

WCLA PRESIDENT'S CORNER

August 12th, 2024

Hello Friends and Neighbors,

SHORT AND SWEET, just like summer! That's this month's President's Corner. You will be done with it before you can say: "What just happened!? Did I fall asleep??!"

This is a very important month because it's time for the WCLA Annual Meeting! Never been?? Don't know what that means? Who cares?? Well then, you need to come! This is the meeting where you will hear a summary of all the Committee Reports from over the last year and what has happened around the lakes. We will vote in Lake Representatives for each lake and you will hear the President's Year in Review Report. **BEST OF ALL...FREE DINNER!!** You shouldn't miss this meeting if you live on the lakes! Mingling starts at 5:30 so join us at Camp Concordia on Thursday, August 29th. Enjoy the rest of your summer!



That's all for now!

Kindly,
Wendi Davidson
WCLA President

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

Past Events:

July Social Dinner at Kicks. Once again, we had around 35 people attend this wonderful "Private Party" social dinner. Kicks opened up just for us!! Big thank you to Candie Ritsema (our new Social Director) for getting Kicks to "kick" in two footgolf gift cards!! The lucky winners were: Carol Guffin and Dave Ritsema. Have fun!!

WCLA Kayak Poker Paddle was another amazing event! We had over 70 kayakers and many more than that enjoyed the awesome music from the band FLASHBACK that followed! Bobby Armbruster had the winning poker hand worth \$100 which she graciously gave back to the WCLA social fund. The four random winners each took home \$25.00. They were: Darlene Redding, Russ DeVries, Julie O'Neil (donated back to the WCLA social fund) and Jenn Senn. Congratulations to all the winners! Thanks go out to Kevin Bird and Ed Armbruster for organizing the event and also to the following individuals who volunteered on boats and handed out cards from the boats. We couldn't do it without volunteers so THANK YOU!! Art Skinner, John Senn, Tim Lind and Bonnie, Mike and Andrew Liden, Carol and Kevin Bird, Harry and Kathy Dean, Ron and Maureen Trumble, Kevin and Sue Willemstein, Phil and Denise Sliva, Bruce and Terri Veldman, Doug and Ellen Herring.

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Upcoming Events:

IMPORTANT:

WCLA ANNUAL DINNER MEETING will be held Thursday, August 29th at Camp Concordia. Socializing will be from 5:30 to 6pm followed by committee reports and a review of events and over the last year. This will be followed by dinner and voting in new Lake Representatives. **If you would like to be a lake representative or you just want to eat great food, mingle and hear about your lakes, you need to come!! Officers will be elected at the September Board meeting.** If you would like to volunteer to help set up or clean up after the meeting, please contact Candie at candieritsema@yahoo.com or text her at 616 835-2488.

Board Meeting September 9th at 6:30 pm. At the Davidson's house 13337 Oakcrest. Officers will be elected at this meeting. If you would like to be an Officer, please plan to attend.

WCLA Ladies of The Lakes Wine and Charcuterie Night: Thursday, August 15th at 6pm it's happening AGAIN!! This time, the beautiful Ann Decker will host at her house: 13351 Oakcrest Ave, Gowen 49326. She will supply the wine and charcuterie boards full of fabulous food. Your cost is only \$20.00. **Please RSVP Ann at anndecker@hotmail.com or text her at (616) 302-0824. CHEERS LADIES!**

Gentlemen.... while the women are tasting wine, you are welcome to hang out in Chris Decker's mancave on the lake! Let's just call it a "twofer"!!!

BEST OF ALL!! We will also have a sample of the personalized wine glass you can pre-order!! Cost for the wine glass will be \$15.00 which must be paid prior to ordering. **Please RSVP Ann at anndecker@hotmail.com or text her at (616) 302-0824.**

Share Your Plants Plant Sale Saturday, September 21st: Thin those plants and share them with your lake friends! It's that time again to make your flower beds beautiful and share your gorgeous plants with everyone. **All plants will be ONLY \$2.00!!!** Drop off plants and/or cool pots (not the store pots they come in) on Friday, September 20st at Wendi Davidson's house: 13337 Oakcrest Ave, Gowen. Sale starts at 0800 on Saturday, 21nd and runs until 5pm or when the plants and pots are gone!! See attached flyer for details.

Planning ahead...Cornhole/Chili Cookoff with be Saturday, November 2nd. Details to follow soon 😊

See the Calendar of Events below for events through November.

Updates and Other Stuff:

IF IT's A CHANNEL, GO SLOW, NO WAKE ZONE!!! Please remember to go slowly as you approach, as you go through and as you are leaving a channel. Think of it as nap time, no need to "wake up" when you're in the channel. 😊

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Update from the Independent Bridge Committee: An informal group of community members from Woodbeck Chain of Lakes sent out a survey questionnaire regarding interest in raising the Maclain Street Bridge. The many responses they have so far are very favorable. They would like to be sure all home owners have had an opportunity to voice their opinion in the survey before moving forward. Therefore, the survey will be open until August 31st. The WCLA Board remains neutral on this issue but your survey feedback is important.

DUES ARE DUE!!! 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. 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.**
*****ATTACHED is the PAID MEMBERSHIP LIST*** 😊**

Water Sustainability Committee: The committee is working closely with PLM and the township to be sure our lakes are getting all needs addressed properly including treatments for weed and algae management. The lakes are in good condition but we do have some invasive weeds which are being treated appropriately by PLM to prevent them from becoming a problem. That has meant treating for the invasive weeds in front of everyone's shoreline. The native plants are only "knocked down" not treated systemically so their root systems remain intact. Surface weeds cannot be treated until after the 1st of July. We believe PLM is on top of the treatment our lakes need at this time.

What's that WEED??? See something unusual or new in the water? Take a picture and send it to Bob Darvill at 269 267-7692 or Chris Decker at 616 302-0819. **It could be a weed that we don't need!!!**

Email platform with text messaging: This new platform is working well and allows us to include text messages to those who also prefer that mode of communication for reminders. Please text Angie Peterman at 616-213-9252 if you have concerns about email communication and she will make sure to get any issues resolved for you!

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

WCLA Photo Directory: How fun 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> 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

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 for anyone age 12-20 who completes the**

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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 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!**

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 or (616) 970-2273.

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!

The Waterline: Our WCLA newsletter is put out 3x a year and filled with valuable information. If you have ideas for articles you would like to see in the Waterline, please let Wendi know at davidsonwendi@gmail.com. Even better...if you would like to write an article for the Waterline, that would be greatly appreciated!!! **Next Waterline will be in September. Articles need to be to Jake Dayringer by September 1st. Send to jake@campgreenwood.com**

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 or text 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!

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

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/>

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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!

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

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.

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 or (616) 799-0412 or Candie Ritsema at candieritsema@yahoo.com or text her at 616 835-2488.

Tentative Calendar thru September:

July 15th: Social Dinner at Kicks
 August 3rd: Poker Kayak Run and Band to follow
 August 15th: Ladies Wine and Charcuterie Nite
 August 29th: Annual Meeting
 September 9th: Board Meeting
 September 20-21st: Share Your Plants Plant Sale
 September? Social Dinner TBD
 October? Social Dinner TBD
 November 2nd: Cornhole/Chili Cookoff
 December 7th: Tentative Christmas Party

Are there other things you would like to see me include, or not include in the monthly President's Corner. I am always up for ways to improve this monthly mode of communication. Your feedback is welcomed! Text or email: 616 799-0412 or davidsonwendi@gmail.com.

In place of the healthy recipe, it's the healthy quote of the month:

Friendship isn't one big thing, it's a million little things.
Author Unknown

See attached Nature Pictures for the month!

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