



Ann Lake Water Log

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2021



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sven Anderson, *President*
Kent Taylor, *Vice President*
Kathy Garmes Taylor, *Treasurer*
Maggie Sowers, *Secretary*

AT-LARGE

BOARD MEMBERS:

Dave Maxson
 Julee Parker
 Susan Sharp
 Terry Sowers

PRESIDENTS LETTER

ALPOA is an organization dedicated to the health and welfare of Ann Lake. Our board is committed to monitoring water quality, surveying for invasive species that could take over our lake, and devising a remediation plan for when we, inevitably, find an invasive species. We do not patrol for speeding boats or noisy neighbors.

It amazes me that we only have the support of around 40% of our lakefront owners. It is with this in mind that we are trying to present a new, positive image. Even though the social events we have planned in previous years have been attended by few, we do have an event on this lake that is a popular tradition. The annual 4th of July boat parade has been popular and, hopefully, will become more popular in the future.

ALPOA is hoping to encourage people to make it a bigger spectacle by offering prizes for best dressed boats and passengers. (See social report). We hope that this evolves into an even more fun event and gains more fans for ALPOA. Please encourage your neighbors to join our lake association so that we have the revenue to continue to monitor and preserve our beautiful and pristine Ann Lake.

Sven Anderson, President

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

ANNUAL JULY 4 BOAT PARADE

Date: Sunday, July 4 at 1pm

Location: Ann Lake—line up on northwest sand bar

Theme: Christmas in July & Independence Day (no political entries)

Judging criteria: creativity, originality, and enthusiasm

Prizes: Top three places win a variety of prizes and gift cards from local businesses, in addition to having your photo displayed on the wall of the Lake Ann Brewery! See the Events section (page 5) for prize details!

ANNUAL ALPOA MEETING

Date: Saturday, June 26, 10am

Location: Veteran's Memorial Park

Per CDC Guidelines: Social Distancing will be practiced, and anyone who is NOT vaccinated should plan to mask.

Refreshments: Coffee & donuts provided.

Seating: *Bleacher-style seats available, or BYO chair.

Loon Report *by Kathy Garmes Taylor*

The Loons Have Chicks!

We are elated to report that we have 2 loon chicks! This year the ice was off the lake earlier than usual and it seems that the loons were here earlier than usual. The loons arrived in early April and were looking for the nest.

We launched the nest on April 9th and the loons were checking it out within an hour. But it did take them a little while to "get ready". They laid their 1st egg on May 1st but didn't stay on the nest. They started actually staying on the nest on May 2nd so we assume they laid their 2nd egg at that time. The first chick hatched on May 30th and the second chick was on May 31st. We were able to get a picture of the adult on the nest between hatchings; you can see the chick hiding under its parent. First reports of chicks this year to the MPLA was May 24, so we're not far behind.



The Association added a Loon sign to the board where the campers check in this spring. With the loon nest located near the camp ground, we noticed that campers who

bring their kayaks are often attracted to the buoys. Since they don't launch their kayaks at the boat launch, they may not see the sign that is located there.



Signs at boat launch

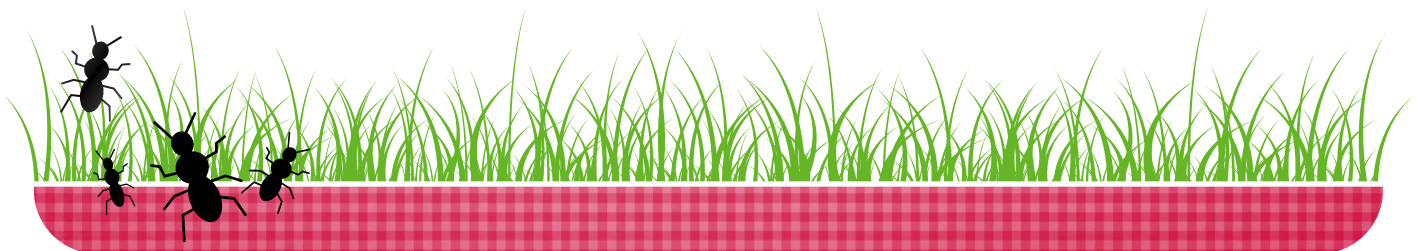
Treasurer's Report *by Kathy Garmes Taylor*

The 2020 books were audited in January, 2021. The books were found to be in good order. The 2021 budget was presented at the May Board meeting and approved at the June Board meeting. ALPOA budget is on a cash flow basis. ALPOA targets to have 80 members by the end of each year; this year's budget is based on 64 paid members since 16 members decided to pre-pay their membership in a prior year. Our expenses remain consistent from year to year. 2020 ended the year with an operating fund of \$5808; this does not include an additional \$13,023 in reserves. To date, we have had a yearly positive cash flow. Our income is \$2710 while our projected expenses are \$2,292.

For more detail, please refer to the website : <https://www.annlake.org>.



Signs at campground check-in



Invasive Species Committee Report *by Kent Taylor*

Given the outdoor nature of our committee's work, we feel we'll get back to normal quickly this summer. Last year was a troubling and unusual year where having face-to-face meetings was problematic and avoided for this committee. As a result, the committee worked on 'auto-pilot' yet in spite of that, accomplished much of what we do each year. This was a tribute to the inherent commitment, leadership and ingrained competence of our members. Our intent this year is a return to near normal in terms of meetings and joint planning but the desires of the committee has yet to be fully assessed regarding this year's activities but will be reported at the annual meeting. The committee activities we anticipate at minimum this year are as follows:

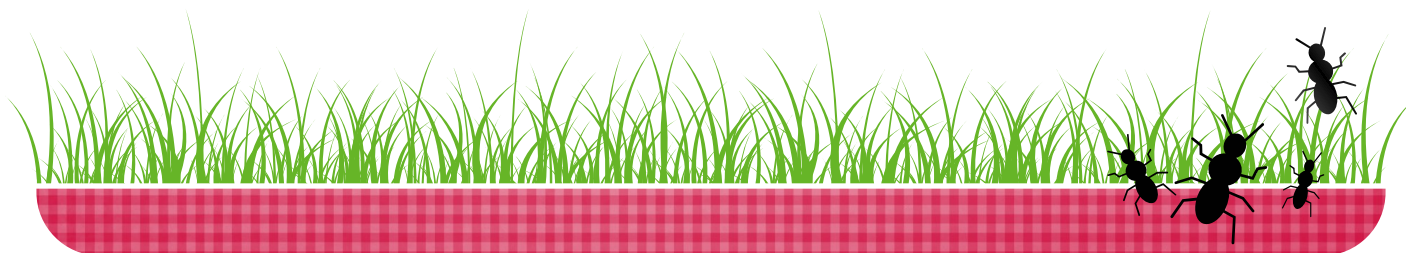
1. Survey the lake in early June for Curley Leaf Pondweed.
2. Survey the lake in late fall for Starry Stonewort.
3. Survey the shoreline for Purple Loosestrife and arrange for their eradication with as much property owner participation as possible.

Besides this brief list, PLM will be conducting their all-species survey of Lake Ann the first week of August. The Lake Management Fund created to support our share of the PLM expense is again seeing generous support from members. We expect it again this year to fully fund this annual weed management survey. The township continues to subsidize this activity as well. Lake Ann Days has been canceled, as have any committee participation in this event. This is our minimum responsibilities for the year. Other ideas and inspirations are welcome from all members and will be considered and discussed by this committee. We are also looking for new members to serve in this committee. You can contact me to offer ideas or personal interest in this committee here: kent@annlake.org

Membership Report *by Dave Maxson*

ALPOA ended 2020 with 83 members. As this newsletter goes to print, there are 67 in the fold. Thanks to all of you. Alas, there are a number of you out there who've paid for membership in the recent past but not yet for 2021. I hope you'll use the form included in this newsletter to do so.

And if you haven't been inclined to pay for voluntary membership before, I hope you'll consider it. Our purpose is to promote and protect the interests of all lakefront property owners. For example, our primary focus in recent years has been to carefully monitor and prepare for the presence of invasive Eurasian Watermilfoil. It behooves everyone to share in that concern, because if it gets a foothold, our lake will never be the same.



Water Quality Report *by Dave Maxson*

The statewide data collection and monitoring program, with which ALPOA has participated for years, was suspended for 2020 due to loss of funding. So there is nothing to report for last year. For whatever it's worth, here is a quote from the summary report for 2019, the last year available.

With an average TSI score of 33 (see below) based on 2019 Secchi transparency, chlorophyll-a, and summer total phosphorus data, this lake is rated as an oligotrophic lake. (Deep and clear with little aquatic plant or algae growth.)

The low level of nutrients in the lake results in dissolved oxygen being available throughout the water column for the most of the summer, and only by the end of the summer does the bottom of the lake become anoxic.

Long term trends indicate that the trophic status parameters have not changed beyond minor year-to year variation since monitoring began.

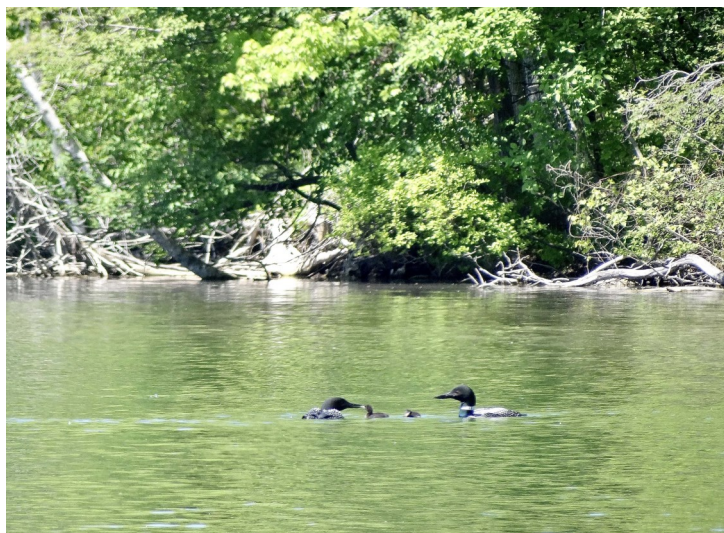
TSI is a numerical system for evaluating the quality of the water. The lower the score, the better, with the minimum/best being 27. The 2019 average for all lakes in the state was 40.

ALPOA volunteers have resumed efforts to collect samples or record measurements of clarity, phosphorus, chlorophyll, dissolved oxygen, and temperature throughout this 2021 summer season.

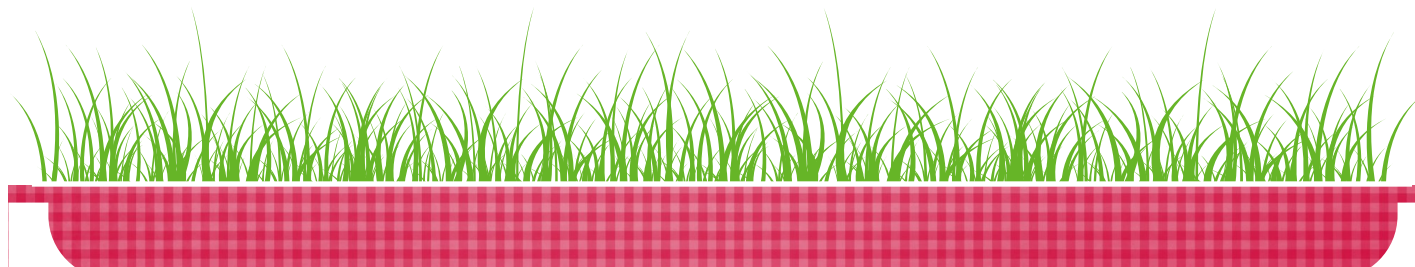
Greenbelt of the Year Award

The Annual ALPOA Greenbelt Award will be given at the Annual Meeting. Each year the ALPOA Board of Directors chooses a single Riparian Property having the best Greenbelt. We select this property based on appearance, foliage indigenous to Northern Michigan inland lakes and true greenbelt function. We encourage all Ann Lake property owners to landscape their lakeshore areas with these characteristics in mind.

Congratulations, again, to the 2020 Greenbelt of the Year winner, Dan Gehling!



A healthy lake is a safe, welcoming home to wildlife like our loons.



Events *by Maggie Sowers*

ANNUAL MEETING

The ALPOA Annual Meeting will be on Saturday June 26 at 10 AM. We will meet in the Veteran's Memorial Park which is located in the Almira Township Park across the entry drive from the large pavilion. In the event of rain the meeting venue will be in the Almira Township Hall.

According to the newest CDC guidelines we request that you wear a mask *if you have not been vaccinated* and continue to practice social distancing. We wanted to try something new so the ALPOA Board moved the meeting to an earlier time and eliminated the pot luck lunch. Coffee and donuts will be provided. There are bleacher style seats available. Feel free to bring your own chair if you prefer. We would appreciate your feedback on these changes.

As you know, Eurasian Water Milfoil poses a real threat to our beautiful Ann Lake. The prevention and control of this invasive plant is essential to the well being of our lake. We have invited guest speaker(s) from Benzie, Leelanau and Grand Traverse Counties to participate in a discussion about local efforts to control the spread of Eurasian Water Milfoil. The more we understand about this problem the better and less expensive it will be for us. **If you own property on the shore of Ann Lake this affects you. Please plan to attend.**

BOAT PARADE

Every year on July 4th at 1 PM we gather in our boats over the sand bar and take a leisurely cruise around the circumference of the lake celebrating our wonderful country.

We are pleased to announce the first annual 4th of July boat parade contest. Because of COVID-19, many of us refrained from coming together to celebrate the Christmas holidays this past year. COVID is waning so let's celebrate Christmas in July! Dress up your boat in holiday fashion, patriotically, or a combination of both. Prizes will be awarded for decorations and participation of boat passengers.

Through the generosity of some local businesses we are able to offer prizes as follows:

1st prize - Growler of beer (Lake Ann Brewery), \$25 gift card (Stone Oven), \$10 gift card (Corner Cone)

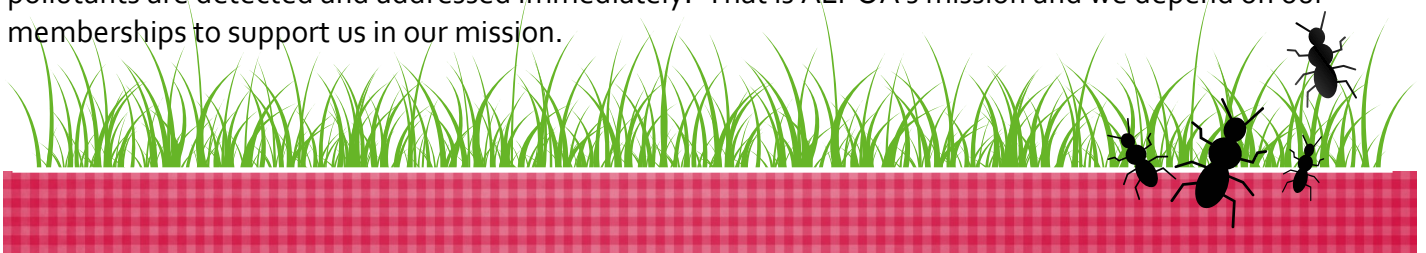
2nd prize - \$25 gift card (Stone Oven), \$5 gift card (Corner Cone)

3rd prize - \$20 gift card (Papa J's Pizza), \$5 gift card (Corner Cone)

*We also plan to display photographs of the winners in the Lake Ann Brewery.

Sven Anderson, the President of ALPOA, has volunteered to judge the contest. During the parade he will travel alongside each boat and rate each participant on creativity, originality and enthusiasm.

Because winners are not required to be ALPOA members, please inform and encourage your neighbors to participate. The health of our lake depends on constant vigilance, ensuring that invasive species and pollutants are detected and addressed immediately. That is ALPOA's mission and we depend on our memberships to support us in our mission.



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 but not deemed a "charitable" organization by IRS definition.

Your contributions are used to protect the quality of our lake and protect the value of our properties for the mutual benefit of all property owners.

If you are not a member or have already renewed, you can still donate to the Lake Preservation Fund. Please use this membership application when sending in your donation. Enter your donation amount on the Lake Preservation Fund line. We would also appreciate if you filled in your name and your winter, summer and email addresses. If you are not a member, we would like feedback if you are willing to tell us why not and what we might be able to do to convince you otherwise.

2021 Yearly Membership Dues \$ _____ \$30.00 ___ New ___ Renewal

2022 Yearly Membership Dues \$ _____ \$30.00

2023 Yearly Membership Dues \$ _____ \$30.00

Michigan Riparian Magazine \$ _____ \$14 donation per year required

Lake Preservation Fund \$ _____

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 ___ Otherwise, it will be emailed

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

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

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

