

WCLA PRESIDENT'S CORNER

August 15, 2025

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??" You might also say: "This sounds familiar!" That's because this is exactly what I said last year and for good reason!



This is a very important month because it's time for the WCLA Annual Meeting!

Never been?? Don't know what that means? Thinking about becoming a member?? Well then, I would encourage you to attend! 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! The meeting will start promptly at 6pm with dinner, so join us at Camp Concordia on Thursday, August 21st. 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:

WCLA Progressive Kayaking Event: The fun started at noon as we made our way from Horseshoe to Thomas Lake with four stops, beverages, appetizers and ending with dinner and a pool party. The weather didn't stop the fun as almost **100 people** shared in the enjoyment of an amazing day! **A big thank you to our hosts: Don and Lois Hoogerhyde, Jeff and Kris Ferguson, Art and Jamie Skinner, and Norm and (myself) Wendi Davidson.** This is a big undertaking, and I personally thank all of you for making it such a successful event! **The 50/50 raffle was won by Sue and Bob Post,** who graciously returned their half to fund the social committee. **With your generous contributions, we raised \$750 from this raffle!** Holy Smokes!! That's Fantastic!!

A Woodstock kind of music day with singer Noah Back was enjoyed at Bev Jones's beachfront as people relaxed and floated in the water. This is not a WCLA sponsored event but graciously offered by Bev Jones. Thank you so much Bev for allowing all of us to share a great day with you!

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Ladies Wine and Charcuterie Night: A big thank you to **Katherine Wolthuis** for hosting this fabulous event again! Thirty beautiful ladies enjoyed an evening of fun and fellowship. Excellent wine, great weather, great ladies and mostly, an amazing host! **Cheers to the next one** (see below)!

Upcoming Events:

IMPORTANT:

WCLA ANNUAL DINNER MEETING will be held Thursday, August 21st at Camp Concordia. Dinner will be served at 6pm followed by committee reports and a review of events and over the last year. This will be followed by 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: Monday, September 8th 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.

Social Dinner: Thursday, September 11th at 6pm. We are going to "kick" up our feet at the awesome **Kicks establishment** for some good old food, drinks and fun! This is a great outdoor restaurant with plenty of fun for everyone! Don't miss out!!

WCLA Ladies of The Lakes Wine and Charcuterie Night: Monday, September 15th at 6pm it's happening AGAIN!! This time, our beautiful friend and neighbor Cathy Deane will host at her house: 12445 Stacey Ct. Greenville 48838. She will supply the wine and charcuterie boards full of fabulous food. Your cost is only \$20.00. **Please RSVP Cathy at deanec77@gmail.com or text her at 616.894-0612. CHEERS LADIES!** You can also order your personalized Ladies of the Lakes wine glass!! Cost for the wine glass will be \$15.00 which must be paid prior to ordering.

Planning ahead...Chili Cookoff/Olympics will be Saturday, November 1st. Details to follow soon 🤔

Updates and Other Stuff:

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

The Fish Plant Committee set a donation goal of \$6,000 for the 2024/2025 fiscal year with the idea that the amount, in addition to the amount from the general fund, will keep 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/donate-to-fish-plant>. You may donate as often as you would like. Here is the current donation total: **August total: \$4255. WOW, WOW, WOW!!!**
More donations=More fish!

Email platform with text messaging: If you have concerns about email communication or you are not receiving them, please contact Faith Peterson at: wclacommunications@gmail.com 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 so you do not miss valuable information and notifications.

DUES CHANGES: The 2025/2026 dues are increasing a small amount to \$50.00. This is due to an increase in the price of everything we need to keep our WCLA community events, insurance, fish plant etc. operating smoothly. Our Board still believes this is 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. PO Box 482 Greenville, MI 48838**

***** The Paid Membership List is attached to every President's Corner and the Waterline editions as a helpful reminder. 😊**

Lake Mapping: When you pay your 2025/2026 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 **AFTER** you pay your dues.

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

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.

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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 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 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!**

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 three times 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 author an article for the Waterline, that would be greatly appreciated!!! **Next Waterline will be in September. Articles need to be sent to Jamie Skinner by September 1st at woodbeckcla@gmail.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 member 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 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!

Officers, Lake Reps and Administrators will be available on the WCLA Website:

<https://woodbeckchainoflakes.com>.

Useful Resources:

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

WCLA email: 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

Kris Ferguson-Secretary: scrambledeggs85@gmail.com

Faith Peterson-Communications Administrator: wclacommunications@gmail.com

Candie Ritsema-Social Director: candieritsema@yahoo.com or 616.835.2488

Chris Decker-VP, Water Sustainability: c_dec@hotmail.com

Mara Iteen-Meal Train Coordinator: lteenmm@yahoo.com or 616.255.6081

Phil and Denise Sliva-Welcome Team, Photo Directory: philsliva@chartermi.net

Wendi Davidson-President: davidsonwendi@gmail.com or 616.799.0412

Officers, Lake Reps and Administrators are 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.

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.

Quote of the Month:

Life is like a bicycle.
To keep your balance,
You must keep moving.

Albert Einstein