

# WCLA PRESIDENT'S CORNER

March 11, 2024

Hello Friends and Neighbors,

**It's March madness and I'm calling TIME OUT and...I'm using the F word!** During a time out in basketball, everyone focuses intently on what one person is saying, the coach. They all have the same goal, to win the game but, they don't know exactly how to make that happen. But the coach does!! He (or she) knows that it's all the little things that put points on the board and ultimately lead to victory. The players have to TRUST the coach and carry out the plays just as the coach tells them. If they do, two points will become 4 points, then 8 points and if all goes as planned and each player contributes as a team, they win the game with LOTS of POINTS!!!! Even the players on the bench are necessary because sometimes the coach desperately needs them to step in and step up to the challenge for various reasons. Therefore, they practice, they pay attention, they work hard and stay involved and they support the players on the court. **They all celebrate the win together**, or they all share the responsibility of the loss together. **THEY ARE A TEAM!!** No one person wins or losses the game, they all own the final outcome.



**WHY AM I TELLING YOU THIS????** Because our WCLA is no different than a basketball team! You have a coach, that's me. You have first string players, that's your Board, Lake Representatives and Administrators. And.... you guessed it.... YOU ALL are the rest of this **AWESOME** team! Some of you are on the bench, some are cheerleaders and others are just really great FANS!

We want to **always** be able to say we have the greatest TEAM/lake association EVER! But it takes everyone to make our team successful. **That is why I'm calling a TIME OUT and using the F word!** I want each of you to read the information in this month's President's Corner and take a time out moment to reflect. Can you become more active? Can you help your team just a little bit more? Can you volunteer or take an active role on the Board? **We Need You!!** The bench isn't comfortable forever. Being an active participant will be more exciting than you know! **And...here comes the F word.... it's FUN!** I'm no different than most of you. I was on that bench for a long time until I decided being an active member on our team would be much more productive than just watching. **We have some important roles that need to be filled as some of our most valuable members are stepping down after years of dedicated service. WE NEED YOU!!!** Don't worry that you might not know what to do. This team is strong, caring and most of all...**FUN!** Together we will keep our lake association running smoothly, our lakes clean and our social events enjoyable. Thank you for what you are already doing and thank you for all the support you give our community. Now, read on and feel the energy and the excitement that being an active member will get you!!! **Important breaking news is just a page away!! READ ON!!!!**

**That's all for now! Happy Easter Everyone!**

Kindly,  
Wendi Davidson  
WCLA President

## WCLA PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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

#### But first...IMPORTANT BREAKING NEWS:

##### **We have TWO crucial roles that need to be filled.**

Our **Treasurer, Bruce Veldman** will be stepping down in September after many years of exceptional service to the WCLA. Bruce has been instrumental in maintaining accurate accounts for our association. He has made sure that your membership dues, fish plant donations, taxes, insurance, raffle money and anything else associated with a dollar sign were accounted for appropriately. His Treasurer report at every Board meeting is clear and concise for all of us non-financial people to understand. I have great respect for Bruce and have learned so much from him. His integrity, big heart and willingness to point out the sometimes not so popular view in a kind way is highly valuable and necessary when it comes to budget and spending. I don't know what size shoes Bruce wears, but I know they will be big shoes to fill! **BUT WE NEED TO FILL HIS POSITION. So, if you have just a couple extra hours a month** and a little accounting/bookkeeping experience and would like to join this **FUN and SUPPORTIVE Board**, please contact Bruce. He will be happy to go over his responsibilities with you before you make a decision. Of note, the Treasurer must be voted in by the Association, and that would happen at the September Board meeting. Contact Bruce at 616 826-4844 or [bruceveldman@gmail.com](mailto:bruceveldman@gmail.com)

Next, **Caroline who has been the cook** for our Pancake Breakfast and Annual Meeting for many years, has moved on to another career. She did a fantastic job with providing us delicious food for both events. We will miss her greatly. **We are now looking for volunteers to cook at these events.** The Pancake Breakfast is coming up fast, Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> so we need some immediate commitments. You don't have to purchase the food, just cook it! Get your buddies together and cook up some great food and fun for all your lake friends! Show off your culinary skills! Please let me know if you can help. We would hate to cancel the Pancake Breakfast....

RSVP Wendi at 616 799-0412 or [davidsonwendi@gmail.com](mailto:davidsonwendi@gmail.com)

Finally, our wonderful friend **Nan Holmes** is stepping down as **Social Director**. Nan has been organizing events and social dinners, running several of our lake events and taking your RSVPs for many years now. We have her to thank for many of our fantastic social events going off without a hitch! She has been amazing and so much fun to work with!!! You must be fun if you're a Social Director! 😊 Nan will still be hitting the social scene with us when she's not enjoying the Florida sunshine. I will miss working with her immensely!

**Now for the good news!!!! Candie Ritsema from Woodbeck Lake will be taking over Nan's position as Social Director!** Candie has already started to assume some of the responsibilities. She is going to rock this role because she is FUN, FUN, FUN, organized and smart! We are so excited to have her in this role!! Thank you, Candie! No more bench for you, you're in the game now!!

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### Past Events:

**February Social Dinner** at Winter Inn was fantastic! Lots of mingling and socializing before dinner. We had a fun crowd and great food with \$5 Long Islands to top it all off!

**Ladies of the Lakes Wine and Charcuterie Night** was a smashing hit!!! Eighteen beautiful women gathered at **Katherine Wolthuis's** gorgeous new home for wine tasting. We shared bottle after bottle of great wines chosen by Katherine. Let's just say, no one was disappointed and no one wanted to leave!! Thank you and Cheers to Katherine, for hosting the first of many Ladies of the Lakes Wine and Charcuterie Nights. **See upcoming events for the next one...you don't want to miss it!!**

**March Board Meeting:** As always, minutes will be posted on the WCLA website after approval at the following meeting.

### Upcoming Events:

**March Social Dinner: Tuesday, March 19<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm at Flo's in Greenville.** It's coming up fast so don't miss out on a fun evening of good food and laughter. **RSVP Candie at [candieritsema@yahoo.com](mailto:candieritsema@yahoo.com) or text her at 616 835-2488.**

**Ladies of the Lakes Wine and Charcuterie Night:** An early heads up for this one! **Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm.** Josalyn Jones will be hosting this fun gathering for us at her beautiful home on Half Mile Lake: 13467 Oakcrest Ave, Gowen 49326. She will supply a surprise wine variety and a tasty charcuterie board. If you're not a wine drinker, come anyway! It's all about getting to know the Ladies of the Lakes! **The cost is \$15.00 per person. Please RSVP Josalyn by May 15<sup>th</sup> at [Josalyn1025@gmail.com](mailto:Josalyn1025@gmail.com) or text her at 213-349-6010.**

**Board Meeting: Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Location TBD**

**Pancake Breakfast: June 1<sup>st</sup> at Camp Greenwood 8-11 am COOKS NEEDED!!**

**WCLA GOLF OUTING:** Start practicing your swing because the Golf Outing is just around the corner!! **Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at Candlestone.** Watch for details when it gets a little closer.

**See the Calendar of Events below for more events and tentative events for the year.**

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### Other Stuff:

**We will be transitioning to a new email platform by the end of March.** This new platform will allow us to include text messages to those who also prefer that mode of communication reminders. Angie Peterman sent you two emails on March 8<sup>th</sup>. One from our current GMASS platform and the other from our new mail chimp platform. If you only received one in your inbox, check spam for the other and "allow" it by marking it as "not spam"! **Please text Angie Peterman at 616-213-9252 if you have concerns about email communication and we will make sure to get any issues resolved!**

**DID YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGE????** If it did, please let Kris Ferguson know at [scrambledeggs85@gmail.com](mailto:scrambledeggs85@gmail.com) so you don't miss out on important information and notifications.

**WCLA Photo Directory: WHO IS THAT PERSON, I CAN'T REMEMBER???** 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 will be on the WCLA Website for your convenience.** Participation is optional but we hope to see many 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)

**Night Fishing:** If you are fishing at night, please be sure your very bright boat lights are not shining into the houses around you. Also, please keep your voices and music turned down, sound travels easily on the water! This has already been an issue for some homeowners experiencing the lights and noise very late at night. **Please BE COURTIOUS and RESPECTFUL on the lakes at all times.**

**DON'T WAIT! RUN TO YOUR COMPUTER OR CHECKBOOK AND PAY YOUR 2024 MEMBERSHIP DUES: It's only \$40.00!!!** A small price to pay to keep our lakes clean and safe, our fish plentiful and support the fun events we want everyone to enjoy! You may pay online at <https://woodbeckchainoflakes.com/pay-dues> or pay by mail. Make checks payable to WCLA.

**The Kindy boat launch and Camp Concordia boat launch are only available if you have paid your membership dues. Paying now means you don't have to worry later!!**

**Lake Mapping:** Lake mapping was completed by PLM so we now have a current baseline of the various depths and bottom hardness of all the lakes. Our plan is to have copies made and hopefully be able to offer them to association members for a small fee. More to follow...

**A big THANK YOU to all our sponsors who paid to advertise in the Waterline.** Please check them out!! They can help you with many of your needs!

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**Thank you to all the contributors for the Waterline articles.** There would be no Waterline without you!! If you have ideas for articles you would like to see in the Waterline, please let Wendi know at [davidsonwendi@gmail.com](mailto:davidsonwendi@gmail.com). Even better...if you would like to write an article for the Waterline, that would be greatly appreciated!!! WE LOVE YOUR IDEAS and WE LOVE YOUR HELP!! **Next Waterline will be in MAY.**

**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.

**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 616 255-6081.** Even if you only need a few days of meals, the Meal Train is here for you!

**Also.... 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!

**Calendar of Events for 2024:** Remember, some of these events are **tentative and we need volunteers** to make them happen. With your help, we can offer fun events that will run smoothly and successfully. Without volunteers these events are not possible. If you would like to help, please contact Wendi Davidson at [davidsonwendi@gmail.com](mailto:davidsonwendi@gmail.com) or (616) 799-0412 or Nan Holmes at [holmes.nanette@gmail.com](mailto:holmes.nanette@gmail.com) or 616 213-8247 or Candie Ritsema at [candieritsema@yahoo.com](mailto:candieritsema@yahoo.com) or 616 835-2488.

### **Tentative Calendar thru September:**

March 19<sup>th</sup>: WCLA Social Dinner- 6pm at Flo's  
 April 30<sup>th</sup>: WCLA Social Dinner- 6pm at El Rancho  
 May Social Dinner: TBD  
 May 13<sup>th</sup>: Board Meeting 6:30 pm location TBD  
 May 22<sup>nd</sup>: Ladies of the Lakes Wine and Charcuterie Night 6pm  
 June 1<sup>st</sup>: Pancake Breakfast  
 June Social Dinner: TBD  
 June 15<sup>th</sup>: WCLA Golf Outing  
 July: Fireworks????  
 July 6<sup>th</sup>: Elvis In the House (not a WCLA event)  
 July 7<sup>th</sup>: Boat Parade  
 July 8<sup>th</sup>: Board Meeting 6:30 pm  
 August 3<sup>rd</sup>: Poker Kayak Run and Band to follow  
 August Social Dinner: TBD  
 September 7-8<sup>th</sup>: Share Your Plants Plant Sale  
 September 9<sup>th</sup>: Board Meeting  
 September 21<sup>st</sup>: Annual Meeting

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**Boater's Safety Class: NOW, NOW, NOW** 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 to 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/>

**SHARING IS CARING!** If you have anything you would like to share such as ideas for social events, healthy recipes, lake concerns, or you simply want to listen to what the board is up to in person; 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!

**Officers, Lake Reps and Administrators for the 2024 year will be available on the WCLA Website:** <https://woodbeckchainoflakes.com>.

### **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/>

### **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.

**Healthy Recipe: NOPE, you've read enough this month! 😊**