

WCLA PRESIDENT'S CORNER

September 15, 2022

Hello Friends and Neighbors,

Do you see her yet? Do you smell her yet? Do you feel her yet? She is coming, in glorious fashion and her name is Fall! She is the sophisticated big sister to carefree Summer and is already giving us glimpses of her cool yet colorful personality. Yes, we knew it would happen but she always shows up just a little bit sooner than we expect (like your parents when you had a party they didn't know about)! Soon it will be time to put on the sweaters, put away the outdoor furniture and put the boats in storage. **BUT NOT YET!!** Mother Nature is letting Summer tease us a bit longer before Fall takes the driver's seat! So, enjoy her beautiful gifts, these occasional warm days and as always...amazing sunsets. Keep those Facebook pictures coming of the sunsets! They are spectacular!!!



The seasons are changing but your WCLA Officers are not! The voting is in and I am excited to say the Board voted in the same Officers for another year: President: Me, Vice President: Kevin Bird, Treasurer: Bruce Veldman and Secretary: Kris Ferguson. We also have a board with some new faces which is super exciting as we move into another year of providing you with lake safety and fun activities! It's always fun to mix new ideas and fresh faces with those who have experience...the best of both worlds in my opinion! Thank you to all who are willing to volunteer their time, ideas and input into everything we do for the community. This is what makes our lakes the **BEST PLACE TO LIVE!** See the attached sheet with the **Officers, Lake Reps and Administrators for the 2023 year.** **Now for the rest of your monthly updates...and there are some important ones!!**

UPDATES, PAST EVENTS, UPCOMING EVENTS and OTHER STUFF

UPDATES

Phil and Denise Sliva will be the new **Welcome Committee** for our lakes! I can't think of two nicer people to greet you when you are a newcomer. They will absolutely make you feel welcome and give you the resources you need to feel at home in your new lake community. **So...if you know anyone new to the lakes,** please email or text Phil at philsliva@chartermi.net or 616 970-2273. They will be happy to give them a warm welcome!

The **Meal train** has been able to offer some greatly appreciated meals to another family on our lakes. This couple was not only grateful for the delicious meals they received but the comfort and healing support of people helping them with cleaning and just offering emotional support during their very stressful time. Hats off to all of you for your generosity, compassion and selfless ways. You give people strength when they need it most.

The Meal Train is always available to help you in the event of illness or injury. Your friends and neighbors are here to help! Please contact Mara Iteen at 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**

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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!

Boater's Safety Class: I am happy to announce that the Board has decided to extend the 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 and get a \$15.00 Amazon gift card just for completing it!! Just email a copy of your completion card to 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 Safety Course on-line: <https://www.boat-ed.com/michigan/>

PAST EVENTS

WCLA Annual Dinner Meeting at Camp Concordia was a big success with a fabulous taco dinner and scrumptious cupcakes! The new Representatives for each lake were chosen and we have some great new additions! **We still need one representative from Half Mile Lake.** If you would like to be a part of great things then just let any Lake Rep or Officer know, we welcome your input!

UPCOMING EVENTS

We will be hosting a **"WCLA Share Your Plants" Plant Sale on September 24th, 8:30am-3pm or while plants last at Camp Greenwood.** The detailed flyer should have hit your email on September 2nd. But if you missed it, see the attached flyer. So... save your plant containers and Walmart or Meijer plastic bags. We will "thin" our plants, place them in individual containers with some details about the plant and bring them to Camp Greenwood Wednesday 21st thru Friday, September 23rd or the morning of the 24th to be sold to our friends and neighbors. **All plants will cost \$2.00. Monies go to support social events for the WCLA. Camp Greenwood will also be having the 5kGator Shuffle and Root Beer Float-In that day as well. How much fun can you have in one day???**

Gloria's Farewell Open House: Join us at **Bruce and Terri Veldman's house (12555 Horseshoe Dr, Gowen) on Saturday, October 1st between 1-4pm as we send Gloria and David off in style** to start the next chapter of their lives with family in Henderson, NV. Gloria has been instrumental in keeping the WCLA association on track with everything from memberships, e-blasts, Facebook, Instagram, emails and much, much more! She deserves the greatest sendoff ever, so please join us **between 1-4pm** to wish her well and share memories and stories. **We have something special for her that we would like everyone to be a part of but shhhhh.... it's a surprise.** Please contact me at davidsonwendi@gmail.com or text 616 799-0412 if you want to be a part of her great memories. That's all I can say for now (she sends this out you know!) or just show up on Saturday. Please bring a card with a special written memory that she can read and enjoy when she is all moved into her new house. If you would like to drop off a card early just let one of the Lake Reps or Officer's know and we will gladly deliver it to her and placed in the card basket for you.

WCLA HALLOWEEN PARTY, HALLOWEEN PARTY, HALLOWEEN PARTY!!! THIS IS GOING TO BE CRAZY FUN!!! At Brookside Golf Course Banquet Room on Saturday, October 29th. Doors will open at 6pm for social time followed by TACO BAR. **Awesome DJ playing until 10pm-ish.** Prizes for best costumes. BUT.... if you don't want to dress up, come anyway AND DANCE, DANCE, DANCE!! It's going to be one of the best events of the

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year!! Cover cost is \$10.00 per person. **You must RSVP Nan at holmes.nanette@gmail.com or text her at (616) 213-8247**

WCLA Cornhole/Chili Cookoff is set for Saturday, November 5th at 1pm. Get your chili recipes perfected, test them on your friends and family and...you just might be the **BIG CHILI WINNER** this year! While your chili is simmering, get your cornhole throwing arm in shape! Remember, practice makes perfect and there are some very skilled throwers out there!! BUT...it's all just for fun so no matter how good or bad your throwing arm is, come out to enjoy a great fall event. If you have cornhole boards we can borrow for the event let me know at davidsonwendi@gmail.com or text 616 799-0412. Watch for the flyer to come in your email soon. You must email or text me if you want to participate.

HO, HO, HO! The WCLA Christmas Party will be Saturday, December 3rd at The Winter Inn. Come and be jolly with friends and neighbors starting at 6pm. Enjoy appetizers and cash bar while you mingle and jingle to a great time! **Be sure to put it in your calendar now.** \$12.50 per person and RSVP to Nan at holmes.nanette@gmail.com or text 616-213-8247 😊

Christmas Cookie Exchange set for Sunday, December 11th from 2:00pm to 4:00pm at Deb Eaton's home on Thomas Lake. Meanwhile, save the date! More details to follow.

OTHER STUFF

Cathy Schrauben will continue to write articles for the Waterline but we are **looking for an editor** to put it all together. **If this is something you enjoy doing and would like to volunteer your expertise, we want you!! Contact any Lake Rep, Officer or Gloria to get more information.**

Gloria's replacements: Aarron Antcliff will be taking over for Gloria on the Facebook, Instagram, e-blasts and Website information. We are super excited to have him on board with us and we know he will do a fantastic job. Please get to know Aarron through his bio below! Bruce Veldman and Scott Hutchison will "temporary" be handling membership, and Kris Ferguson will be handling the remainder of the administrative duties...**A BIG THANKS to ALL OF THEM! Please be patient with us as we transition to our new administrative team!**

Aarron Antcliff and family...



Aarron grew up in Belding/Greenville. Ren grew up in Grand Rapids. When getting married and deciding where to live, we chose somewhere in between and that was Grattan. We married in 1991 and lived in Grattan for over 20 years, but having both lived on lakes growing up, we started to look for property on a lake. My dad always used to say, "God quit making waterfront property a long time ago"

We bought our house on Thomas Lake in December of 2008, using it as a cottage until 2015, when we moved here full time. Like many cottages, our house started out as one room and was added on to several times. Nothing was level. We did a remodel and addition in 2019.



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We have a son, Miller who is 19 and a daughter, Mallorie who is 13. We also Martha, our dog, who loves boat rides! We own a CNC machining business in Comstock Park and a fabrication business in Sparta. We enjoy traveling to interesting and beautiful places. This country is full of them. We enjoy geocaching as a family, even having done it in other countries. We enjoy our neighbors and getting to know the WCLA community better.

The beavers seem to be gone and the dams are clear!

Please remember, 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!

Board Meeting Minutes are uploaded to the WCLA Website for your late-night reading pleasure!

Don't forget to pay your dues for the FY2023, please! It's a small price to pay to keep our lakes safe and support the fun events we want everyone to enjoy! You may pay on line at: <https://woodbeckchainoflakes.com/pay-dues> or pay by mail. A 2023 Membership Application form is attached.

Your healthy recipe of the month is below!

That's all for now! Happy Fall Everyone!

Respectfully,

Wendi Davidson
WCLA President

Healthy Recipe-Turkey Burgers

- 1 lb. ground turkey
- 1 large egg, beaten
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp. Worcestershire sauce or any of your favorite spices
- 2 tbsp. freshly chopped parsley
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 1 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil

Directions:

- Mix all ingredients in large bowl except oil.
- Form into four patties
- In skillet over medium heat, heat oil **OR grill burgers!**
- Add patties and cook for about 5 minutes per side.
- Serve with your favorite toppings

Optional:

- Buns
- Lettuce
- Sliced tomatoes
- Mayonnaise

ENJOY!!