

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2004

We hope everyone had a safe and wonderful New Year. This year we are looking forward to making strides to improve our lake and lakeside community. Our new board and committee members have created various meetings to accomplish just that.

Our new board positions are as follows:

President - Steve Pritchard Ph # 231-937-5010

Vice President – Doug Cooke Ph# 616-784-8934

Treasurer – Paul Church Ph# 231-937-8353

Secretary – Tammy Williams Ph# 231-937-6762

Trustee – Ray Brimmer Ph# 231-937-7946

COMMITTEES:

Smoke Signals:

Tammy Williams Ph# 231-937-6762 Welcoming Committee:

Lori Kropewnicki Ph# 231-937-9973 Lorie and John Collier Ph#

Nancy Bradley Ph# 231-937-4911

Sherrie Gerrits Ph# 616-437-5378 Lakes and Streams Committee:

Lorie Collier Ph# 231-937- Tom Kropewnicki Ph#231-937-9973

VANDELISM

Authorized personnel should only attend to the pumps. If the pump is damaged the cost will be substantial to repair it. To ensure the valve position for proper backpressure a chain lock was placed on the valve. To our dismay we found that someone, hopefully not one of our neighbors, tried to sabotage our pump by cutting the lock. Luckily no damage was done. Please be aware that the association board intends on prosecuting and/or fining anyone who attempts to cause damage to the pumps.

LAKE ASSOCIATION BOARD MINUTES: Are available on the web site:

www.indianlakes.org

SIGNS:

No signs are to be placed at the front entrance. Our By-Laws state that no signs are allowed unless granted by the Association Board.

LAKE LEVEL:

Our new board members have been very active in creating pertinent meetings to help in acquiring knowledge for creating an improved environment for our lake community and solving any lake level problems we are currently having. The board met with Drain Commissioner, Don Cooper. The Drain Commissioner explained that the County Board of Commissioners is delegated to oversee the lake levels. The County acquired the services of the engineering group of Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber to do a study and make recommendations for our lake level problems. As of date we have spent \$5,300.00. The following will occur:

1. On January 19th Lane Well Company pulled the back well so it can be refurbished. Once the well has been refurbished we hope to be pumping at the rate of 1200 gallons per minute. The cost is \$21,300 and will be back on line February 1, 2004. Lane Well Company warrants their work.
2. Once the back well is pumping at maximum the engineering group will evaluate the front well to see exactly how many gallons per minute it is pumping. The engineering group will then determine if it is necessary to refurbish the front well. The pump on the front well was recently repaired with new bearings and windings at the cost of \$ 3,900.00.
3. The engineering group will be installing six piezometers around the lake to monitor water flow through the sand. This procedure will help determine whether we are leaking water or losing water by natural causes. If leakage

is found there will be steps taken to determine a solution and cost. It was brought to the Board's attention that Lake Michigan is on a seven-year cycle of high and low levels, last year being the lowest. The seven-year cycle is now on the upswing. Lake Michigan affects all lake and stream levels throughout the state.

4. It is imperative that the pumps and the lake level are constantly monitored and maintenance provided when required. If the County monitors this for the lake, it will cost \$100 per day. Up to this point John Westveer, at no cost to us, has provided this service. Let's all give a BIG THANKS to John for all that he does. Steve Pritchard, President, will become John Westveer's apprentice so that we always have a backup if needed to avoid the County charging for this service.

5. Cost of electricity for running the pumps averaged out to \$2,883.00 per month for the year 2002. The average cost for 2003 was \$4,266.00. The largest reason for the increase was running both pumps. The second was the increase in electric rates through Consumer Energy.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

The board recently met with Bobby Hall, the Zoning Administrator for Winfield Township. Bobby explained his responsibilities and concerns regarding the zoning ordinances of Winfield Township. All lake members are invited to attend the Zoning meetings to express their concerns and suggestions relating to our zoning regulations. Bobby Hall was very informative and urged mutual cooperation.

The subject of the last Board meeting was centered on zoning policies for Indian Lakes. The meeting was to review the current zoning policies we have and/or should have.

The Board will meet with our lake association attorney and discuss the following concerns relating to zoning and the uniformity of regulations for

all lakes within Winfield Township.

1. Building Requirements 5. Additional Buildings
2. Dock Size 6. Fences
3. Sea Walls 7. Animals
4. Floating Docks 8. Property Cleanliness

The next Township Zoning Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, January 26th at 7:00pm at the Amble Hall. Anyone interested in attending is welcome.

LAKE IMPROVEMENT:

Items the Board is currently working on.

1. Permits for septic and well for the pavilion renovation.

The Board will be reviewing the bids for the well and septic with excavation to begin in the spring.

2. The bathhouse must be removed for health regulations.
3. Inquired about street lighting for the Lake area.
4. Building a walkway across the berm.

MICHIGAN LAKES & STREAMS ANNUAL CONVENTION

Tom Kropewnicki will attend the convention this year on April 24th at Boyne Mountain.

Tom will be attending various training classes to keep the association up to speed on what is necessary to keep our lake clean and healthy. Tom will also be working with Pinecrest on weed and algae control.

2004 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!)

May 1 Park Cleanup

May 8 Lakeside Cleanup (get rid of your junk)

June 5 Garage Sale

June 5 Bass Tournament

June 12 Kids Fishing Day w/ WLAV FM

June 19 Building the Berm Walkway

July 3 Fourth of July Celebration

August 7 Garage Sale

August 14 Annual Meeting 10:00am

Followed by Pig Roast & Potluck

Anyone interested in being a volunteer call Steve Pritchard @ 231-937-5010

THANK YOU!

Thank you Ray Brimmer for the Salt Barrells around the lake.

Future Attractions:

We will be having 2 new features in the upcoming smoke signals.

COMMUNITY CORNNER

This is an area where you can give congratulations, sympathy or assistance to a community member.

Examples: Births, Deaths, & Graduation. Or ask for help with raking mowing snow removal for those who may need and extra hand.

Contact Nancy Bradley @ 231-937-4911

CLASSIFIEDS

You can list major items for sale here. Examples: Refrigerators, Boats Furniture.

NO HOMES OR PROPERTY

Contact Sherrie Gerrits @ 616-437-5378

Holiday Lights

It was beautiful to drive around the lake this year. The numerous light and figurine

displays were tremendous. Thank you to all our members who had light displays for all of us to enjoy. Jean & Don Armstrong gave a lot of enjoyment once again this year with their magnificent display. Thank you again!!

WARNING WARNING

Please remember that the pumps are running and the ice may not be safe in areas.

Snowmobilers please respect your neighbors' lawns.

Special Thoughts

Please keep Karen & Jim Wilcox and family in your thoughts as they are going through some trying times due to illness.

Karen and Jim have lived on Indian Lakes for many years and we hope the best for them