

# Smoke Signals

Lake Shores Association

P.O. Box 63

Howard City Mi. 49329

December 2013

<http://www.indianlakes.org>



**The Lake Shores Association operates under the direction of the Board of Directors. Members of the Board are homeowners just like those who volunteer their time to serve their community. They serve one-year terms and are elected by vote of the membership. The Board sets policy, establishes budgets, approves subcontractors, and makes all financial and legal decisions on behalf of the Association. The goal of the Board is to work together to provide preservation of the standards and amenities of our lakeside community.**



**Tee-pee Island & Some Ice Fisherman**

## **President's Column:**

Dear LSA members,

When I took over as president last summer I immediately found myself right the middle of many areas in our association about which I really had no clue; however, that did give me, along with the whole board, the opportunity and challenge of working through many obstacles from a fresh perspective.

I believe that we have become a good working team over the last few months because we have supported each other. Yes, we've had our ups and downs, but I personally believe that we will be able to move forward to positive outcomes as we continue to work together - not separate, but together.

Richard Hokensen has been a great mentor and I wish to thank him for his positive advice. Richard jumped into the middle when some probably may have wanted nothing to do with our board, because all they could see was turmoil. But members stepping up to volunteer, helping to keep the parks clean, and giving positive feedback will continue to be an encouragement to us as we look forward to a new year with positive expectations. Without ALL our volunteers there wouldn't have been much progress in the areas important to you the members or without future volunteers there can't be satisfactory progress in areas important to LSA members in years to come.

We just may be starting next year with no weed control, no fish plants, or no yearly fireworks - all because of the lack of funds. Still, I believe in our LSA members, and with their positive support I believe we can work through any negatives that may come our way. We need to work together to resolve the issues we face so the future of our beautiful lake is a positive one.

It was difficult to hear of the sudden loss of Chris, and we extend our deepest sympathies out to his wife, children and his extended family through this difficult time.

I realize many wish to have an update regarding the current lawsuit with the Chase family. There truly is no current update, but I believe we will continue the process with the attorneys, judge, and family in the beginning of the New Year. We wanted a pause out of respect for the family through this time of loss and allow them to grieve and spend time together as they try to heal.

The holiday season really is a time for all of us to enjoy our family time, and it is my wish for health and happiness for all in the New Year.

Again, I want to express my thanks to all who have helped my transition this last year and to express much appreciation for those who walked me through areas of the lake that I knew nothing about. That includes many thanks to Ray and Tammy who jumped in with full support to show me what needed to be done and walked me through the areas that needed attention. I had no clue how much work they did in the past and I greatly appreciate all their help. I also wish to thank all those who volunteered to help with counting the ballots and for those who stepped up with advice and direction of where we as a board needed to grow and work on. In reality it is only volunteers who do all of the work around the lake – nothing happens without us.

My transition was a positive one because of all of you who stepped up to help make it one.

Jim Hutchison  
LSA President

## **Vice President Comments:**

### **What is the Indian Lake Shores Association?**

A lake association is a volunteer organization consisting of interested property owners. A lake association is an organization for promoting administration and bringing a community together to form consensus on common goals and objectives. Lake associations are flexible and voluntary. As a result, solutions to lake problems that require large amounts of money usually are not implemented. Membership dues and fund-raisers are the principal means of raising money to fund association activities. Developing a sustainable lake management plan—a plan that will be used and adapted over time—means that the whole community needs to have the commitment and determination to actively protect the lake and its surrounding community.

So the Lake Shores Association is... all of us! We are all members and we all benefit from the services provided. We ask that you reflect on this as your Board struggles with complex financial and services issues in the coming months.

### **Lake Muck Reducers - Weed Control & Biological Bacteria:**

At the November 9, 2013 LSA Board meeting, lake muck control was addressed by Bre of PLM. The Board and meeting attendees found her briefing to be very professional and informative. The Board reviewed the pricing and information of the muck pellets and determined that the muck reducer would be beneficial to the lake and LSA homeowners. PLM will offer a 10% discount and free delivery for group orders received through the LSA.

Members who are interested in purchasing muck pellets through the association should contact Jim Hutchison at 231-648-6481 or by email at [president@indianlakes.org](mailto:president@indianlakes.org). Member orders must be prepaid with a check made out to PLM and either given to Jim or received at the LSA PO Box by April 30 for individual orders to be included in the group order. The order will be delivered in about two weeks.

The available sizes are 10, 40, and 50 pounds:

- 10 lb bucket \$106.00 (with tax) less 10 percent discount comes to \$95.40 - final cost
- 40 lb bucket \$371.00 (with tax) less 10 percent discount comes to \$333.90 - final cost
- 50 lb bucket \$424.00 (with tax) less 10 percent discount comes to \$381.60 - final cost

Members treating 50 ft<sup>2</sup> of lake bottom will need 1½ lb of pellets per application. The recommended application schedule is for a total of 5 applications - one each month May through September. The total used each year would be 7½ lb, so most people would have plenty with a 10 lb bucket for 50 ft<sup>2</sup> of lake bottom.

Larger areas may need larger sizes. Bre can calculate the amount of pellets needed for larger areas. Jim has her contact information if members wish to contact her about muck pellets or about PLM managing the lake weeds along their lake front property. Bre in that November meeting also stated that she is happy to work privately with individual lake front property owners with their own lake weed control efforts.

PLM Muck Digestion (MD) Pellets contains a combination of natural, beneficial bacteria, enzymes, and vitamins that stimulate the biological activity on lake and pond bottoms. This stimulation allows the bacteria to feed on the organic sediment, therefore reducing the muck levels. Pellets are most effective when the water temperature is greater than 50°F, and of course, it is necessary to follow label precautions.

The Muck Pellets can be ordered directly from PLM's website but you will not receive the discount or free delivery. More information can be found on PLM's website at [MUCK](http://muck) or the URL <http://plmcorp.net/product-category/muck-digestion-pellets/>.

## **PLM / Indian Lake Aquatic Management Summary:**

Budget Recap:

2014 Estimated Budget: \$30 - \$37,950.00

2013: \$31,730 Main Treatment: Renovate 3

2012: \$29,400 (EWM back throughout entire lake), Main treatment: Diquat

2011: \$14,679 (Residual carry-over from 2010 sonar treatments, OTF / EWM treatment, treated Native Plants)

2010: \$40,905 (Sonar treatment)

2009: \$22,383

2008: \$25,511

A recap of this season and moving forward: Eurasian water milfoil (EWM) is the main exotic species in Indian Lake. We have used a variety of different contact and systemic herbicides in the past to target this species in the most aggressive manner possible. The EWM in Indian Lake is hybrid. It is cross bred with native milfoil strand and formed what is called Hybrid milfoil. In 2010, we targeted all the EWM using Sonar (lake wide). This systemic herbicide did control the EWM during the treatment season and the 1<sup>st</sup> year post treatment, but the EWM bounced back in year 2-post treatment. Last year, 2012, we used Diquat and this season, 2013, it was recommended that we use Renovate 3. We targeted – 130 acres of EWM using Renovate 3. The goal of the 2013 treatment was to attack the root system so the EWM grows back less dense and we have fewer acres to treat in 2014.

## **We need your E-Mail Address:**

Please send an e-mail message to: [info@indianlakes.org](mailto:info@indianlakes.org) with a message such as "here's my e-mail address". Your personal e-mail address will be hidden in group e-mail messages!

**Smoke Signals** (published 4 times a year) will be e-mailed, available for viewing/printing from the LSA website, or a hard copy can be picked up from the LSA Board Office on Apache Trail. Smoke Signals will no longer be routinely mailed to the association members - please see possible exception below.

If you do not have Internet access and would like to continue receiving a paper copy of Smoke Signals in the mail, please contact a board member and we will be happy to oblige your request. As of this date, we have received requests from two members who wish to have their copy of Smoke Signals mailed to them.

## **Watercraft/Boat Trailer Sticker Update:**

Originally last summer, LSA members were instructed to contact any LSA Board Member to have the new stickers applied to their watercraft and boat trailers.

Now, LSA members who are "up to date" in their dues but still have not had their old boat stickers replaced should contact our board secretary, Sue Guigelaar at 231-648-6193 or email her at [secretary@indianlakes.org](mailto:secretary@indianlakes.org) to arrange for the new sticker to be applied to their watercraft and/or trailer(s). Jim Hutchinson is the secondary contact person for this purpose. Jim's phone number is 231-648-6481 and his email address is [president@indianlakes.org](mailto:president@indianlakes.org).



## Q & A Meeting - Scheduled for January 18:

The Merry Christmas message from Jim had this P.S.; "It would be helpful for members with questions to send them in before our January 18th Q & A meeting. You can email them to me at [president@indianlakes.org](mailto:president@indianlakes.org) or [info@indianlakes.org](mailto:info@indianlakes.org)."

### Abbott Pavilion Rental:



LSA members whose dues are "current" may rent our pavilion for their personal events. Contact [Susan Guigelaar](#) at 231-648-6193 to learn more about renting or to reserve the pavilion. There is also a [Pavilion Rental form](#) on our website that can also be used to reserve the pavilion.

We now have a light that lights up the parking area so that those who attend activities in the pavilion at night do not have to be afraid when leaving their cars in the dark.

This is a picture taken at the November Bazaar held in the pavilion.



### 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](#) (the township permit form is here [township building permit](#)) and [county building department](#).

### 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 or Mary Holmes at 231-648-6192. Her email address is [meholmes711@hotmail.com](mailto:meholmes711@hotmail.com).



### Protect Your Home:

There are things that we can all do to make our homes more "burglar proof"- especially when we are away from home for extended periods. There are signs that burglars tend to look for that indicate that the home owner is away.

Some suggestions for burglar proofing are:

- Use timers for TV, Radio, Lights
- Leave blinds up
- Put mail on hold or forward - if home owner will be away for extended periods
- Use Alarms at All Times

Things that burglars look for:

- Window blinds down
- Lights Turned Off
- Newspaper & Mail Outside
- No Tracks In Snow - avoided by neighbors periodically making tracks in driveway

### **Board Duties and Responsibilities - A Review:**

- Abide by, uphold and protect the LSA "Covenants and Restrictions" to provide for the preservation of the value and amenities and for the maintenance of the lake, parks, playgrounds, open spaces and other common facilities
- Approve annual budgets and ensure the availability of adequate financial resources
- Hold an annual meeting of LSA members and regular meetings of the Board of Directors upon the call of the president
- Keep a roster of names and addresses of all members of the association, collect annual dues, special assessments, and provide receipts and fiduciary records as required
- Interface with LSA Members/ Township/County regarding issues that may arise that impact Indian Lakes and its residents
- General powers and duties of supervision and management of various committees

Hire and supervise trades people on an as needed basis for various projects that we deem as beneficial to the overall promotion of Indian Lakes residents, property values and aesthetics

### **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.

Merry  
Christmas  
And  
Happy New  
Year

<b>Contact Numbers:</b>		
<b>Board Members:</b>		Phone
President	Jim Hutchinson	231-648-6481
Vice President	Brenda Tumosa	231-648-6004
Secretary	Susan Guigelaar	231-648-6193
Treasurer	Valerie Pritchard	231-937-5010
Trustee	Doug Ringler	231-937-4198
<b>Architectural Committee:</b>		
	Doug Ringler	231-937-4198
	Craig Einberger	231-580-6080
	Mark Spangenberg	616-855-4625
<b>Township Permits contact:</b>	Dave Kelsey	989-289-2268
<b>Newsletter Committee:</b>		
	Steve Pritchard	231-937-5010
	Glenn Irwin	231-926-4797
<b>Welcoming Committee:</b>		
	Doug & Darlene Ringler	231-937-4198
	Mary Ellen Holmes	231-648-6129
<b>Law Enforcement Numbers:</b>		
	DNR Website	<a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr</a>
	Poaching	800-292-7800
	Animal Control – Montcalm County	989-831-7355
	Drain Commission - Sandy Rains	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>Drain Commissioner's Lake Level Committee:</b>		
	John Westveer	231-937-5280
	Steve Pritchard	231-937-5010
<b>Pavilion Rental Contact:</b>		
	Susan Guigelaar	231-648-6193
<b>Winfield Township Directory:</b>		
	<a href="http://www.montcalm.org/government0058.asp">www.montcalm.org/government0058.asp</a>	

<b>Calendar of events for Winter 2013</b>	
Jan 18. '14	O & A members' meeting in pavilion at 10:00 am
May 31. '14	Bass Tournament - just think spring :o)
Winfield Township board meetings - 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm in our Township Hall.	

## Keith Alexis, Agent

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