

The Waterline

May 18, 2022

The Official Woodbeck Chain of Lakes
Association Newsletter

Volume 44, Issue 2



WCLA President's Corner



Hello Friends and Neighbors...Mother Nature gave us a great lesson in patience didn't she! We thought warm weather would never arrive but she has rewarded our patience with some amazingly beautiful days. I hope you are all enjoying them. Time for boat rides and sunsets.

I won't take up much space this month as Cathy has put together another fantastic and educational Waterline for you. I have just a couple updates for you below. But... because I said I would try to give you a healthy recipe each month, I decided this month it should be a focus on our mental health instead of our physical health. After the updates, I have included

a few inspirational quotes that you might find helpful when you are struggling for one reason or another. Getting out of a "funk" can be challenging and makes staying healthy very difficult at times. Trust me...I know. So be kind to yourself, be kind to each other...life is too short not to.

I posted last month that reflectors would be added to the channel between Banks and Thomas Lakes...that was a mistake...yes.... I make them. There were some concerns voiced over association liability and what we actually have the right to do.... signs, reflectors etc. Therefore, no signs or reflectors will be placed there. PLM will continue to monitor all the channels and lakes and will let us know if there is anything they think we need to be concerned with. They do a great job with managing our lakes so we're going to leave it to the experts.

Second thing...**we are extending our offer to reimburse kids and GRANDKIDS with a \$15.00 Amazon card if they take a boaters safety class and submit proof to me by JULY 1st.** Just another way to help keep our lakes safe. Please encourage and support your kids and grandkids to do this...we'll all thank you! Send proof to: davidsonwendi@gmail.com

Some healthy recipes for taking care of your inner you:

INVEST your time and energy where it feels right for you. CHOOSE to focus on experiences that are life sustaining, not life draining. Author Unknown

You are not responsible for the versions of you that exist in other people's minds. Author Unknown

We don't know what tomorrow is going to bring and the only thing we really have is right now. So, don't stay mad for too long. Learn to forgive. Love with all your heart. Have fun. Live your life the way you want to live it. Don't worry about people that don't like you. Enjoy the ones who do. Author Unknown

That's all for now!

Respectfully,

Wendi Davidson

SUMMER & FALL FUN WITH YOUR WCLA!!
Check out the fun ahead and join us for upcoming events!!!

WCLA Calendar May – December 2022

May 2022

Tuesday 24th: Social Dinner at El Rancho Mexican Grill & Bar

June 2022

Saturday 4th: Pancake Breakfast at Camp Greenwood 8-11 am

Monday 20th: Social Dinner at Hop Hog Restaurant

Saturday 25th: Jim & Karen Wolthuis -Welcome to the Lake/Joint Retirement- (Not a WCLA event)

July 2022

Saturday 2nd: Elvis Party-(Not a WCLA event)

Monday 4th: Boat Parade

Monday 11th: WCLA Board Meeting

Saturday 23rd: Kayak-Poker Run

Monday 18th: Social Dinner at Candlestone-Water Tower Bar & Grille

Saturday 30th: Golf Outing – TBD

August 2022

Sunday 7th: Kids/Family Fun Day?

Saturday 20th: Horseshoe Lake Party-Maxon's & Petersen's (Not a WCLA event)

Saturday 27th: Annual Meeting with election of Representatives – Camp Concordia

September 2022

Tuesday 12th: Social Dinner Location TBD

Tuesday 19th: WCLA Board Meeting with election of Officers

Social Dinner Date TBD

October 2022

Saturday-Sunday 1st to 2nd: Plant Sharing Sale?

Saturday 29th: Halloween Party Location TBD

November 2022

Saturday 5th: Cornhole/Chili Cookoff

Monday 14th: WCLA Board Meeting

Thursday 17th: Social Dinner Location TBD

December 2022

Saturday 3rd: Christmas Party Location TB

Saturday 10th or Sunday 11th: Cookie Exchange?

SUMMER IS HERE!!

**Summer is here – and so is a reminder to all Lake Residents to KNOW and FOLLOW all Boaters Safety LAWS and REGULATIONS on our Lakes!
Knowing the LAW is YOUR responsibility!!**

COMMON BOATING LAWS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. **PERSONS UNDER 12 MAY ONLY OPERATE A BOAT** with 6 horsepower or less.
2. **PERSONS 12 AND OVER** may operate a boat with a motor of 6 horsepower or more – but no greater than 35 horsepower IF:
 - a. They have been issued a boating certificate (keep it on board), and;
 - b. Are directly supervised by a person 16 years of age or older.
 - c. They may not operate any boat powered by over 35 horsepower motor.
3. **PERSONS BORN on or after July 1, 1996** – may only operate a boat legally if they have been issued a boating safety certificate (keep it on board).
4. **PERSONS BORN before July 1, 1996 may operate a boat without a boaters safety certificate.**

Personal Watercraft (PWC)

5. **PERSONS UNDER 14** may not legally operate a PWC.
6. **PERSONS 14 and 15** may operate a PWC legally only if they have obtained a boating safety certificate and...
 - a. He or she is accompanied on board by his or her parent or legal guardian or by a person at least 21 years of age who has been designated by the parent or legal guardian or...
 - b. He or she is operating or riding the PWC, at a distance of not more than 100 feet from his or her parent or legal guardian or from a person at least 21 years of age who has been designated by the parent or legal guardian.
7. **PERSONS 16 years of age WHO WERE born after December 31, 1978** may operate a PWC legally only if they have obtained a boating safety certificate.
8. **PERSONS born on or before December 31, 1978 may operate a PWC** legally without a boaters safety certificate.

Unlawful and Dangerous Operation

Michigan law designates these dangerous operating practices as illegal.

Reckless Operation of a vessel or reckless manipulation of water skis, a surfboard, or similar device is defined as operation which disregards the safety or rights of others or endangers the person or property of others.

Some examples are:

- Weaving your vessel through congested waterway traffic or swerving at the last possible moment in order to avoid collision
- Jumping the wake of another vessel unnecessarily close to the other vessel or when visibility around the other vessel is restricted
- Chasing, harassing, or disturbing wildlife with your vessel
- Causing damage from the wake of your vessel

COMMON BOATING LAWS AND RESPONSIBILITIES cont.....

Failure To Regulate Speed is operating a vessel at speeds that may cause danger to life or property of any other person or at speeds that will not permit you to bring your vessel to a safe stop. It is illegal to operate a vessel:

- In excess of 55 mph unless you are at least one mile offshore on the Great Lakes or Lake St. Clair
- At greater than “slow, no wake speed” when a person is in the bow of a vessel without proper seating
- Faster than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions (weather, vessel traffic, etc.)

Improper Distance is not maintaining a proper distance while operating a vessel or towing a person. To maintain a proper distance when you are operating at greater than “slow, no wake speed” (except in channels that are not posted), the vessel or persons being towed must not be within 100 feet of:

- A shoreline (if operating in water less than three feet deep)
- Any moored or anchored vessel
- A dock or raft

Requirements Specific for PWCs

- Each person riding on or being towed behind a PWC must wear a U.S. Coast Guard–approved wearable Type I, II, or III PFD. Inflatable PFDs may not be used.
- You may not allow a child under 7 years of age to ride on or be towed behind a PWC unless with a parent or guardian or designee of the parent or guardian.
- The lanyard of a PWC's ignition safety switch must be attached to the person, clothing, or PFD of the operator.

It is illegal to operate a PWC during the period that begins at sunset and ends at 8:00 a.m. “Sunset” means that time determined by the national weather service.

PWCs must be operated in a reasonable and prudent manner at all times. It is illegal to:

- Jump the wake of another vessel unnecessarily close to the other vessel.
- Weave your PWC through congested traffic.
- Swerve at the last possible moment to avoid collision.
- A PWC must be operated at “slow, no wake speed” if crossing within 150 feet behind another vessel unless the other vessel is also a PWC.
- You may not operate a PWC within 200 feet of a Great Lakes shoreline unless traveling at “slow, no wake speed” perpendicular to the shoreline.
- You may not operate a PWC in waters less than two feet deep unless you are operating at “slow, no wake speed” or are docking or launching your PWC.
- It is illegal to harass wildlife or disturb aquatic vegetation with your PWC.

The Handbook of Michigan Boating Laws & Responsibilities can be found here: <https://assets.kalkomey.com/boater/pdfs/handbook/michigan-handbook-entire.pdf>

Boater Courtesy

Along with State Boating Laws and Responsibilities comes Common Boating Courtesy. While these are not laws - they are common courtesy's we appreciate all members following:

1. Be mindful when Launching:

- a. **Proper launching and docking techniques are essential knowledge for any watercraft owner.** Knowing your launch area, keep the process efficient and courteous to other boaters, and practice safety to keep people and property safe!

2. Watch the Activity on the Lakes:

- a. When the lakes are very busy with activity, consider waiting to water ski, jet ski or even boat until there is less activity.
- b. Boat counter-clockwise so as to avoid any confusion!
- a. **Channels can be shallow or have trees & limbs in the bottom!! Always pay attention to where your boat is at all times** through all channels!! WCLA is not responsible for damages occurring to your vessel should you hit anything in the channel.

2. Watch the Wake:

- a. While you're blissfully cruising away, your vessel is kicking up waves, otherwise known as wake. Those waves might be fun if you're a surfer or a wake boarder, but for other boaters, they can be annoying and potentially even dangerous — a speeding vessel's wake may cause damage to other boats and even injure passengers. It's important to be mindful of the wake your boat creates, particularly if other boats are nearby!
- b. **Stay away from shore if creating wake!** This is causing terrible erosion to our shorelines and seawalls. Be mindful of the destruction your wake can cause.
- c. **Never go through a channel with a wake.**

3. Keep it Clean:

- a. **Be careful when refueling not to spill into the water. Check fuel lines and tanks and have a spill kit on hand.**
- b. **Never, ever throw your trash into the water. (It's also helpful to pick up any other trash you may see, particularly in the water.) Collect it and dispose of it properly when you're shoreside.**

REMEMBER - YOU are legally responsible for any damage caused by you, your boat or guests to any person(s) or property!

The Handbook of Michigan Boating Laws & Responsibilities can be found here: <https://assets.kalkomey.com/boater/pdfs/handbook/michigan-handbook-entire.pdf>

We can all have a happy, SAFE summer if you follow common courtesy while on the lakes.

FUN ON THE LAKES!!!

(SEND US YOUR PICTURES!!)



Jeff Ferguson caught this gigantic bass on Woodbeck lake 5/15/22!!



Winter Fun with the Birds on Banks in February 2022



Progressive Kayak Event back in 2020!!



Bufflehead Ducks! ~ On Horseshoe Lake
Courtesy of Terri Veldman



4th of July Parade 2021



Party on Woodbeck with Elvis 2021

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Contact us: Email: woodbeckchainoflakesmi@gmail.com

Phone: 616-894-0938



MEET YOUR LAKE REPRESENTATIVES:

Bob Darvill – Horseshoe Lake

Meet Bob! Bob grew up in Benton Harbor and graduated from Western Michigan with a degree in Business. He spent 14 months in Vietnam as a field medic. After the war, he sold medical equipment for 10 years before becoming a Real Estate Appraiser – which he did for 25+ years.

Bob met his wife Karin later in life. He will tell you that he was very picky and it took that long to finally find “the love of my life”! Bob (who lived on Eagle Lake near Kalamazoo at the time) and Karin (who was living on Horseshoe Lake and had for 20 years!) were married in 2012.



Bob has been active with the WCL Association for many years. Over the past 4-5 years he has been our contact and liaison with PLM Lake & Land Management Corp. Bob – along with Don Hoogerhyde and others - are actively involved on WCLA Lake Quality Committee. These phenomenal folks help assess the quality of our lakes by keeping a close eye out for invasive weeds, beavers and other damages that occur on our lakes - year around. If you have questions regarding our Lakes and the Quality of them – or even on weed control – Bob and/or Don are the guys to ask!!!

Chris Decker – Half Mile Lake

Chris and Ann Decker have lived on Half Mile Lake for 18 years. They are very excited to raise their kids here. Their youngest kid, Teague, attends Greenville Middle School and will join their oldest, Nora, in Greenville High School during the next school year. Their two dogs excitedly welcome anyone walking down Oakcrest Avenue as they pass by. Chris works in consulting and Ann works at United Hospital in Greenville. Nora has just started her first job at the local ice cream shop, Charley’s.



For fun, they spend time at the pool with family and friends. They also enjoy traveling around the US. Recently they have been to Texas and Florida to visit family. Involvement with Assumption BVM church in Belmont keeps the family busy a couple nights a week. The Decker’s are looking forward to seeing everyone on the lake this summer!

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.

MEET GLORIA (and David) GIBSON!

We've all heard from and seen posts by Gloria – right?! But do you know the real lady behind all the work she does for us and the Association?? Probably not! Well, hunker down and check out GLORIA'S story in her own words!!



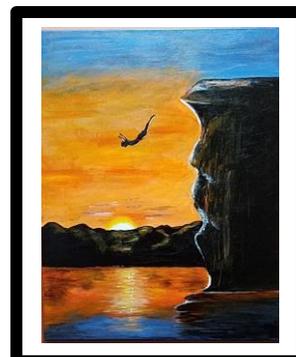
Want to know a little about Gloria Gibson...

Gloria was born and raised in sunny southern California (Los Angeles) and met her Belding, MI husband while working together in California. David, a Belding boy, graduated from Western Michigan University with a BS, packed up his bags and headed to the West Coast for employment. David's profession for 25 years was that of a Manufacture Plant manager of centrifugal pumps and retired at the age of 55 while Gloria continued working as an Executive Assistant for 3 vice presidents of a large corporation. Working long hours, paying high taxes, traffic getting worse day by day, they soon realized it was time for a change. But that change meant leaving her large family behind... Gloria has 5 brothers and 1 sister and now has over 45 nephews, nieces and most recently, some great-nephews and nieces were born which she has not seen, but plans to soon.

In August 2001 they packed up their bags, sold their properties in CA, and ventured to the Gibson family farm in Belding, MI. There they planned their next move, which had to include a lake...they toured around 75 homes up and down Michigan, ventured out to a few other states to check out the real estate market, but kept coming back to MI. Eventually they read an ad in the local newspaper that read "VACATION YEAR-ROUND", it caught their eye and the rest is history. Woodbeck Chain of Lakes became their home in 2002.

Gloria and David, having no family or friends in MI quickly got involved in the Woodbeck Chain of Lakes Assn and Gloria changed her profession and became a real estate agent. She was a real estate agent for over 15 years and retired 6 years ago. David was president of the Association for 7 years; Gloria was treasurer and secretary for many years too. Both have been involved as volunteers for this Association and have made this lake community their family. Real estate also provided her many new friends, clients and long-lasting loving friendships. In addition, Gloria continues to volunteer her services to this Association and currently handles all memberships, sends out all email blasts, updates our WCLA website, FB page, Instagram, takes photos for the Waterline Newsletter and much, much more. She recently stepped down from publishing the Waterline Newsletter after 15+ years!! Cathy Schrauben is now the Waterline publisher and Gloria is so happy to have finally transfer that baton!

David and Gloria will be celebrating 34 years of marriage on May 28th! David's passion is fishing, and poker. Gloria loves to read, boating with friends, loves her girl time with her girlfriends, enjoys playing Texas Hold'Um and due to the Covid-19 pandemic quarantine, acquired a new passion... painting, using acrylic paint. She taught herself on-line with tutorials and now spends hours painting enjoying this new found passion!!! But all this would not have been possible if they were not blessed to have awesome neighbors!! They all look after each other, have great times together and the Gibson's call them their closest friends!!



Just a few of Gloria's paintings!!

HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?

Marilyn & Bruce Klemm purchased the property on Half Mile Lake south of Camp Cordia back about 5 years ago. Here's their story about how Lakeside Perennials came to be!

We have called the Greenville area home for the last 27 years. While we have moved several times since being in Greenville - the move to Half Mile Lake five years ago has been one of our most favorite places to call home. Our family - three daughters and spouses, along with six grandchildren - enjoy coming home to all the lake property has to offer. We are so blessed!

The idea to start a perennial farm was launched in the middle of the winter 2021, and from there it was all about networking and researching. A lot of work has gone into site preparation, an irrigation system, starting plants, keeping them alive and dealing with the unpredictable weather. The perennial selection is largely focused on Hostas and companion shade plants with plans to add native Michigan wildflowers to the mix. One of our reasons for starting the perennial farm is that our property is home to hundreds of native wild lupines that thrive in the sandy soil.

We are open by appointment which can be scheduled on our Facebook page: Lakeside Perennials or message me to come out and visit. Our long and narrow driveway through the woods doesn't allow for two-way traffic but you can also stop by the dock if you're on the lake!

Marilyn & Bruce Klemm



For more information on Lakeside Perennials see their sponsored ad on page 13



"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!!



Hello Greenwood Friends and Family,

Are you looking for a summer job? Do you know a recent graduate? Do you know someone who loves working with kids? Camp Greenwood is hiring and needs female counselors for Summer 2022!! Apply Today!

As Always,
Camp Greenwood Forever!

Jake Dayringer
Camp Greenwood Director



Phone: 616-754-7258

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**2021 – 2022
WCLA OFFICERS AND LAKE
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Event Coordinator	Nan Holmes	616-213-8247	holmes.nanette@gmail.com

FIVE LAKES - ONE COMMUNITY

See our local business Ads
WCLA SPONSORS - PAID ADVERTISING

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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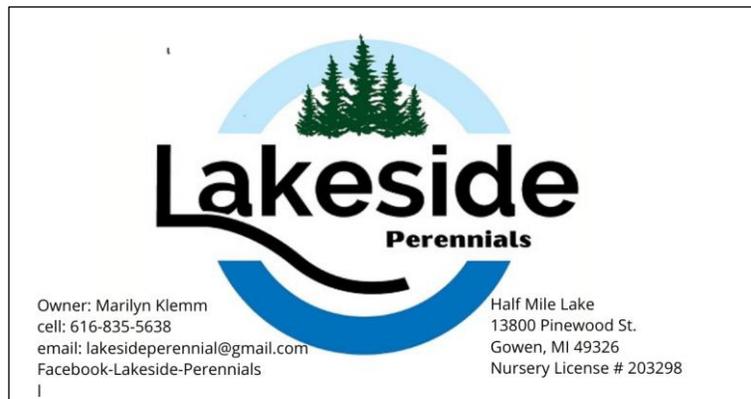
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- Window Cleaning



Note from Joe & Kathi Jablonski, Horseshoe Lake...Joe & Kathi recently had their house "washed" and hired Platinum Property Solutions. Joe states "I usually don't easily recommend, but these guys did a great job and did some extras that were not part of the initial quote - just because it was the right way to do the job - I would like others on our lakes to know about them" ... so there you go folks!



Attn Lake Resident...Lakeside Perennials is now open – by appointment only! If you remember where Gerry & Mary Malling lived, next door to Camp Concordia, that is where Lakeside Perennials is located. It's a private road & private property. That is why appointments will be required. Please see Lakeside Perennials FB page to book a time and see what they have available. Their FB link is noted below.

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Lakeside-Perennials/100066664065818/>

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Contact us: Email: woodbeckchainoflakesmi@gmail.com

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