

# WCLA PRESIDENT'S CORNER

April 15, 2025

Hello Friends and Neighbors,

And HELLO SUNSHINE, HELLO SPRING!! It's time!!! It's coming!! It's pretending it's not, but it is! The snowbirds have arrived, the boats are starting to pop up on the water, the flowers are pushing up from the dirt, and I wore shorts on a hike the other day! Mother Nature will grace us once again with the glorious emergence of Spring. The rebirth of nature is certainly a grand accomplishment. It's one of the many things we take for granted but shouldn't . . . like clean underwear! Imagine if that wasn't there when you opened your drawer! You know "what" would hit more than just the fan!! (Go thank your wives right now!) The new always replaces the old eventually in nature and in life. Including underwear. So . . . enjoy the new, be a part of shaping it, growing it, or teaching it. Whatever "it" might be. Embrace the old, it has wisdom, courage, and strength, even as it leaves. It's Mother Nature's grand design and spring represents the best of it. So, grow some new flowers, plant some native plants, feel the energy and innocence of the newly born wildlife, and be humbled by the "old birds". Everything has a purpose in life, but it won't be here forever, and neither will your favorite underwear . . . just saying . . . ☺



That's all for now! **HAPPY SPRING, HAPPY EASTER!**

Kindly,

Wendi Davidson

WCLA President

## **Past Events, Upcoming Events, Updates and Other Stuff!!!**

### **Past Events:**

**March WCLA Social Dinner** was enjoyed at Flo's. We shared the evening with around 30 of our lake friends! Great food, great drinks, and a great time!

### **Upcoming Events and Future Events!**

**April WCLA Social Dinner: Thursday, April 29th** at 6pm at **Smyrna Bar**. If you haven't been to Smyrna Bar in a while, now is the time! Join us for amazingly good food and drinks, not to mention the BEST group of people around! RSVP Candie Ritsema at 616.835.2488 or [candieritsema@yahoo.com](mailto:candieritsema@yahoo.com).

**May WCLA Social Dinner: Thursday, May 15th** at 6pm at **Applewood Kitchen and Bar**. Let's check out Greenville's newest dining destination! The menu looks fantastic, and I've heard all good things!! Have fun with friends and support our local restaurants! RSVP Candie Ritsema at 616.835.2488 or [candieritsema@yahoo.com](mailto:candieritsema@yahoo.com).

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**Ladies...do you want to host a Ladies Wine and Charcuterie Night at your house?** It's time ladies . . . spring is here! Contact Candie at 616.835.2488 or [candieritsema@yahoo.com](mailto:candieritsema@yahoo.com). Cheers!

**WCLA Board Meeting: Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 pm at Wendi Davidson's house. All WCLA members are always welcome. Minutes are posted for your reading pleasure on the WCLA website after approval from the Board at: <https://woodbeckchainoflakes.com/meeting-minutes>.

**The WCLA BIG "A" Garage Sale! LET YOUR SPRING CLEANING BEGIN!** We are planning a "garage" sale on **Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>** at Camp Greenwood from 9-4pm. **You can "buy" a table/space to sell your things on for only \$10!!** You must man your own table. You keep the proceeds from your table. Also, we will have a WCLA table that you can donate items to and we will sell them . . . and we keep the profits for the WCLA. The proceeds from the WCLA table will support our wonderful WCLA social events. **BUT . . . we must have at least 15 tables to make it worth our volunteers' time. Please RSVP Kim Covell at covellscove5@gmail.com if you would like to have a table or plan to donate items to the WCLA table. The deadline to reserve a table is May 21<sup>st</sup>.** Note: acceptance of items for the WCLA table is at the discretion of the volunteers. All items left over will be donated or disposed of as we see fit. **It's a BIG "A" One Day Only Sale so let's make it great!**

**June Social Dinner: TBD**

**Music on the Beach by the amazing Michael Hulett! Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>** from **1-4pm**. He is one of the most amazing sax players around in the south. Everything from Nat King Cole to Kings of Leon. A come by boat, relax, and float event! Enjoy the music from the water in front of Mike and Katherine Wolthuis' house on Woodbeck Lake.

**Copper Moon playing on Woodbeck: Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup>** from **2-5pm**. **Elvis may have left the building but hold on . . . you're about to get MOONED!** This band won't disappoint with their awesome music! Come join the holiday weekend fun. A super fun boat and float event in front of Jeff and Kris Ferguson's house (next to where Elvis always sang) on the south shore of Woodbeck Lake.

**WCLA Progressive Kayaking Event is BACK! Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>:** Watch for flyer with details.

**A Woodstock kind of music day with singer Noah Back: Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>** starting at **2pm**. Enjoy the music at Bev Jone's beachfront (where Elvis used to be on the south side of Woodbeck lake. Come by boat and float while listening to great oldies from a great performer!

**WCLA Annual Dinner: Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup>:** Details to follow  
And . . . that's a wrap for this fiscal year!!

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### Updates and Other Stuff:

#### **2025 WCLA DUES: Only \$40.00**

You may pay online at <https://woodbeckchainoflakes.com/pay-dues> or pay by mail. **Make checks payable to WCLA. PO Box 482 Greenville, MI 48838.**

**\*\*\* The 2025 Paid membership list is attached to every President's Corner and the Waterline editions as a helpful reminder.** We currently have 259 homes in our community and 179 WCLA paid memberships. Dues are necessary to keep our lakes clean and safe, our fish plentiful, and support the fun events we want everyone to enjoy! If your name is not on the paid list, we did not receive your payment. You must pay your dues to use the boat launches.

**Lake Mapping:** When you pay your 2025 dues, you can receive a PDF of the lake mappings put together by PLM showing depths and hardness levels of all the lakes. If you would like to receive this PDF contact Chris Decker at [c\\_dec@hotmail.com](mailto:c_dec@hotmail.com) **AFTER** you pay your dues.

**Camp Concordia Boat Launch Schedule and Forms:** Now available at [campconcordia.org/wcla](http://campconcordia.org/wcla). If you would like to use this boat launch and dock, you must be a WCLA paid member. **Please do not share the code with nonpaid homeowners.** This is a privilege for paid members only. **Be sure you have paid your dues several days before you complete the paperwork. DO NOT do it on the day you want to launch your boat!**

#### **Fish Plant Committee Progress Toward \$6,000 Donation Goal**

This year the fish plant committee has set a donation goal of \$6000.00. We believe this amount, in addition to the amount from the general fund, will keep our fish plant numbers consistent with previous years. Fish plant donations can be made when members renew their association dues or separately on the WCLA website <https://woodbeckchainoflakes.com> under the Pay/Donate tab on the top right. Donations for the 2025 fiscal year must be received by July 30<sup>th</sup>. You may donate as often as you would like. We are tracking our progress monthly. Here is the current run down:

February total: \$1995.00

March total: \$2610.00

April total: \$2740

Only \$3260 to go!

**Great Job!! More donations=More fish!**

**The Meal Train** is always available to help you in the event of illness, injury, or death of a loved one that lives with you. Your friends and neighbors are here to help! **Please contact Mara Iteen at [iteenmm@yahoo.com](mailto:iteenmm@yahoo.com) or text her at 616.255.6081.** Even if you only need a few days of meals, the Meal Train is here for you! **If you want to be a part of the Meal Train to provide meals, please let Mara know.** This is how you get on the list to help when families are in need. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

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**The Waterline:** Our WCLA newsletter is put out 3x a year and filled with valuable information. **A big THANK YOU to all our sponsors who pay to advertise in the Waterline.** Please check them out!! They can help you with many of your needs! If you have ideas for articles you would like to see in the Waterline, please let Jamie Skinner know at [woodbeckcla@gmail.com](mailto:woodbeckcla@gmail.com). Even better . . . if you would like to write an article for the Waterline, that would be greatly appreciated!!! **Next Waterline will come out May 2025. Advertisements and articles need to be sent to Jamie Skinner at [woodbeckcla@gmail.com](mailto:woodbeckcla@gmail.com) by April 27th.**

**Email platform with text messaging:** Please contact Faith Peterson at [wclacommunications@gmail.com](mailto:wclacommunications@gmail.com) if you have concerns about email communication or you are not receiving them, and she will get any issues resolved for you!

**DID YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGE????** If it did, please let Jamie Skinner know at: [woodbeckcla@gmail.com](mailto:woodbeckcla@gmail.com) so you don't miss out on important information and notifications.

**WCLA Photo Directory: How fun it is to know who lives where on the lakes!** Don't forget to send Phil a picture of yourselves and a picture of your house from the lakeside view. Phil Sliva is developing a photo directory that is now on the WCLA Website: <https://woodbeckchainoflakes.com/wcla-directory> for your convenience. Participation is optional but we hope to see all of you in the directory! If you would like to participate, please email Phil the photos you want him to use at: [philsliva@chartermi.net](mailto:philsliva@chartermi.net)

**Welcome New Families!** If you know of new families on our lakes, please let our Welcome Team, Phil and Denise Sliva know so they can welcome them properly! Contact Phil Sliva at [philsliva@chartermi.net](mailto:philsliva@chartermi.net) or 616.970.2273.

**Boater's Safety Class:** Spring is a great time for kids and young adults to take this class! This is an ongoing opportunity to **receive an Amazon gift card for \$15.00 for anyone age 12-20 who completes the Boater's Safety Course anytime, all year long!!!** You can be a kid or young adult that lives on the lakes, or grandkid to someone who is a **paid** member of the lake association and take this course online at your convenience anytime throughout the year!! Just email a copy of your completion card to [davidsonwendi@gmail.com](mailto:davidsonwendi@gmail.com) and you will receive your gift card. It's so easy and important so take advantage of it and help keep our lakes safe! **Click on this link to begin your Boater's Safety Course online:** <https://www.boat-ed.com/michigan/>. **Keeping our lakes safe one boater at a time!**

**Congratulations to Lauren Ritsema for completing her boater's safety class! Great job keeping our lakes safe! YOU ROCK!!**

**DID YOUR LIGHTBULB GO ON??** Do you have some **BRIGHT IDEAS** for social events or anything else that would benefit our lake community? Share with us!! New ideas are always welcome.

## WCLA PRESIDENT'S CORNER

**HMMMM...what's going on?** Perhaps you have lake concerns, or you simply want to listen to what the Board is discussing. You are encouraged and more than welcome to contact me, your Lake Representatives, or come to the Board meetings. We are always happy to see some new (and old) faces at the Board meetings!

### **REMEMBER OUR MISSION:**

**The Woodbeck Chain of Lakes Association will promote the preservation of lake/water quality, provide education about boat safety & etiquette and initiate social activities to promote community friendships and interaction. It will encourage membership and participation in the Association and will facilitate a sense of community amongst riparian property owners.**

### **DID YOU KNOW.....??**

There is a site where you can learn about:

**Erosion and maintaining healthy shorelines**

**Get the basics about shoreline erosion control options instead of a seawall**

**Review lists of recommended native options for your lakeshore**

We want to keep our lakes as beautiful as possible while maintaining areas for wildlife to live and prevent erosion from becoming a major problem. If you are interested in learning about ways to do this, please visit <https://www.shorelinepartnership.org/>

### **Useful Resources:**

WCLA Website: <https://woodbeckchainoflakes.com>

WCLA email: [woodbeckcla@gmail.com](mailto:woodbeckcla@gmail.com)

Aarron Antcliff-Social Media: **Facebook: Woodbeck Chain of Lakes**

Jamie Skinner-Treasurer, Membership Dues, Membership Database, Waterline Publisher, Advertisements:  
[woodbeckcla@gmail.com](mailto:woodbeckcla@gmail.com)

Kris Ferguson-Secretary: [scrambledeggs85@gmail.com](mailto:scrambledeggs85@gmail.com)

Faith Peterson-Communications Administrator: [wclacommunications@gmail.com](mailto:wclacommunications@gmail.com)

Candie Ritsema-Social Director: [candieritsema@yahoo.com](mailto:candieritsema@yahoo.com) or 616.835.2488

Chris Decker-VP, Water Sustainability: [c\\_dec@hotmail.com](mailto:c_dec@hotmail.com)

Mara Iteen-Meal Train Coordinator: [iteenmm@yahoo.com](mailto:iteenmm@yahoo.com) or 616.255.6081

Phil and Denise Sliva-Welcome Team, Photo Directory: [philsliva@chartermi.net](mailto:philsliva@chartermi.net)

Wendi Davidson-President: [davidsonwendi@gmail.com](mailto:davidsonwendi@gmail.com) or 616.799.0412

**Officers, Lake Reps and Administrators are available on the WCLA Website:**

<https://woodbeckchainoflakes.com>

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### ***Quote of the Month:***

Switch your mindset from: I hope I can do this, to:  
I'm gonna make this shit happen.

***Watch the results.***

**Author Undisclosed**