



ANN LAKE

August 1999

WATER LOG

PRESIDENT'S CORNER - Lee Muehlmann

As most of you are aware, the Village of Lake Ann and the lake itself have been asleep for nearly one hundred years. From the time the Village last burned until recently, we were almost forgotten, tucked away in our quiet little world. Pressure from all directions, however, reminds us that now is the time to act to protect our beautiful lake and surroundings. Our goal is to preserve this valuable irreplaceable resource for ourselves and future generations, while keeping the lake enjoyable for all of us.

It is now time for us to "wake up" and take the necessary action to protect our beautiful lake and environment, so that everyone can continue to enjoy this wonderful resource.

You may be wondering what the Association has done since you paid dues last fall. The answer? The Board has put into place the financial and legal foundations on which to build a long lasting Association. Bank accounts opened; tax numbers obtained; a post office box opened; articles of incorporation written and filed with the State giving us standing as a non-profit corporation. All of these not exciting, but necessary.

At the same time, the committees, each chaired by an Officer or Board member, have begun to research the issues you as members named last fall. Read the committee reports and you'll find a good deal of progress in some areas, while others will take quite a lot more time and effort.

Lastly, we appreciate those of you who have volunteered your time and those who have inquired about our actions. As the committees get further into their projects they will need your help. You can begin by asking neighbors who are not members to join, by renewing your Membership for the 1999-2000 period, and volunteering to help.

Organizations, such as ours, live or die on communication and we are looking for the best ways to keep you informed. A mailing to our membership is not only expensive, but takes a lot of volunteer effort and donated supplies. So don't be shy about asking any of the Board members what's going on.

Thanks for the support you have shown so far, and enjoy the rest of your summer!

WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE – Joni Keskey

Our first task this past year has been information finding, both for the committee and the Association. Lee has been very helpful in supplying names of organizations who provide very useful pamphlets on water quality. There will be a variety of information available at the General Meeting that you, as lakeshore property owners, will find useful.

We have joined Michigan Lakes and Streams as an organization member. They will provide us with a Secchi disk, a black and white plate, used to determine water clarity. We will be testing the waters weekly to begin our program. In addition, by early spring, we hope to be included in their Phosphorus testing program. This information will help us determine the health of our lake and the direction we need to take to improve the water.

There are literally hundreds of websites available with information on water quality. Check some of them out for some very interesting information.

Know Your Watershed Home Page at: www.kyw.ctic.purdue.edu
Surf Your Watershed i.e. Platte 04060104 at: www.epa.gov
Land and Water Management Division (Check out their Surface Water Quality Home Page especially) at: www.deg.state.mi.us

If anyone is interested in helping our Water Quality committee, or has any questions, please contact me, Joni Keskey, at 275-3040 or tjkeskey@centuryinter.net

HEALTH AND SAFETY – Lee Muehlmann

Boating hours, no wake zones and public education were the top three areas that emerged from member comments last fall.

We located and identified an area at the south end of the lake known as Mud Bay that should be considered "No Wake". In addition, we discovered that the boating rules for Ann Lake, while restricting water skiing, tubing, etc. to certain hours, does not restrict high speed boating during those same "quiet hours". High speed boating is currently subject only to the State rule of one hour after sunrise and one hour before sunset.

The Township Board passed a resolution in 1996 to restrict high speed boating during certain hours, but because of this lake's unique status, could not implement the resolution without the State legislature acting on it. Your Association contacted the DNR, and after much discussion. A way was found to add to the existing boating regulations without the need to work through the State legislature.

In July the Township Board passed a resolution submitted by the Association requesting the No Wake area, and that high speed boating be prohibited between 7:30PM and 11:00AM of the following day. Now it's the DNR's turn to act. Both of these changes/additions will require a public hearing, where the DNR will listen to public comment from citizens, both for and against the proposals. As this is being written, a date for the hearing has not been set. Once it is, your Association will do everything we can to inform you of the date and place. We will need your support if we expect to have these proposals implemented and encourage, no beg you to attend the hearing. To learn more about these issues contact me at 275-5511.

The final project for the summer is to educate the public on any boating regulations in place for the lake. This will be done in a variety of ways including signs at the launch, flyers, etc. The other way it can be accomplished is for you and other residents to call the County Sheriff every time you observe someone breaking the law. If you can get the hull number of the vessel, give that to the Deputy as well.

TREASURER - Ron Brown

There were ninety-one paid members for 1998-99, in addition to donations.

Balance on hand as of June 30, 1999 \$2067.80. A complete report will be available at the August meeting.

MEMBERSHIP - Carol Polisse

Please check the Membership list at the August meeting to verify that we have your correct mailing address. If you know of any additions or deletions let me know. Bring your neighbor's to the meeting, so they can join the Association!

NEWSLETTER - Judy Conant

Thank you to Stan Sprague for his help in the design of the newsletter. If you would like to volunteer on this committee, or contribute articles, please contact me at 275-3072.

OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS:

President	Lee Muehlmann	275-5511
Vice President	Michael Khouri	275-7108
Secretary	Dianne Minicucci	275-7275
Treasurer*	Ron Brown	275-5101

Board Members:

Judy Conant	275-3072
Joni Keskey	275-3040
Carol Polisse *	275-1955
Dick Unger	275-5673

- At the June 29, 1999 Board Meeting, Treasurer, Carol Polisse thanked Ron Brown for filling in while she was in Florida. It was decided that since Ron is a full time resident, it would be beneficial to the Association if he and Carol switched positions. According to the by-laws, the President may appoint someone to fill in the remainder of a term of office if any Board Member resigns. Carol Polisse then resigned as Treasurer and Ron Brown resigned as Board Member. President Lee Muehlmann then appointed Ron Brown as Treasurer and Carol Polisse as Board Member to fulfill the remaining respective terms.

Ann Lake Property Owners Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 184
Lake Ann, MI 49650