOR ALPOA PEOPLE POWERED EVENT AUGUST 5, 2017

Number Registering for PPPR Event WITH Shirt _____ @ \$ 17.00 per person Amount Due _____
Number Registering for PPPR Event . NO Shirt _____ @ \$ 5.00 per person Amount Due _____
Number for Pizza Party _____ @ \$ 5.00 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 _____

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 7, 2017 so shirts can be ordered on time

NOTE: Tee shirts should be picked up Friday, August 4 between 5-6 pm at the Pavilion in the Lake Ann Village Park across from the LA Microbrewery. This year, the is Cornsilk.

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.

If you are not a member or have already renewed, you can still donate to the Invasive Species Fund. Please use this membership application when sending in your donation. Enter your donation amount on the 3rd line. We would also appreciate if you filled in your name and both your winter and summer addresses. If you are not a member, we would like feedback on why not and what we might be able to do to convince you to join the Association.

Yearly Membership Dues \$_____ \$30.00 ___New ___Renewal
Michigan Riparian Magazine \$_____ \$6 donation required
Invasive Species Fund **\$_____ 2017 Fundraiser**
Additional Donation \$_____
Total Amount Paid \$_____ For calendar year 20_____

Please Print Information:

Owners Name/s: _____

Home Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Lake Phone _____

Summer Address: _____ Lake Ann, MI 49650

E-Mail Address: _____

I would like my Newsletter first class mailed to me: Yes ___ No___ It will be emailed

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

Comments: _____

Mail form and check to: ALPOA P.O. Box 184 Lake Ann, MI 49650

Or go to website "Membership Application" pay online via PayPal and email form to kathy@annlake.org