



LAKE SHORES ASSOCIATION • BOX 63 • HOWARD CITY, MI 49329 • JUNE 1997

## VOTE RESULTS

All four proposals passed with flying colors. Results are detailed below:

Proposal One:	177 YES to 26 NO
Proposal Two:	150 YES to 53 NO
Proposal Three:	152 YES to 49 NO
Proposal Four:	184 YES to 16 NO

The purpose of the vote was to clarify the original intent of the by-laws and Covenants and restrictions.

It took two votes to accomplish a legal vote for the sole reason that not enough votes were returned on the first ballot. We must receive 60% of the property owners to return their ballot to obtain a quorum. If this amount is not received, no matter the vote's tally, it is invalid. Therefore the second vote needed to be conducted. This vote, required by the rules and regulations of the lake, needed to be conducted within 30 days of the previous vote's due date. We did receive the required proportion of votes on this second mailing. These rewordings make the bylaws and covenants & restrictions easier to understand.

## WEED KILL

We plan to treat the whole lake June 10! Because we will be concentrating on the Eurasian Mill foil, you can not swim or fish for 1 day. We are sorry for the inconvenience. The mill foil was especially bad at the end of last summer. A two year cyclic pattern has developed. Therefore, this year Mill foil will be the concentration. We will of course be treating the every year broad leaf weeds and algae.

Mill foil is especially vigilant because it is one of the few weeds that can re-root itself when cut. When power boats, or even swimmers break off a branch of this plant, it can re-root and propagate.

The weed kill will have no long term detrimental effects on the fish.

We will be using the same supplier, Pinecrest Ind., again this year. We are developing an effective and efficient relationship. He is very knowledgeable and fair with his pricing.

## BOATS AT THE PARK

We have been receiving some complaints, so we will have to clarify the rules for all to understand. All docks will be maintained. They will be marked with the owners name and be of acceptable appearance. Your own insurance covers the liability. If a dock is not maintained or is a safety hazard, you will be contacted and given one week to fix. If it is not fixed it will be removed.

Boats must be kept off the grass at all times. No boat shall be overturned on the park grass, nor shall any ropes or posts be placed on shore where it will affect the

park maintenance and mowing. We can not afford to pay the mowing company to move your boat weekly etc. Of course, all boats at the parks will be stickered,

No boat trailers, except when attached to a vehicle, will be left at a park. If it is, we will have to consider it abandoned and have it towed away at the owner's expense.

Please, these rules are not to infringe on your lake enjoyment, but rather insure everyone enjoyment of the park while offering backlot owner's convenient access.

Again, if you are or would like to keep your boat at a park, contact a board member immediately. Space is limited but we will find room for all.

## FIREWORKS -- JULY 4, DUSK!

No traveling this year. Enjoy over 120 + shells from your own front yard or boat. No traffic jams, just convenience and fun!

We have an awesome show planned with a huge grand finale.

**We are \$400 short.** Please HELP! We can down grade the show but would rather not. Please consider a \$5 or \$10 donation if you have not already. (It is still cheaper than driving to Sand Lake or Grand Rapids and fighting traffic!) Mail it immediately to LSA, Box 63, Howard City, MI 49329 or drop it off to a board member.

## BOAT PARADE IS BACK

July 5, NOON.

The theme this year is **MOVIES**. Register from 9:30-10:00 a.m., at Shady Oaks Park (park closest to the lake entrance).

There will be 3 classes: runabouts (row boats, speed boats, etc.), pontoons and others.

If we want to bring this back permanently we need a good showing. It's not hard and it is fun. Let it be a family vacation project. You may even win a trophy!

For you new people, all you need to do is decorate your boat and your "actors." It can be as simple as garbage bag costumes to adding a sky-scraper to your hood.

## AFTER THE BOAT PARADE

Professional Ski Team Performance!

July 5th, after the boat parade a professional ski team will be performing a Ski Show for our enjoyment. Ski Show center will be set up on Apache Trail across from the pump building on the two lake front lots. Everyone wanting to watch the performance at show center can bring a lawn chair and enjoy the show. This should be a very exciting performance!!

## Boat Stickers

All boats and boat trailers will be restickered this summer. We are building a very strong relationship with the Montcalm County Sheriff's Department. With these stickers, we will be more able to identify unwelcome boats and be able to charge them with trespassing.

We acknowledge boats are expensive and are most people's pride and joy so we tried picking a sticker that was not obtrusive. It will be weather proof 3x2 inch yellow rectangle with black lettering. Each boat will be numbered.

Remember the water way priorities. 1: Swimmers. 2: wind powered, 3: motor boats.

Enclosed is a boating regulation pamphlet -- please keep it. Make your guests and kids read it

## BOATING REMINDERS:

Boating under the influence of alcohol is not only stupid and dangerous it is against the law.

If you believe there is a drunk driver on the lake -- call the police. The rules on water are just as strict as they are on the road. The police will await their arrival on shore. At the minimum they can receive "under the influence" to the maximum of confiscating the boat.

Don't be a coward -- if you see a problem report it! We all need to work together to make the lake a safe place to live and play.

It has been brought to the board's attention that there have been numerous fisherman/skier encounters. If a fisherman throws a lure at a skier it is assault and can be prosecuted as such. If they "Catch" the skier, it is battery! Be careful it is much easier to talk it out on shore than in jail or the court room. If you experience either skier harassment or fisherman harassment -- call the cops! As the lake gets busier we can have no tolerance for selfishness and stupidity. Lets work together and get along to enjoy the lake to the fullest!

Finally, a review of the boating hours. Before 11:00 a.m., and after 8:30 p.m., is **NO WAKE TIME**. (Fishermen -- you can not zoom to the other side of the lake during this time, please acknowledge the no wake rule.) Between 11:00 & 8:30, ski and play to your heart's content.

## BOATERS SAFETY CLASS

Montcalm County Sheriff's dept. offered to hold a boater safety class at the Tail Pines Park/Abbott Pavilion. If Interested call Kathy Thompson 937-6009. We will conduct a class if 10 people sign up. Remember this class is not just for kids ages 12+, it's also a good review for people new to the lake or to their boat.

## HORSESHOE/VOLLEYBALL TOURNEY JULY 5, AM

We are interested in conducting a 2 on 2 horseshoe tourney if we can get ten sets of partners to compete.

We will run a 4 on 4 beach volleyball tourney if we can get 6 interested teams

What a riot! Lets play Saturday morning The only requirements are, you must be a guest of a property owner (the owner does not have to play) and you must be over 12.

If we do not get enough interest we will not run the tourney. So pre-register with Kathy Thompson for

Volleyball (937-6009) or with Dave Slavens for Horse shoes (937-6391.) Both tournaments are meant for fun. The first year the whole thing is intended as non competitive. If all turns out well we will have two divisions next year, competitive and non competitive.

So make a family team (Coed for volleyball -- will have at least one female on the court). Partner with your spouse, guest or child for a game of SHOES!

Team fees will go to pay for the trophies and all extra will be given to the recreation fund for next years' fireworks!

If you don't want to play but can help, or at least loan us your horse shoes call Dave ASAP! If you have a good net please call Kathy. If you can help referee also call.

## ROADS

Our roads are the pits -- literally! We know it but they are not governed by the lake. They are governed by the township and the county road commission. They have an annual budget of approximately \$30,000. It takes \$30,000 to pave one mile of road That does not include the continuous cost of fixing the pot holes. There was a millage increase voted on last November that will increase their budget by one mill (after this November by approximately \$30,000, to a grand total of \$60,000

**Why can't we get satisfaction?** The sole reason is they don't have the money. They say they are barely maintaining the roads as they are, much less improving them. As for gravel roads, they only have budgeted for one brining (to reduce dust) a year!

**Our Solution** to the road problems is to create our own special assessment district to help fund our road project. A petition is needed with 51% of the property owner's signatures to get started. The project would consist of re-engineering all of the lake roads, ditching them for proper run off, new gravel base, then highway spec. asphalt. Again this would include every road on our lake. The assessment would have to pass by a majority vote according to our covenants and restrictions.

We would like to buy a bond, the township will support this bond. This is so we can do the whole project at one time. We foresee a 5 or 6 year tax assessment of approximately \$200 dollars a year.

The benefits would be numerous. New roads! Our cars would last longer! Our property values will increase tremendously.

We are almost to the petition stage -- if you can help contact Tim Slavens. We will need to go door to door to get these signed by the end of summer.

The other major benefit would be, that it would force the local government to allot the proper amount of money to the lake yearly. We will be negotiating a formula for that amount. During construction, we will also be negotiating for them to supply the gravel and the engineering, while we pay for the paving process, etc.

Again, this is tentative, we are working very hard to improve the roads because the current system of depending on the government to do it for us is not working. We are not "making this up from scratch", but modeling it after a successful working program. If you have insight on governmental bonds, or on roads or are just interested in HELPING get them fixed please contact Tim Slavens. Again, we need to get a petition signed by 51% of the property owners (not just the people who have houses on the lake). This will be hard work but will be well worth it. Depending on whether or not we can get these petitions, will determine how far we go in the negotiating process.