

# Smoke Signals

Lake Shores Association

P.O. Box 63

Howard City Mi. 49329

August 2012- Fall



<http://www.indianlakes.org>   [info@indianlakes.org](mailto:info@indianlakes.org)

**Our goal is to work together to provide for preservation of the values and amenities in our lakeside community. We welcome any additional help and assistance.**

This nice walleye was recently caught in our lake.

**Please Note** the new state regulations regarding the operation Personal Watercraft for individuals under the age of 16 is outlined on page 5. Also see the new "Member Concerns section on page 3 AND THERE ARE NO VISITING WATERCRAFT ALLOWED!! Please adhere to the rules, there are plenty of watercraft on our lake already. Thank-you.

## **LSA Board of Directors:**

The LSA Board selected Brandon White to replace Steve Pritchard as president. Brandon's phone number is the table on page 6 that lists all of the board members and their phone numbers. He can also be e-mailed at [president@indianlakes.org](mailto:president@indianlakes.org).

The LSA Board has reorganized since the annual meeting earlier this month and has not yet selected a regular monthly meeting date. As soon as we can we will send out a notice of the regular meeting dates.

Many thanks to Steve for the work he did as our president. His presence on the board will be missed!

## **Abbott Pavilion Rental:**



There is a flat \$50 rental fee payable to the Lake Shores Association plus a separate \$50 cleaning deposit payable to Angela Ringler for the use of the pavilion. Dues must be current for members to be able to rent the pavilion. The pavilion can be reserved for your personal event by completing and submitting the Pavilion Rental form on our website or contacting Angela Ringler at 231-580-9526. **The two separate deposits (rental and cleaning) must be paid to the treasurer when you make your reservation. Deposits will be refunded only if your reservation is canceled at least one month in advance of the date you had reserved to use the pavilion.**

Please note that the cleaning deposit will be forfeited if fasteners such as tape, nails, wires, paperclips, and screws are used to attach items to walls, ceiling, or windows. Smoking is not allowed in the pavilion – smoking in the pavilion will also result in the forfeiture of the cleaning deposit.

## **Fish:**

Please be respectful when fishing around docks and boats this fall.

More walleye and crappie are scheduled to be planted in our lake this fall. The plans are to plant 400 6 to 9 inch Walleye and 780 Crappie this October. The total fish plant budget for 2012 is \$4000



## **Dumpsters:**

Dumpsters will no longer be made this fall for lawn waste such as leaves and grass clippings.

The edition of Smoke Signals last year that noted that dumpsters would no longer be available for lawn waste also included mention of an article by Thomas Nikolia a turf-grass academic specialist at Michigan State University. That article “When leaves turn into litter”, is still available on the internet at [http://grounds-mag.com/mag/grounds\\_maintenance\\_leaves\\_turn\\_litter/](http://grounds-mag.com/mag/grounds_maintenance_leaves_turn_litter/) . The author indicated that lawns seem to benefit when dry leaves are finely mulched on lawns – 300 pounds dry leaves (that's a thickness of about 12 inches) over 1000 square feet of lawn was one amount listed. The author indicated that the shredded leaves disappear the following spring as the grass begins to grow. His research has shown that this process does not significantly effect the Nitrogen/Carbon balance in the lawn. One study that he cited involved the use of rotary push mowers to mulch set at a height of 2 to 3 inches. Please read the complete article for a more complete explanation of how mulching leaves impacts lawns.

## **Architectural Committee:**

Building regulations are spelled out in LSA covenants, restrictions and township zoning ordinance. All structures and alterations must get approval and/or permits from LSA architectural committee, township zoning administrator, and county building department. A volunteer is needed to replace Ken Kool on the Architectural Committee. If interested please contact any board member.

Thanks Ken for your service on this committee!

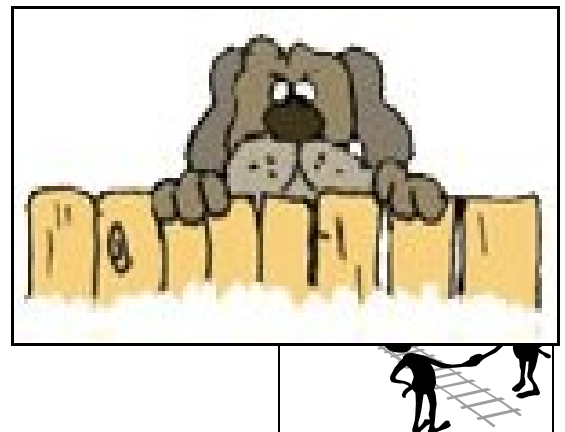
## **Break-ins:**

Just beware, incidents of break-ins around the lake and there have been theft of gas tanks and boat batteries have already been reported this summer.

## **Neighborhood Watch:**

Report any suspicious behavior to the Montcalm County Sheriff or the State Police in Lakeview,

If you are new to our community and have not received your new “Welcome Packet” or are a lake member who knows of new members please contact Doug or Darlene Ringler at 231-937-5525.



## **Boat Stickers:**

Contact Ray, Val, or Doug if you need one. There is a form on our website that can be printed off for sticker application – no on-line application. It is our custom for a board member to affix the sticker to the boat. Members who buy boats from other members (there should already be a sticker on the starboard side of the boat – that's on the right side facing forward for the nautically challenged) must re-register that boat in their own name.

## **Smoke Signals Distribution:**

You can access our newsletters at [www.indianlakes.org](http://www.indianlakes.org) and they also can be delivered via e-mail. Members who would always like Smoke Signals via e-mail can e-mail a note to [info@indianlakes.org](mailto:info@indianlakes.org) requesting that their newsletters only be e-mailed to them – newsletters that are e-mailed are in color.

Smoke Signals is published 4 times yearly – all posted on our website. Two issues will be mailed. The other two issues will only e-mailed to members whose e-mail address we do have on file.

## **Sweatshirts:**

Indian Lakes Sweatshirts are warm attire for the upcoming cooler days. A hanger is shown here modeling the hooded style. Blue is the only color available at this time. Washing instructions are on the label. The sweatshirts are 50% cotton and 50% polyester. Those interested can contact Valerie or reply via e-mail to [info@indianlakes.org](mailto:info@indianlakes.org). All profits from sweatshirt sales (after expenses have been paid) go to our fireworks fund.



The prices for Indian Lake sweatshirts are:

\$25.00 for hooded style

\$20.00 for regular style

These prices are also for child sizes.

## **Consider Advertising in Smoke Signals. We still have room for you!!**

Contact a board member or a newsletter committee member if interested! Ads come in three sizes. A full page ad is \$200, a half page ad is \$150, and a business card size is \$75 for one year – four issues.

## **Member Concerns often expressed to LSA Board Members**

**Roving Dogs:** Yes, we have become weary of talking about dogs (including some pitbulls) running off leash in our community (remember there is a township ordinance addressing this issue), but it is very common to hear reports of off leash dogs charging and challenging our community members.

The phone number of Montcalm Animal Control is 989-831-7355.

In addition to calling Montcalm Animal Control what are our members to do when they are threatened by unleashed dogs? Some walkers in our community make it a habit to have pepper spray devices on their person when ever they walk. Some of these spray devices can spray either water or pepper spray.

The rumor is that these devices are available in sporting goods stores or online at Cabelas.

It just doesn't seem acceptable for walkers to feel they must avoid walking in certain areas in our community!! Anyone who has had to experience rabies shots can tell you that they are unpleasant and quite costly - yes that has happened in our community.

**Inappropriate Boating Behavior:** One of the more common concerns discussed at LSA Board meetings is about the dangerous and irritating boating behavior by a few of our members. These behaviors include high boat speeds near the shore/other boats and harassing wildlife. Please note that Michigan Law requires all watercraft to stay a minimum distance of 100 feet from all other boats. The

details of this law (Section 324.80149) are available at [http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(jfdpmkf2kgyevl55ucadc55\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=mcl-324-80149](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(jfdpmkf2kgyevl55ucadc55))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=mcl-324-80149)

**Renters:** Renters do not have the right to access the “Common Properties” of the association. Property owners in the association that are members in good standing and their guests if accompanied by the member have “a right and easement of enjoyment in and to the Common Properties...” (see Article V section 1).

**Non Members Using Commons Areas:** Our lake has a reputation as a good lake to fish in, so non-members often “sneak” on our lake. The board has heard reports of members even giving the combo to our launch gate to their non-member friends, and it is not unusual for members to launch a boat and then forget/neglect to close the gate!!

### **E-Mail Addresses:**

Currently we have the e-mail addresses of less than one third of our members. The use of e-mail is an easy and quick method to get information to our members. We send our e-mail messages in a way that does not reveal anyone’s e-mail address. It also cuts our expenses dramatically if we can send Smoke Signals this way. A simple way for you to share your e-mail address with us is to send a message to [info@indianlakes.org](mailto:info@indianlakes.org).

### **2012 Water Treatment To Our Lake:**

This summer the following water treatments have been made to our lake:

June 19	Algae Treatment of our Lake and EWM* Treatment
May 21	EWM* Treatment of Lake using Diquat, Grid Survey of Lake

We are going to need one more treatment for EWM\* before fall at a cost of \$10,000 to \$13,000 and and additional algae treatment at a cost of approximately \$2,000. So far this summer the costs for water treatment is over \$19,000.

As has been reported before, the strain of EWM in our lake has proven difficult to control, hence the added costs. At our annual meeting this summer Bre Grabill from PLM Lake & Land Management Corp. informed us that scientists at Grand Valley State University are studying our EWM strain to learn how to better control it.



\*EWM = eurasian watermilfoil

### **Presidents Report:**

As noted on page one our new LSA Board president is Brandon White. Brandon, Carrie and their family moved to Indian Lake in 2008. Brandon is a computer and networking technician working out of Newago.

## **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 11am & 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.

## **Personal Watercraft – see [http://www.boat-ed.com/michigan/boating\\_law.html](http://www.boat-ed.com/michigan/boating_law.html)**

Those **less than 14 years of age** may not legally operate a PWC. Those **14 and 15 years of age** may operate a PWC legally only if they have obtained a boating safety certificate and...He or she is accompanied on board by his or her parent or legal guardian or by a person at least 21 years of age who has been designated by the parent or legal guardian or...

- He or she is operating or riding the PWC at a distance of not more than 100 feet from his or her parent or legal guardian or from a person at least 21 years of age who has been designated by the parent or legal guardian.
- Those **at least 16 years of age** and born after December 31,1978, may operate a PWC (personal watercraft legally only if they have obtained a boating safety certificate.
- Those born on or before December 31, 1978, may operate a PWC legally without restrictions.

Also note that the Montcalm county sheriff marine patrol does visit our lake.



<b><u>Board Members:</u></b>		<b><u>Home Phone</u></b>
President	Brandon White	231-648-6032
Vice President	Ray Brimmer	231-937-7946
Secretary	Theresa Lane	616-516-8407
Treasurer	Valerie Pritchard	231-937-5010
Trustee	Doug Ringler	231-937-4198
<b><u>Architectural Committee:</u></b>		
	Doug Ringler	231-937-4198
Thanks Ken --	volunteer needed !!	
	Mark Spangenberg	616-855-4625
<b><u>Newsletter Committee:</u></b>		
	Steve Pritchard	231-937-5010
	Glenn Irwin	231-629-4797
<b><u>Welcoming committee:</u></b>		
	Doug & Darlene Ringler	231-937-4198
<b><u>Law Enforcement Numbers:</u></b>		
	DNR	616-225-3414
	Poaching	800-292-7800
	Animal Control – Montcalm County	989-831-7355
	Drain Commission – Don Cooper	989-831-7322
	Montcalm County Road Commission	989-831-5285
	Michigan State Police/Lakeview Post	989-352-8444
	Montcalm County Sheriff	989-831-5253
	Howard City Police	231-937-4311
	Fire Chief William Knapp	989-815-0905
	Emergency	911
<b><u>Drain Commissioner's Lake Level Committee:</u></b>		
	John Westveer	231-937-5280
	Steve Pritchard	231-937-5010
	Dave Van Dam	616-937-4170
<b><u>Pavilion Rental Contact</u></b>		
	Angela Ringler	231-580-9526.

### **Calender of events for Fall/Winger 2012**

Aug 25	Lake wide garage sale	
Sept 1	Bass Tournament	
	LSA monthly board meeting to be scheduled	
*Winfield Township board meetings - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at our Township Hall.		

\*Note: Those that are tired of continuous barking dogs should go to a meeting and ask for a noise ordinance.

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