

The Waterline

February 14, 2022

The Official Woodbeck Chain of Lakes
Association Newsletter

Volume 44, Issue 1



WCLA President's Corner



Hello Friends and Neighbors,

February is here and as luck would have it, Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow on Groundhog Day indicating we are in for six more weeks of winter! But... before your tears start flowing, there is hope! According to the Groundhog Club's interpretations, Phil's predictions are apparently only right 40% of the time, so....we've got that going for us!

Now, aside from Punxsutawney Phil seeing his shadow, we all know February as the month of LOVE; cupid, Valentine's day, chocolate, roses and all that jazz. That's not me...nope (well maybe the chocolate stuff)! But there are many things I love, including living on these lakes and all the great people I have met here....that's my kind of love. I love all the hard work and dedication the board members, representatives and homeowners on our chain of lakes have been willing to put forth so we can have clean water to swim in, safe waterways to boat on, and enjoyable social get-togethers. We truly have an amazing community and I love it!!

Since I assumed this position September 13th, here are just some of the great things have happened thanks to your board, friends and neighbors:

- Three monthly Social Dinners at different restaurants with another one coming February 22nd at Turk Lake
- A Cornhole/Chili Cook Off event
- The Christmas Dinner Party
- Three Board Meetings with the next one on February 28th at Camp Greenwood
- Two Waterline Editions
- Five monthly President's Corner Editions
- Several "Blasts" reminders
- The Meal Train was formed
- The ByLaws Committee was formed
- The Channels Committee was formed
- The Kid Sledding Party

Additionally, many behind the scenes meetings and much planning has been going on to make sure we can keep our lakes safe and our community enjoyable. **These things don't just happen!** They happen because of individuals who are willing to voluntarily give their time and energy to make sure we all can love where we live. It's not easy but they willingly step up to the plate and then...knock it out of the park! **So, if you love what your board is doing, show a little love and give a shout out this month to your representatives and thank them for all their dedication and hard work because THEY ARE AWESOME!!!**

That's it for now! Spring will be here before we know it!!!

Respectfully,

Wendi Davidson
WCLA President



MEET YOUR LAKE REPRESENTATIVES:

Scott Hutchison – Banks Lake

I met Mindy (my wife) of 29 years in Louisiana. Mindy was raised in Pontiac and retired November of 2020 as a Nurse at Spectrum. I was raised in Grand Blanc and have been selling Real Estate for over 26 years. We both left Michigan in 1981 for career opportunities in Louisiana and met 3 years later in Lafayette Louisiana. In 1995 we decided to move closer to our family's in Michigan. We bought Rydell's house on the channel between Banks and Thomas lakes. The house was a 2 BR, 1 Bath cottage that had been added on several times. Most of the ceilings were only 7' tall and I had to duck through most of the doors in the home. We were originally going to flip it, but after adding on 5 times ourselves and making so many friends on the lake we decided to stay. We really enjoy living in this community of five lakes.



Scott & Mindy Hutchison

Ron Trumble – Banks Lake

Maureen and I have moved full time to the lake from Ada eight years ago although we have been on the lakes since 2001. I'm retired from Amway and currently CEO of spending money from our savings. We have two married daughters and four grandchildren, three boys and one girl. We enjoy spring, summer and fall in west Michigan and have our families visit regularly with us during the summer for boating and swimming. Our winter months are spent in warmer climates.



Ron and Maureen Trumble

Ed Armbruster - Banks Lake

My wife Bobby and I moved to Banks Lake from Grand Rapids in August 2018. I have been a board member ever since. I retired as an engineer from GE Aviation after a 39-year career. We left the hustle and bustle of GR to fulfil our dream of living on a lake. We have been fortunate to meet many new friends while enjoying the many events that the Lake Association has offered.

We both have other activities that keep us busy. I like to fish, golf, bike and work on various projects around the house. Bobby likes kayaking, gardening, and acrylic painting. We both enjoy hiking, skiing out west, traveling, and cruising our lakes on our pontoon boat.

We have two daughters and 3 grandsons and a fourth grandson on the way. They live nearby and enjoy our fun lakes during their visits.



Ed and Bobby Armbruster

Meet Your Lake Reps Continued.....

Phil Sliva – Horseshoe Lake

It is hard to believe it was 2003 that Denise and I built our house on Horseshoe Lake! We obviously love being here as I have never lived in 1 house this long. My wife and I both grew up on the east side of Michigan and met while I was in school at the University of Detroit. We were married while we were both in college and moved to Cincinnati where I worked for Procter and Gamble as a research scientist formulating products like Tide, Cheer, Dawn and Ivory. While in Cincinnati Denise completed her degree at the University of Cincinnati and taught High School.



Phil and Denise Sliva

In 1994 Amway lured me to join them as a formulation chemist where I am responsible for their home care and oral care products. After a long career, this year marks a new milestone as I retire in April. I am looking forward to having more time on the lake and seeing family. We have 2 children: Shannon (Ryan) - lives in Colorado and Katie (Chris) - lives in Lowell. We also have 2 grandchildren (Kelsey and Kyle) living in Colorado as well.

If you are out on Horseshoe Lake in warmer weather you will often see Denise and I on our deck. We tell people you will recognize our place as the one with all the ramps. If you see us, please introduce yourselves - maybe even stop up for a cold beverage and conversation. As a homebrewer there is always a “cold one” waiting.

Cathy Schrauben – Half Mile Lake

My husband Nick and I moved up to Half Mile Lake full time in 2004. He is originally from Portland (MI) and I am from Grand Rapids. Nick’s family has had a cottage on Half Mile Lake since the early 1960’s and he’s always loved the area. When we met – I fell in love with the area too and we quickly decided to make it home.



Cathy and Nick Schrauben

Nick and I have four kids between us and now 11 grandkids! – all of whom enjoy the lakes and all our WCLA community offers. I retired from the nonprofit world and Nick from the flooring business but we both continue to work part time - for now. It won’t be long and we’ll be joining our family and neighbors wintering in Florida as fellow snow birds!

Meet your Lake Representatives is a new feature of your Waterline intended to introduce you to the faces behind the names you see every issue. Several Representatives will be featured each Quarter from one or more lakes.

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HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?

WELCOME LAKESIDE PERENNIAL FARM!!

We are excited to announce the opening of Lakeside Perennial Farm this spring! After a year of planning and working to get the land cleared, irrigation system in, plant beds ready and 100's of baby plants started we are planning to hold our first sale Memorial Day Weekend. We are located on the westside of Half Mile Lake (next to Camp Concordia) off of Pinewood St., licensed and inspected by the State of Michigan.

For more information follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Lakeside-Perennials>. Or email us at: lakesideperennial@gmail.com

Marilyn & Bruce Klemm

IN FROM CAMP GREENWOOD!!

Camp Greenwood has been purchased by the Greenwood Ministries Association and will remain a part of this community for years to come! We want to thank everyone who has supported us through this transition with their donations, prayers, volunteer hours, and encouragement. We are very excited to share this happy time with you and look forward to strengthening our relationship with our immediate neighbors and lake residents.

We are always planning for summer and registration is open, but we are also introducing several spring events that are open to the community. We would love to see you and your family come and participate with us. We are hoping to also plan some events in the fall, so keep tabs on our social media and website updates!

| | | |
|-----------|----------------------|--|
| April 1-2 | Elementary Shut-In | Ages 8-11 Overnight Fun! Register online. |
| April 8 | Community Owl Prowl | 10-11 pm Search for migrating owls at night |
| TBD | Maple Syrup Fest | See the syrup-making process and grab a taste directly from Camp Greenwood Maples! |
| April 23 | Volunteer Work Day | Help us get Camp ready for summer 2022! |
| May 14 | Volunteer Work Day 2 | |

As Always, Camp Greenwood Forever!

Jake Dayringer, Camp Director
Krista Botting, Assistant Camp Director



"Have you heard the News?" is a new feature of the Waterline! Do you have news to share that involves or interests our Lake Community? Contact Cathy at cathy.schrauben@gmail.com to get your news in!!

MEET RUTHANNE & JON KOHN!

Ruthanne and Jon live on Thomas Lake. I KNOW you've seen these two out and about because they LOVE TO FISH! In all kinds of weather – it's doesn't even matter if it's winter!! But you will almost ALWAYS find them out fishing together – trying to see who might get the biggest fish!! LOL! Talk about competitive!!

Ruthanne met Jon on line. About to give up on the “on-line dating scene” – Ruthanne was getting ready to delete that account when Jon messaged her. He seemed nice so she gave him a shot. They started dating and all was going good until her phone got fried in the hot sun on the beach at Lake Michigan one hot summer day – and she lost his contact info!! Well, Jon found her on line again and the rest is history!

Married now for 7 years – Jon and Ruthanne have three girls – Jon one and Ruthanne two. Jon's daughter Felicia lives in Chicago and just had a beautiful baby girl – making them Grandparents for the first time! Ruthanne's oldest, Madison - lives in Grand Rapid and works in Sparta. Her youngest, Jaden lives with them and is a sophomore this year at Greenville High School. She plays volleyball, basketball and runs track!

Jon was very familiar with our lakes and spent a lot of time out here with a friend of his Doug Herring (Woodbeck Lake) fishing. He fell in love with the lakes and decided he wanted to be here full time so he started looking. It took about three years for him to find the house they bought. What they love best is having access to all the lakes, the social events big or small, and how everyone is so friendly and helpful!! They love the community vibe, the people and the beauty of our lakes!!

Ruthanne says one of the big highlights for her was when she caught a 24” walleye!!! Only took her 4 years but it was worth the wait, wasn't it Ruthanne???



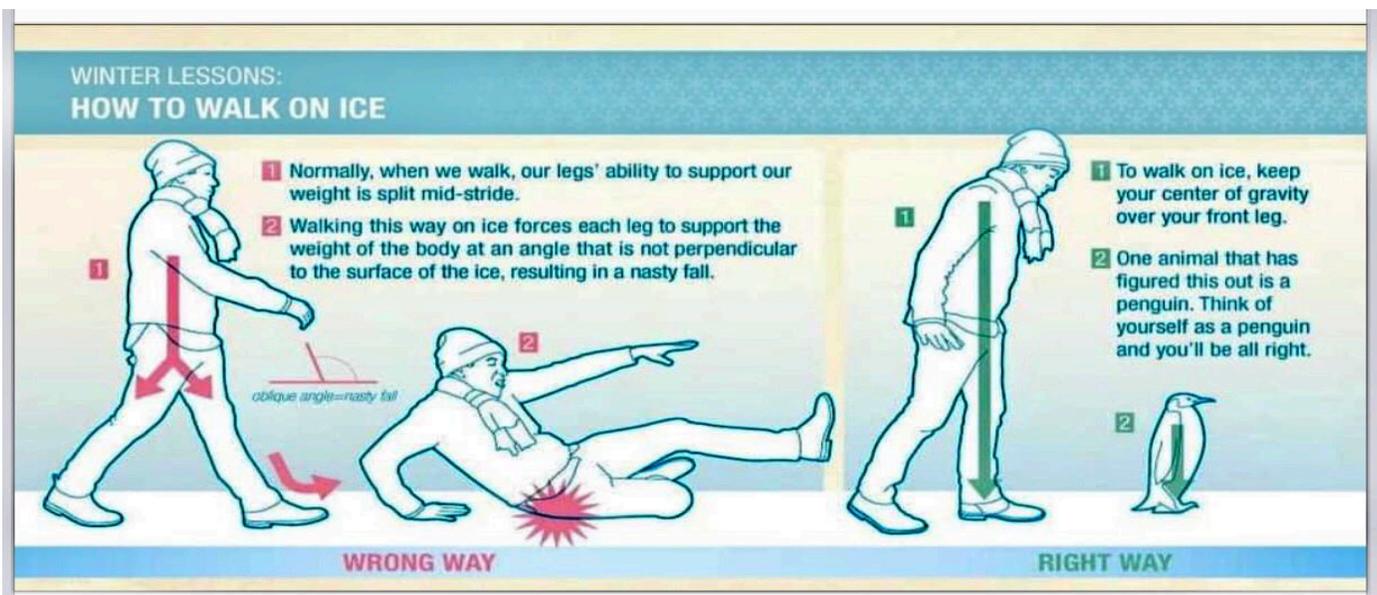
PRACTICING SAFETY ON THE ICE!!!

With winter comes ice – and with our lakes – that means WINTER FUN – RIGHT?? Right!
But practicing safety on the water when it's frozen is not only smart – it could save your life and your loved ones!!! Rules to know and follow:

1. Know if the ice is thick enough to be safe. Rule of thumb:
 - a. Clear ice with bluish tint and 4" thick is safe to walk on.
 - b. Beware of lakes with water around the edges. It's not safe.
 - c. Stay off ice with slush on top – it is not safe.
 - d. Ice should be 6" or more for a snowmobile.
 - e. Never go through a channel. Inflows and Outflows may NEVER totally freeze.
2. Always have someone with you! Never go out alone.
3. Keep a cell phone on you and keep it charged in a waterproof case.
4. Keep ice picks or claws on your belt or snowsuit. These will be necessary if you fall through the ice and need to grab a hold of it to pull yourself out.
5. IF YOU FALL THROUGH THE ICE:
 - a. Remain Calm – do not panic. Propel yourself to the top of the water.
 - b. Force your ice picks into the ice while stabilizing your body horizontally.
 - c. Pull yourself out of the water. Resist the urge to stand up because you may fall again.
 - d. Get away from the hole by rolling away.
 - e. Call for help immediately. If you had your people with you – they are already calling for help.

REMEMBER: Always let others know where you and your group are going to be and how long you plan on being gone! And be mindful of the weather before you head out -know if conditions are such that they could change quickly.

NO ICE IS EVER 100% SAFE EVER – IN MICHIGAN OR ANYWHERE. BE PREPARED



FIRST EVER – CHILI COOKOFF/CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT!!!

The FIRST EVER Chili cook off/ corn hole tournament is in the books!!! It was a SPECTACULAR Saturday with family and friends – who got to enjoy 27 crockpots FILLED TO THE BRIM with some of the BEST CHILI you've EVER tasted!!! IF you missed this one folks – you missed a REAL TREAT!

Norm and Wendi hosted at their beautiful home on the peninsula oasis between Half Mile Lake and Thomas Lake. The corn hole tournament had so many participants we had to divide into two groups – and there was room for all. Thank you Wendi & Norm!!

Chili cook off winners:

Ron & Deb Eaton; Tim & Kristie Lind; Tim & Josalyn Jones

50/50 winner:

Joy Walthorn (\$210 in her pocket!!)

Corn hole winners: Group 1:

1st place: Grant & Jason

2nd place: Bob Post & Beth Wingler

3rd place: Mark & Mara Iteen

Group 2:

1st place: Chris & Andrea Belding

2nd place: Bruce & Terri Veldman

3rd place: Jim & Pam Swigart



WCLA 2021 CHRISTMAS PARTY AT WINTER INN

WCLA's 2021 Christmas party started with a visit from Santa...he had to find out who'd been naughty and who'd been nice!! And boy did he get an ear full! It was a Grand time at the Winter Inn for all who attended the Annual Christmas festivities...delicious food, awesome staff, and great lake friends celebrating our last lake event of the year.

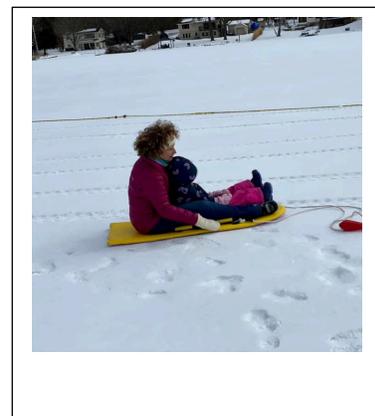
Nan Holmes did a *fabulous job* coordinating this event (again!). Carol won the 50/50 raffle and took home \$112!! Hmmm not bad for some Christmas Cheer!



WCLA's 2022 KID SLEDDING PARTY

It was a *freezing cold day* this past Saturday, but it sure didn't stop these kiddo's from having a blast with their parents and friends!! Hot coco and cookies kept them going and they loved slipping and sliding around the ice – pulled by quads and sailing down the hill!!

A big thanks to Kevin and Carol Bird for hosting and volunteering their home and hill! And Wendi Davidson, Kris Keane Ferguson and Jamie Badgerow – and all the rest for pulling it all together. It was a first for the WCLA and we hope an annual event!!



**2021 – 2022
WCLA OFFICERS AND LAKE
REPRESENTATIVES**

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| Event Coordinator | Nan Holmes | 616-213-8247 | holmes.nanette@gmail.com |

FIVE LAKES - ONE COMMUNITY

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Attn: Woodbeck Chain of Lakes business owners

Advertise your business in our Waterline, starting at \$35 for 4 issues- business card Ad - Send check & business card to
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Lakeside
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Owner: Marilyn Klemm
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