

WCLA PRESIDENT'S CORNER

June 13, 2024

Hello Friends and Neighbors,

BOOM! Brace yourselves because Mother Nature is about to hit us like Mohammad Ali throwing a knockout punch to Sonny Liston! She's bringing on the 90's and I'm not talking Madonna's golden music years! I'm talking HEAT, HEAT, HEAT! The 90-degree temperatures are coming and for those of you who like it HOT, you're in for a treat. The rest of us need to remember to stay hydrated and use that sunscreen so you don't fry like an egg (that's not pretty). There is so much to enjoy this time of the year whether it's a lake association event, a family fun weekend, a boat ride and barbeque with friends or just relaxing in the sunshine on the lakes; it's all there for your taking. I have to remind myself sometimes to SLOW DOWN and just enjoy it.



I have recently been inspired by the amazing beauty that surrounds us on a daily basis and that we frequently take for granted. Because of this, I have taken up a new hobby...photography! Mind you, I am probably one of the worst "picture takers" you'll ever meet so this is definitely a stretch for me. However, I have been attempting to capture some of Mother Nature's gifts on film. I'm clearly still learning but I'm going to share some of the pictures with you in the President's Corner each month. I'm no Sam Hazell (look him up) but I'm almost ready for a real camera and I want a big, powerful lens (who doesn't?!). Does that mean I'm growing up or growing old...? Either way, I encourage you to find your inspiration, go with it and see what happens this summer. You have nothing to lose!

Read on because this issue is PACKED with information you don't want to miss!
That's all for now!

Kindly,
Wendi Davidson
WCLA President

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

Past Events:

May Social Dinner was another big success with around **30 people** sharing an evening of great food and fun! Although I was not there due to illness, many of you were and I'm told it was a great evening.

Ladies of The Lakes Wine and Charcuterie Night. Thank you, Josalyn Jones, for hosting a spectacular evening with almost **40, YES 40 women** enjoying each other's company along with sampling fantastic wines and food. Ladies, keep the good times rolling! See below for the next one, **CHEERS!**

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The Pancake Breakfast at Camp Greenwood was extremely well attended by many families this year. Around **70 people** took advantage of the breakfast and enjoyed the company of many lake friends. Thank you to Caroline the Cook, Chris and Anne Decker, Don and Lois Hoogerhyde, Bruce Veldman and of course Nan Holmes for volunteering their time to make it such a successful and enjoyable event with fabulous breakfast food! Also, a big thanks to Caroline's husband for saving the day with his outdoor griddle. Kind of like Superman!! Kris and Jeff Ferguson won the 50/50 raffle of \$93! Way to go Ferguson's 😊

Upcoming Events:

HOW MUCH FUN CAN ONE LAKE ASSOCIATION HAVE??? A LOT!!! 😊

WCLA GOLF OUTING: This event filled up fast and is happening as you read this on June 15th. Results to follow in the July President's Corner.

Ladies of The Lakes Wine and Charcuterie Night: Coming up FAST: Thursday, June 20 at 6pm. Laurie Acker is graciously hosting this fun gathering for the ladies at her beautiful home on Horseshoe Lake: 13084 Horseshoe Lake Ct. She will supply a surprise wine variety and a tasty charcuterie board. If you're not a wine drinker, come anyway! It's all about getting to know the Ladies of The Lakes (that's YOU)! **The cost is \$20.00 per person. Please RSVP Laurie SOON at 231 250-9714.** We hope to have a sample of the personalized wine glass you can pre-order that night!! Cost will be approximately \$20.00 which must be paid prior to ordering. **CHEERS LADIES!**

June Social Dinner: Monday, June 24th at the beautiful Links of Bowen. Join us at 6:00 pm. Sit back and relax, it's all about fun and friends and we will have a lot of both! Everyone is welcome to come!! **RSVP Candie at candieritsema@yahoo.com or text her at 616 835-2488.**

HEADS UP FOR JULY EVENTS:

Elvis will be in the house on July 6th at 2pm on Woodbeck Lake. This is not a WCLA event but all are welcome to float in the water and enjoy the show. It's always a fun time!

Boat Parade on Saturday, July 6th at 10am. Decorate your boats and enter the competition!! The best decorated boat from each side of the bridge will **win a \$50 Amazon gift card!** You must register your boat ahead of time by texting Wendi at 616 799-0412. More information to follow soon!

We have not received any fireworks dates. If you know when they will happen on your lakes, please let Angie Peterman know so we can share with the community. Text her at 616 213-9252.

Board Meeting on Monday, July 8th at 6:30 pm. Norm and Wendi Davidson's house: 13337 Oakcrest, Gowen

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Ladies of the Lakes Wine and Charcuterie Night: Friday, July 12th at 6pm. This one will be hosted by our beautiful friend Kate Wassenaar at her home on Woodbeck Lake: 12590 Point Dr. \$20.00 per person and RSVP Kate at 616 292-1690. This is becoming a favorite event for all the fabulous Ladies of The Lakes! **CHEERS!**

Bridge Townhall Meeting: Please plan to attend a Woodbeck Chain of Lakes Community-wide informational meeting at 11:00 am on Saturday, July 13 in the Oakfield Township Hall at 10300 14 Mile Road. **The meeting will include a brief presentation by an informal Group of Community members regarding the MacClain Street Bridge and how we can improve passage under the Bridge to better connect our community.** The Group recently presented their "pre-work" to the Association Board and received support to hold a townhall type of meeting. The goal is to have a completely transparent process and gather input from the Community. Please plan to attend and participate in the Q & A session.

See the Calendar of Events below for more events through September.

Other Stuff:

REMEMBER TO VOTE: August 6th in the Oakfield Primary Election for the Oakfield Township Supervisor. **Two candidates will be running this year; Greg Dean and Dar Kelly. Whoever wins this election will be the new Township Supervisor.** Our Lake Association and Board work closely with both Oakfield and Spencer Township. Your vote is very important so get out there and vote, vote, vote!



From: Don Hoogerhyde - Fish Plant Committee

Smallmouth Bass Catch and Release

500 Smallmouth Bass, between 5-7" were planted in our lakes two years ago. Our Smallmouth Bass should now be approaching their reproduction and legal possession size of 14". Our goal is to have Smallmouth Bass reproduce naturally in our lakes, so we are asking that **all Smallmouth Bass be released** to reproduce and fight again. Take a picture before releasing your Smallmouth Bass and text it to me at 616-990-8687. Thanks for your help!

Additionally, there will be one walleye plant this fall. More information to follow.

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Camp Greenwood destruction of property: The camp has been experiencing an increase in property destruction this spring. If you witness any destruction, please notify Jake Dayringer at 989 330-1204.

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. The native plants are only "knocked down" not treated systemically so their root systems remain intact. We believe PLM is on top of the treatment our lakes need at this time.

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!

Open Treasurer Position. Bruce Veldman will be stepping down in September after many years of exceptional service to the WCLA. **So, if you have just a couple extra hours a month** and a little accounting/bookkeeping experience and would like to be a part of our wonderful Board, please contact Bruce. He will be happy to go over his responsibilities with you before you make a decision. Of note, the Treasurer will be voted in at the September Board meeting. Contact Bruce at 616 826-4844 or bruceveldman@gmail.com if interested.

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.

IT'S SUMMER! DID YOU REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR DUES??? 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. PLEASE DOUBLE CHECK 😊

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!**

CONGRATULATION to Jessie Hollenbeck for completing the Boater's Safety Course! One more awesome, responsible young boater on our lakes! **Way to go Jessie!!**

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WCLA Photo Directory: WHO IS THAT PERSON?? WHICH HOUSE IS THEIRS??? 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

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.**

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.

HMMMM...what's going on? Perhaps you have 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!

Officers, Lake Reps and Administrators for the 2024 year will be available on the WCLA Website: <https://woodbeckchainoflakes.com>.

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

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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/>

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:

June 15th: WCLA Golf Outing
 June 20th: Ladies of The Lakes Wine Nite
 June 24th: Social Dinner: Links of Bowen
 July: Fireworks????
 July 6th: Elvis In the House (not a WCLA event)
 July 6th: Boat Parade
 July 8th: Board Meeting 6:30 pm: Davidson's
 July 12th: Ladies of The Lakes Wine Nite
 July 13th: Bridge Townhall Meeting
 July 15th: Social Dinner TBD
 August 3rd: Poker Kayak Run and Band to follow
 August 29th: Annual Meeting
 September 9th: Board Meeting
 September 21-22nd: Share Your Plants Plant Sale

YUM, YUM or NO THANKS?! I need feedback please. Do you like the healthy recipes? 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 so your feedback is welcomed! Text or email: 616 799-0412 or davidsonwendi@gmail.com.

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Nature pictures

