

THE WATERLINE

THE OFFICIAL WOODBECK CHAIN OF LAKES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



A Word From Wendi

January 8, 2026

HELLO 2026!!! YOU BEAUTIFUL NEW YEAR!

Out with old and in with the new! This year think FRESH...fresh air, fresh ideas, fresh starts, fresh perspectives and fresh approaches. Whatever needs "freshening up", 2026 is the time to make it happen. Some might call this "change" but change sometimes seems to carry negative connotations and we don't need negativity in our lives so let's stick with FRESH! A fresh start isn't a new place; it's a new mindset. Let this be the year you dip your toe in the water and then...JUMP IN! Go for whatever you want to go for! Life gets exciting when you take chances so don't miss your opportunity. Mother Nature surrounds us with "freshness" on our amazing chain of lakes. Look deep, what do you see, what do you feel? It's the fresh air, fresh snowfall, fresh ideas and many fresh new faces in our community. We are so incredibly lucky to have this lake life. Let's all just "freshen up" this year and see what happens. I think we will be pleasantly surprised by how that makes us feel.

Happy New Year and enjoy the first 2026 edition of the Waterline!

Kindly,
Wendi Davidson
WCLA President

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

MENU



Upcoming Events

MENU



January - Winter Inn

Thursday January 22nd @ 6:00 p.m.

Join us for a good time at Winter Inn! Wait...did I say good time??? I mean GREAT TIME! Stick around until 8:30 and you can show off your singing voice with Karaoke!! We'll cheer you on!!

RSVP: CANDIE RITSEMA - (616) 835-2488 - CANDIERITSEMA@YAHOO.COM

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Past Events

Sending our heartfelt gratitude to our gracious hosts!

*Thank you **Mike & Katherine Wolthuis & Norm & Wendi Davidson** for opening up your homes to host these fun and festive WCLA events!*



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UPDATES & MORE

HMMMM...WHAT IS 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!

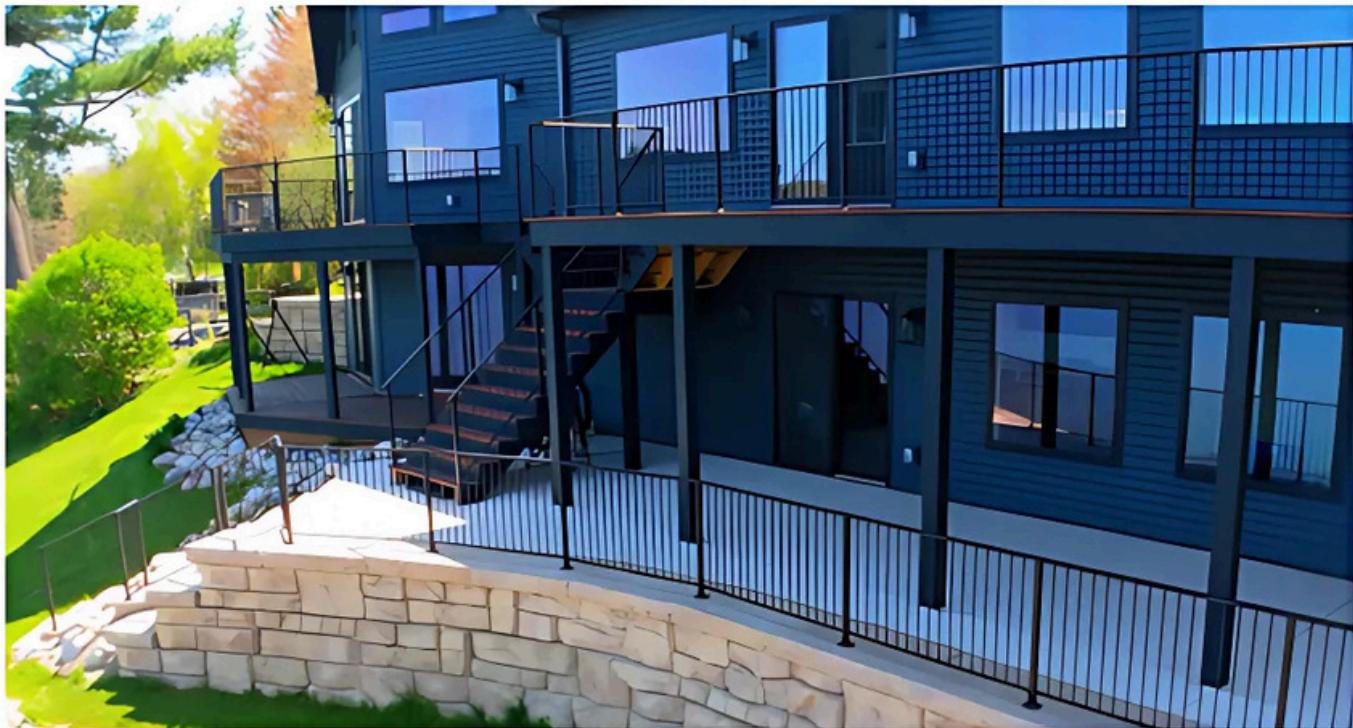
SAVE THE DATE

**WCLA BOARD MEETING
MONDAY MARCH 9TH @ 6:30 P.M.
LOCATION: WENDI'S HOUSE
13337 OAKCREST AVE**



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UPDATES & MORE



The 2025 WCLA fish plant of 2,000 Walleye and 200 Yellow Perch, took place on November 8, 2025 from the McClain St. bridge. This year our fish supplier, Stoney Creek, recommended placing the fish in the water by buckets, instead of dropping them from the bridge. Planting the fish by buckets reduces the shock they would get from dropping them in the water.

So, with the help of the people that came to watch, buckets of fish were carried down to the water and released. Thank you all that came to watch and ended up helping out.

Remember we are able to plant the number of fish we do because of your donations to the fish plant fund and from paid dues. Help us reach our \$6,000 goal!



DONATE NOW



WELCOME TO THE LAKES

Tom & Linda Cameron
Horseshoe Lake

Hello neighbors,

We are Tom and Linda Cameron. We moved here from rural Belding in June. We had previously enjoyed lake living and really missed the beauty of it. When the opportunity allowed us to once more move back to the lake, we jumped at the chance.

Linda and I lived next door, when we were toddlers. In her baby book her mom wrote that Tommy Cameron was her first friend! We graduated from Belding in 1966 and, unfortunately, went our separate ways shortly thereafter. In 1992 we started a correspondence and married in 1995. Linda then followed my path in public education to Flint, White Cloud and Marshall Michigan. On our retirement we returned to this area.

Linda loves crafting, painting and sewing. My hobbies are flying, scuba diving and fishing. We both have traveled around the country trying to visit as many National Parks as possible. We have enjoyed getting to meet many of you and if you see us putting around in our old pontoon please wave and say hi.



**If you are new to the lakes or know someone who is, please contact our welcome committee Phil & Denise Sliva*

WELCOME TO THE LAKES

Mike & Debbi Wofford

Horseshoe Lake

Michigan and Horseshoe Lake have always been very special places to Mike and Debbi. After retiring from 30+ year careers at State Farm Insurance in Illinois, they were excited to relocate to the place that feels like home. Mike and Debbi became permanent Horseshoe Lake residents in August, 2025, but have been spending time at the lake since 2002. They now own the home that Debbi's parents, John and Marcia Ficeli, built on Horseshoe Lake 23 years ago.

Mike and Debbi have two sons, Zach (25) and Alex (23) and two fur babies, Josie and Barney. Zach and Alex live in Illinois, but visit Michigan as much as possible. The family loves being on the water, boating, kayaking and paddleboarding. You'll also see Debbi and Mike out walking, on their bikes and spending time outside throughout the year. So far, they 100% recommend retirement and living on the lake!



**If you are new to the lakes or know someone who is, please contact our welcome committee Phil & Denise Sliva*

REMINDERS

COME AGAIN WE'RE CLOSED

The Kindy boat launch is closed for the winter. Please note that this location is not a designated lake access point. To help deter unauthorized use, a plastic snow fence and Private Property signs have been installed to inform individuals that accessing the lakes from this area is considered trespassing. As these are private lakes, our goal is to minimize unauthorized access and protect the integrity of the community. If you have a desire to access a lake other than the one you live on please contact one of the lake reps and they may be able to help you make the proper arrangements. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Lake Mapping

In 2024, WCLA invested in lake mapping put together by PLM showing depths and hardness levels of all the lakes. These maps are available to members once they have paid their 2025 dues by reaching out to Chris Decker.

THIS JUST in

[**CLICK HERE**](#) for the
2025 Water Quality Reports



What is that WEED???

See something unusual or new in the water? Take a picture and send it to Chris Decker at 616 302-0819. It could be a weed that we don't need!!!



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REMINDERS

BOATERS SAFETY

Spring is just around the corner, making it the perfect time for kids and young adults to complete the Boater's Safety Course!

This is an ongoing opportunity for anyone aged 12-20 to earn a \$15 Amazon gift card upon completing the course—available year-round! Whether you're a young resident living on the lakes or a grandchild of a paid Lake Association member, you can take the course online at your convenience.

Here's how it works:

1. Complete the Boater's Safety Course anytime during the year.
2. Email a copy of your completion card to davidsonwendi@gmail.com.
3. Receive your \$15 gift card—it's that easy!

Not only is this a simple way to earn a reward, but it's also an important step in helping to keep our lakes safe.

Ready to get started? Click here to begin your online course: [Boater's Safety Course](#).

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REMINDERS



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 (even if it's only for a short period of time). Your friends and neighbors are here to help! Please contact Mara Iteen who will make all of the arrangements necessary to meet your needs.

If you want to be a part of the Meal Train to provide meals when needed, please contact Mara Iteen and let her know that you would like to be on the list. When someone is in need Mara will contact those on the list and you can sign up as needed.

WCLA Photo Directory: Connecting Our Lake Community!

Discover the joy of putting faces to names and learning more about our wonderful lakeside community! The WCLA Photo Directory, thoughtfully created by Phil Sliva, is now available on the WCLA website: [CLICK HERE to view the latest version.](#)

Participation is optional, but we'd love to see everyone represented! To join in, simply email Phil at philsliva@chartermi.net with:

A photo of you and your family

A picture of your home as seen from the lakeside

Let's make our directory a vibrant showcase of the Woodbeck Chain of Lakes community!

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 IN 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/](https://www.shorelinepartnership.org/)



Andrea Belding

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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.



The WCLA Waterline is published three times a year, brimming with valuable updates and engaging content. Have an idea for an article? We'd love to hear it! Better yet, if you'd like to contribute by writing an article, we'd greatly appreciate your input.

The next issue is set to be released in May 2025, and the deadline for article submissions and advertisements is May 5th. Submit articles and ideas to Jamie Skinner

It's Time to Pay Your 2026 WCLA Dues!

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who supports our lakes by paying their dues. Your contributions make a big difference in keeping our lake community thriving!

Dues are just \$50.00 for the year—that's only \$4.17 per month, less than the cost of a Starbucks coffee!

Your dues go a long way toward:

- Keeping our lakes clean and safe
- Funding canal signage and other communications
- Covering maintenance, repairs, and unexpected issues
- Supporting fish stocking and ensuring plentiful fishing
- Sponsoring fun community events we all enjoy

How to Pay:

- Online: Visit woodbeckchainoflakes.com/pay-dues
- By Mail:

Make checks payable to WCLA and mail to:

PO Box 482, Greenville, MI 48838

If your name isn't on the paid membership list (below), we haven't received your payment. Remember, dues must be paid to use the boat launches.

The 2025 paid membership list will be included in every issue of the President's Corner and Waterline as a handy reminder. 😊

Thank you for your continued dedication to our lakes!

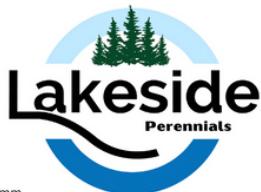




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Affordable Advertising Opportunity!

Thank you to all local businesses for choosing to advertise with us. Advertise in all three issues (January, May, and September) is just \$35—that's less than \$12 per issue! Contact Jamie Skinner for additional information.



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Website: lakesidenatives.com
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PRESIDENT	Wendi Davidson	(616) 799-0412	davidsonwendi@gmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT	Chris Decker	(616) 302-0819	c_dec@hotmail.com
SECRETARY	Kris Ferguson	(616) 299-1739	scrambledeggs85@gmail.com
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Alternate	Pam Swigart	(616) 894-0536	unsaltedsparkles@gmail.com
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Alternate	Rob Reigler	(616) 836-1966	rob@lakesideinc.com
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	*Phil Sliva	(616) 970-2273	philsliva@chartermi.net
	**Tom Meyer	(616) 862-1171	tjm8600@gmail.com
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	**Craig Wassenaar	(616) 780-2000	craig_wassenaar@yahoo.com
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Alternate	Maureen Lovewell	(616) 292-3674	lovewellmaur@hotmail.com

* Term Ends 8/31/26

** Term Ends 8/31/27

ADMINISTRATORS & COMMITTEE LEADERS

Communications	Faith Peterson	(517) 242-8918	wclacommunications@gmail.com
Directory & Welcome Team	Phil & Denise Sliva	(616) 970-2273	philsliva@chartermi.net
Fish Plant/Signs/Boat Launch	Don Hoogerhyde	(616) 990-8687	d_hoog@hotmail.com
	Ed Armbruster	(616) 947-4487	luger@prodigy.net
	Tom Meyer	(616) 862-1171	tjm8600@gmail.com
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Membership Payments	Jamie Skinner	(616) 813-9841	woodbeckcla@gmail.com
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Social Media	Aaron Antcliff	(616) 329-8305	aarron.antcliff@gmail.com
Water Sustainability	Chris Decker	(616) 302-0819	c_dec@hotmail.com
Waterline & Advertising	Jamie Skinner	(616) 813-9841	woodbeckcla@gmail.com

FIVE LAKES - ONE COMMUNITY

WOODBECK CHAIN OF LAKES - PAID MEMBERS BY LAKE FOR FISCAL YEAR 9/1/25 - 8/31/26					(Updated 1/14/26)
BANKS	HALF MILE	HORSESHOE	THOMAS	WOODBECK	
Armbruster, Ed & Bobby	Camp Concordia	Brim, Frederick & Sandra	Bloem, Phil & Mary Ellen	Adams, Artron & Cat	
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Mills, Mike & Lisa	Decker, Chris & Ann	DeWindt, David & Michelle	Covell, Jim & Kim	Camp Greenwood	
Peterman, Brett & Angie	Giles, Rony & Lynn	Dickinson, Scott & Kim	Davidson, Norm & Wendi	Cerajewski, Mark	
Redding, Craig & Darlene	Harris, Vickie	Dykstra, Phil & Sue	Gasper, Jim & Tammi	Cushman, Derek & Lori	
Rydzeksi, Ken & Mary	Jones, Tim & Josalyn	Ellis, Dave & Cindy	Haas, Tom & Marcia	Dekraker, Matt & Courtney	
Salisbury, Bob & Ginger	Klemm, Bruce & Marilyn	Fierens, Lou & Michelle	Kluba, Dennis & Karen	DeVries, Roger	
Skinner, Art & Jamie	Lauderdale, Burt & Jennifer & Hassan, Ben	Finkhouse, Ed & Arlene	Kubec, Richard & Christine	Diehl, Ben & Sarah	
Speulding, Steve & Joyce	Layle, Tom & Donna	Fuller, Bob & Alicia	Lemmerman, Sara	Ebel, Dan & Robin	
Stobinski, James & Irene	Reynhout, Tom & Bruinsma, Jennifer	Hoogerhyde, Don & Lois	Liden, Mike & Bonnie	Ferguson, Jeff & Kris	
Swigart, Jim & Pam	Ross, Elizabeth	LeBaron, Andre & Christy	Ripplinger, Ms. Dale	Houseman, Kate & Wassenhaar, Craig	
Trumble, Ron & Maureen	Rupp, Pat	Merdzinski, James & Melanie	Sprague, Rick & Deb	Hunter, Tim & Teri	
Schrauben, Nick & Cathy	Merren, Mike & Daniell	Stratton, Mark & Mary Jo	Jones, Bev		
Meyer, Tom & Kim	Peterson, Kim & Faith	Teachworth, Ryan & Jamie	King, Wayne & Kathie		
Peterson, Kim & Faith	Piechocki, Mike & Pat	Walser, James & Joyce	Kohler, Joe & Mickele		
Pot, Bob & Sue	Wilson, Jeff & Diane	Lotterman, Joy	Reed, Kevin & Kim		
Riste, Paul & Jessica		Martini, Kevin & Renee	Ritsema, Dave & Candle		
Scheppman, Kevin		Nielsen, Jim & Kristen	Rosendall, John & Sue		
Silva, Phil & Denise			Scheel, Marty & Robin		
Wolford, Mike & Debbie			Scott, Tom & Mary		
			Tidley, Keith & Kim		
			VanPortfleet, Tom & Mary		
			Walhorn, Ed & Joy		
			Wolthuis, Mike & Katherine		
12	13	21	16	28	
32	52	59	55	62	
38%	25%	36%	29%	45%	
2025 Budget Goal is 80% of total residents = 210/260					35%
Current Paid Membership:					90