

SMOKE SIGNALS

August 2010 - Fall Edition

Lake Shores Association

P.O. Box 63

Howard City Mi. 49329

<http://www.indianlakes.org>

Our goal is to make our lake a clean, fun and safe environment. We welcome any additional help and assistance.



Please note that in this issue some important legal issues are discussed.

Member Signs:

There are three posts at the entrance and one at the pavilion for your signs. When signs are posted for Parties, Garage sales etc., please take them down the day after the event is done.

Pavilion:



The \$50 rental fee for the use of the pavilion was established based on the member vote at the annual meeting in August 2008. Dues must be current for members to able to rent the pavilion.

Also please note that fasteners such as tape, nails, and screws are not to be used to attached items to walls or windows.

Abbott Pavilion is located at Tall Pines Cove. With ample playground area for children, seating for roughly 100-150 people, a kitchen, and rest room facilities, the pavilion is a great place for any gathering!!!



Abbott Pavilion can be reserved for your personal event by contacting Tammy Williams at 231-629-1877.

Fish:

This fall the plans are to plant 400 6 to 9 inch walleye and 1400 3 to 4 inch black crappie in our lake. The cost for the fish plant is \$4028 this year. Bass fishermen are requested to practice the custom of catch and release – note no large mouth bass are scheduled to be planted this year!

In the spring of 2009 many residents expressed concerns about the winter fish kill that occurred in our lake – unusually high levels of winter fish kill was reported across the state that spring. Fisheries Division Chief Kelly Smith in a release on this topic said, “Winter kill is the most common type of fish kill. It is particularly common in shallow lakes and streams. It can have significant impacts on fish populations and fishing quality.”

The DNR does remain concerned about fish killed by diseases like viral hemorrhagic septicemia. Anyone who finds fish with clinical signs of VHS, such as lesions on the skin or blood in the eyes of a fish, is asked to report the fish kill at DNR-FISH-Report-Fish-Kills@michigan.gov or call their local DNR office.

Fireworks:

The fireworks this year were spectacular, and our cost for that show was \$6,000. Please continue to send in your donations to Lake Shores Association, P.O. Box 63, Howard City, Michigan 49329 or include them with your dues. **Remember it is your donations that fund the fireworks.**

Dumpsters:

Dumpsters will no longer be scheduled because of the cost.

Building Regulations:

Building regulations are spelled out in L.S.A. covenants, restrictions and township zoning ordinance. All structures and alterations must get approval and/or permits from the Lake Shores Association architectural board, township zoning administrator, and county building department. Reminder: **Sheds are not allowed on vacant lots – please see Covenant and Restrictions Article VII, Section 2.**

The first step in any building process is to phone John Westveer at 231-937-5280.

Our website (www.indianlakes.org) has both the Covenant and Restrictions and our Lake Shore By-laws.

Neighborhood Watch:

Please report any suspicious behavior to the Montcalm County Sheriff or the State Police in Lakeview.

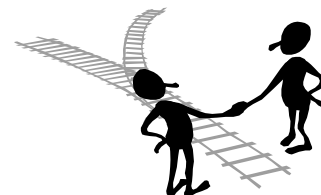
It would be a good idea to arrange to have your grass mowed if you will not be living here in the summer and your driveway plowed if you are not living here in the winter. A lawn not mowed and a driveway not plowed are sure indications you are not occupying your home at the moment.



Please Welcome our New Members:

If you are new to our community and have not received your new Welcome Packet, please contact Doug or Darlene Ringler at 937-4198.

Also, lake members, if you know of any new members that have not been contacted by a Board member, please call Doug or Darlene at 937-4198.



Central Office:

The central office on Apache is up and running. This is the location to pay dues, get boat stickers, etc. This will eliminate the need to go to board member homes for these purposes. Please contact a board member if it is not open and you need to conduct business with the association such as paying dues or getting a boat/trailer sticker.

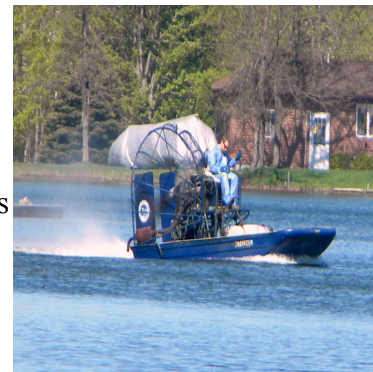
Smoke Signals via e-mail:

You can access Smoke Signals (including past editions) on our website at www.indianlakes.org, and the current edition also can be delivered via e-mail. We currently print out 500 copies with costs in excess of \$500.00 each time the newsletter goes out. Smoke Signals (in color) can be e-mailed (recipients' e-mail addresses will not be revealed) to those members who choose that option. Association members who wish to receive their Smoke Signals by e-mail can e-mail a request to info@indianlakes.org.

Lake Water Quality Issues :

Sonar treatment to lake in 2010: We will continue the recommended weed treatment through our representatives for the DEQ. This summer we are expecting a complete weed kill treatment of the lake with an estimated cost between 30,000 and 40,000 dollars. The water was tested in the last of week of April and treatments began May 3. Our strain of Eurasian milfoil seems to be somewhat resistant to the herbicide that has been applied, but attempts to eradicate it continue.

Fertilizer: Please use only phosphate free lawn fertilizer on your lawns.



Zebra Mussels: Reportedly, some lakes in our area have been invaded by Zebra Mussels. (For example Big Whitefish reportedly has been invaded by zebra mussels, eurasian water milfoil, and purple loosestrife). These mussels can significantly change the character of any lake that they infect. The following is from http://www.ec.gc.ca/EnviroZine/english/issues/35/feature3_e.cfm: “Zebra Mussels are transported from one lake or river system to another by hitch-hiking on boats, boat trailers, barges, sea planes and other aquatic equipment. Juvenile and adult mussels can attach to boat hulls, engines, anchors, and other submerged equipment, as well as to plant material that may get caught on boats and trailers. In their microscopic juvenile stage, they can also be carried in boat bilge water, live wells, bait buckets, and SCUBA gear”.

By taking a few precautionary steps after boating and fishing in other lakes, Indian Lake boaters can prevent the spread of mussels. Some appropriate steps are:

- Inspect the boat and trailer carefully for mussels and aquatic vegetation and discard in the trash.
- Drain all water from the boat, including the bilge, live well and engine cooling system.
- Dry the boat and trailer in the sun for at least five days, or if you use your boat sooner, rinse off the boat, trailer, anchor, anchor line, bumpers, and engine with hot water or at a car wash.
- Leave live aquatic bait behind – either give it to someone who is fishing in the same waters, or discard it in the trash.

There are no known methods for eliminating Zebra Mussels from an area once they have become established. Public assistance in preventing the spread of this highly invasive species and reporting new infestations to the DNR is essential to help reduce their negative impacts on the local environment and economy.

Tee-pee Island:

We have a new tee-pee on Tee-pee Island. Thanks to Don and Shaun Case for building the new one that replaced/retired our old one.

Do you see the flag flying above the tee-pee? Its color tells informs us about the water level in the lake. Green indicates that the water level in the lake is at a good level, yellow indicates that it is at a medium level, and red indicates that it is dangerously low.



The island has a burn pit so members can build camp fires there.

Miscellaneous Notes – some legal :

- Residents who have paid their dues this year and have not yet received the boat launch combination or receipt should contact Tammy or Dave.
- Board members will be checking parks for non members and members with unpaid assessments.
- Vandalism affects all association members and will not be tolerated! Those guilty of acts of vandalism in our community will be prosecuted to the fullest extent possible.
- Parents did you know that you can find a list and pictures of sex-offenders in our county? A search at <http://www.mipsor.state.mi.us/> located 40 in our county - including some in our community.
- All Indian Lake parks are private and open only to members and close at dark.
- Our Covenant and Restrictions Article VII, Section 2, in part reads **“No structure of a temporary character, trailer, basement, tent, shack, garage, barn or other out-buildings shall be occupied or stored on the property at any time either temporarily or permanently.”** Members who violate this restriction should expect to be contacted by the board!!
- The pumping of water out of the lake is prohibited.
- Tee-pee Island (as are all parks) is “common property” and for members only. Users of the island (especially during the evening hours) should realize that sound carries well over water, so users of the



island are urged to closely monitor the volume of the sound that they produce. Residents in nearby homes have been disturbed by loud noises emanating from the island.

- It is the member's responsibility to acquaint their visitors to the lake with issues such as boating and private park usage rules. **Members are responsible for their guests both on and off the water.**
- Our thanks go to Keith Alexis (see his ad in the classification section) for sponsoring the ski show this year and to Jim Radford for his service to our community by serving on the board,
- Calling all walkers. Just a reminder, when on the road, walkers/runners should walk/run on the left side of the road facing traffic, and anyone riding on wheels should ride on the right side of the road with traffic.
- Dogs on common property (parks and Teepee Island) must be on a leash – always!! Dog owners are expected to clean up any “deposits” their dogs leave on common properties.

Residents who have not paid their annual dues should note the following notice.

Lake Shores Covenants and Restrictions Article IV, Section 3-c contains the following statement (see www.indianlakes.org under Covenants and Restrictions): “The right of the Association, as provided in its By-Laws, to suspend the enjoyment rights of any member for any period during which any assessment remains unpaid, and for any period not to exceed thirty (30) days for any infraction of its published rules and regulations.”

Currently there are seventy five members delinquent in the payment of their dues, and the sum of unpaid annual dues is in excess of \$19,500.

The continued failure to pay dues **will result** in liens being placed on your house/lot.

Renters rights and limitations:

Montcalm Circuit Court Judge Lawrence Root some time ago issued an order in a court case where the Lake Shores Association was listed as the defendant (File No. 92-N-833-cz). This order clearly outlined the rights and limitations of those renting property located within “Indian Lakes”. The order found 1) that the lake is classified as a private lake, 2) that there no restriction on the rental of a structure on a lot belonging to the owner, 3) that only owners may use common properties as defined in the Covenants and Restrictions, whereas renters **may not** use these common properties, and 5) “that renters of lots can access the lake by means other than common properties.” On the other hand, Winfield Township has enacted an anti-funneling ordinance that would, in effect, prohibit our member lakefront owners from giving non-owners access to our lake across their property.

New Board Members:

At the August 3rd LSA board meeting Doug Ringler and Ken Kool were appointed to the board as trustees.

- Doug's background is in engineering and he is employed as a Supplier Quality Manager at Meridian Automotive Supply. He has indicated that he enjoys boating, water skying, fishing, hunting and car restoration. He has written the following statement, “ We have lived on the lake for 18 years and plan to continue. I am interested in the progress the board has made in the past 10 years and would like to help it continue in the positive direction.”
- Ken owns Kool Construction Company that specializes in finish carpentry, wood frame construction and trusses. Ken has owned his house on Indian Lake since 2000 and has been living here full-time since 2008. Ken and his wife Elisabeth were married earlier this summer – June 5th.

Board Members:		Home Phone	Cell
President	Dave Van Dam	231-937-4170	231-519-1099
Vice President	Ray Brimmer	231-937-7946	
Secretary	Tammy Williams		231-629-1877
Trustee	Doug Ringler	231-937-4198	
Trustee	Ken Kool	616-293-2022	
<u>Welcoming Committee:</u>		<u>Building Committee:</u>	
Doug & Darlene Ringler		231-937-4198	John & Shirley Westveer 231-937-5280
<u>Law Enforcement Numbers:</u>		<u>Newsletter Committee:</u>	
DNR – Vicki Goss		616-225-3414	Tammy Williams 231-629-1877
Poaching		800-292-7800	Glenn Irwin 231-629-4797
Animal Control		989-831-7355	
Drain Commission – Don Cooper		989-225-7322	Consider advertising in Smoke Signals!
Road Commission		989-831-5285	We still have room for your ad!!
Michigan State Police/Lakeview Post		989-352-8444	Smoke Signals is published 3 times a year.
Montcalm County Sheriff		989-831-5253	Prices for 3 editions are \$75 for business card size,
Howard City Police		231-937-4311	\$150 for ½ page and \$200 for full page ad.
Emergency		911	Lake members receive a 10% discount.

Calender of events for Fall 2010

- August 21 Lake wide yard sales
- August 28 Bass tournament 7:00 am to 12:00 noon. Call Steve at 937-5010
- Winfield Township meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Winfield Township Hall.
- The LSA Board meets at 6:30 pm the first Tuesday of each month in the Pavilion. Meetings are open to members unless the board calls a closed meeting.

Boating Regulations for Indian Lake

- There shall be no high speed boating/jet skiing or in other words no wake for the entire lake before 11 am & after 8:30 pm.
- Michigan Law requires that a spotter must be present on any watercraft that in any fashion has a person in tow,
- Michigan Law requires all watercraft to stay a minimum distance of 100 feet from all other boats.
- All traffic must be going in a **counter-clockwise** fashion around the lake.
- The boat launch is for association members only and with watercraft that bear an appropriate Indian Lake sticker. Trailers at the launch site must have an Indian Lakes appropriate sticker.
- No guest boats are permitted on Indian Lake!
- The “no wake” rules apply to everyone who uses the lake – please comply!!
- EVERY boat on public or private lakes must be registered with the state.
- Please remember that members are responsible for their guests both on and off the water.
- All boaters should make sure their boat has the required personal flotation devices.
- The Montcalm county sheriff marine patrol does visit our lake.

On a sad note, an eight year old boy was killed on Monday, August 9 in Newaygo County when he fell off a pontoon and was hit by the boats prop. **That's why we have boating rules.** For a more complete story see http://www.woodtv.com/dpp/news/local/nw_mich/8-year-old-killed-by-boats-propeller

Lake Shores Association Board Meeting - August 3, 2010

Call meeting to order: at 6:28 PM, minutes read from last month's meeting. Motion by Ray Brimmer to accept minutes, 2nd by Dave VanDam.

Ken Kool and Doug Ringler have shown an interest in filling 2 positions on the board, motion to accept Ken and Doug on board made by Dave, 2nd by Ray.

John Westveer from Building Committee, spoke about Workman's property next to boat launch. Mr. Workman would like to build a garage on property and Ken Kool is working with him. John Westveer turned down permit request - Mr. Workman is asking for a variance of 10 ft. Ken Kool is to get road right of way survey. Motion to table this matter until Board speaks with an Attorney - Motion approved.

Agenda for annual meeting

Smoke signals need to be done and sent out after the annual meeting.

Motion to adjourn meeting,

Meeting adjourned at 7:22pm

Lake Shore Association Annual Meeting: August 7th 2010 Abbott Pavilion

Call to order: An annual meeting of the Lake Shore Board was held August 7th 2010 at the Abbott Pavilion building, Howard city Mi. The meeting convened at 10am.

Members in attendance: Dave Van Dam, Ray Brimmer, Tammy Williams, Doug Ringler. Members not in attendance: Ken Kool

Approval of minutes: Motion was made by Ray Brimmer and seconded by Dave to approve - motion carried.

Professional Lake Management: Bri Grabel spoke that sonar was done early this spring. In April they collected plants to do genetic testing. May 3rd Initial application along with Algae work. May 7th bumped the lake back up, the sonar is working well. We have hybrid eurasian milfoil plants. June 7th, July 7th. July 21st 3 bump ups for treatment, product level dropped 3/4in in a 4 day span. They are investigating why. The lake is not responding how they want. The milfoil should be dead and gone by now. The DEQ and Seapro are doing extensive testing on our milfoil. E.coli level came back very low.

Marine Patrol: Very busy summer with 25 lakes to patrol. Boats must be registered in Michigan on PRIVATE and PUBLIC waters. Must have life-jackets on boats, counter clockwise, 100ft rule. 14 Years old to operate PWC and MUST have boater safety certificate on them.

Introduced: New board members, Ken Kool and Doug Ringler were introduced.

Treasury: This is done by Dave Van Dam, Tammy Williams and Fred Plath accountant.

Office: Office is up and running. Quickbooks being used. Glenn Irwin doing smoke signals.

Projects coming up: Landscaping around Pavilion, Tee-Pee island seawall needs back-filling. Paint outside of Office and Pavilion, new roof needed on office building. Possibility of potluck next year after annual meeting.

Motion to adjourn mtg

Meeting adjourned at 11:29am

Note: edited

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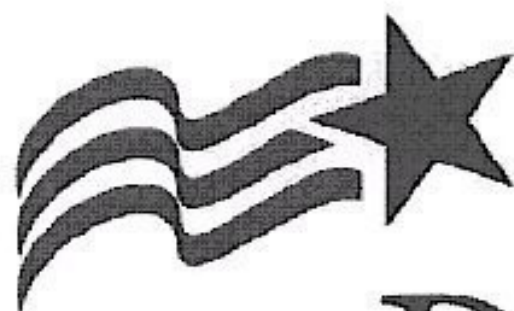


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