

WCLA PRESIDENT'S CORNER

April 13, 2026

Welcome back Spring Breakers and Snowbirds! The lakes are ready for you! They look like someone forgot to turn the water off in the bathtub, overflowing with beautiful, clean water!!! Thank you Mother Nature for your generous rainfall! It's not just the Snowbirds and Spring Breakers that have returned...I've seen the loon, Eagle, swans, sandhill cranes and of course, the geese! We have much to look forward to this summer on our shared piece of paradise. It just doesn't get much better than lake life!



I have had the immense pleasure of being a part of this great community for 11 years now; five of which I have humbly served as your President of the Woodbeck Chain of Lakes Association. This role has been an amazing experience for me and I wouldn't change it for anything. I learned so much from many of you who have been here much longer than I have, and I have made many friends I might not have met if not for this role. I am always amazed how opportunities seem to come just when they are supposed to, not necessarily when we want them to. I never thought I would be in this role, but then...I never thought I would be married twice, run two marathons, climb Mount Kilimonjaro, break my leg and my arm or, be a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner and care for sick babies for forty four years either.

What I do know is, it is time to pass the baton. I have always believed if you're going to do something, do it right, do it well, do it with kindness and do it with all your heart and energy or...don't do it at all. As much as I would love to continue to be President, life is calling me in other directions. That means it's time for me to move on. I strongly believe there are many of you who would do an amazing job as President. Now is your time to shine!!! The Board is strong, I will be there to help you in any way I can, and the Lake Association needs you! Voting for a new President happens at the September Board meeting so you have time to think about it. It truly is a wonderful opportunity and I will genuinely miss it. If you would like to know more about the role and responsibilities, please reach out to me. Opportunity is knocking...open the door!

That's all for now!

Kindly,
Wendi Davidson
WCLA President

[Past Events, Upcoming Events, Updates and Other Stuff!!!](#)

[Past Events:](#)

February and March Social Dinners at El Rancho and Eddie's Pizza were both fun filled with lake friends. Social dinners are a great way to get out of the house and enjoy some great food and conversations with your neighbors. You never know what you're going to learn about someone!!

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WCLA March Board Meeting: Minutes are posted on the [WCLA website](#) after approval.

Upcoming Events

April WCLA Social Dinner: Turk Lake Restaurant and Bar. Join us on Thursday, April 23rd at 6:30 for great food, great times and a gorgeous view of the water! We want to see all of you snowbirds!! We've missed you!! RSVP Candie Ritsema at 616.835.2488 or candieritsema@yahoo.com.

WCLA Board Meeting: Monday, May 11th at 6:30 pm at Wendi Davidson's house. You are always welcome to attend if you are a paid member.

YOU ASKED FOR IT and IT'S BACK! The Famous WCLA Family Pancake Breakfast!!! We heard you, and we listened! Bring the whole family and enjoy a delicious breakfast prepared by your lake neighbors and Board members! This event will be held on June 6th at Spencer Township, 8 am to 11am with a Silent Auction and 50/50 raffle. **Cost for breakfast: \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for kids under 10. Raffle tickets \$2 each.** **Volunteers Needed!!!! Contact Wendi at davidsonwendi@gmail.com** or text 616.799.0412. We will need help with setting up, cleaning up and cooking. **THANK YOU 😊**

Planning Ahead? Here is the list of Future Events! Who has MORE FUN THAN WE DO!?!?!?

Saturday, June 6th: Pancake Breakfast!!! Event will be held at Spencer Township, 8 am to 11am with a Silent Auction and 50/50 raffle. Details to follow. **Volunteers Needed!!!!**

Saturday, June 13th: Share Your Plants Plant Sale!! Details to follow.

Saturday, July 4th: Morning Boat Parade with prizes for the winner on each side of the bridge! Followed by a **Boat Flotilla and the band *Sounds Familiar*** playing on the south shore of Woodbeck from 2-5pm!! Details to follow.

Saturday, July 18th: WCLA Poker Kayaking event with the band *Flashback* to follow on Banks Lake. Details to follow.

Thursday, August 20th or 27th (tentative dates): WCLA Annual Dinner. Details to follow.

Volunteers are always needed for these events! If you would like to help, please contact Wendi Davidson at davidsonwendi@gmail.com or text me at 616.799.0412.

Ladies...do you want to host a Ladies Wine and Charcuterie Night at your house? Contact Candie at 616.835.2488 or candieritsema@yahoo.com or Wendi at davidsonwendi@gmail.com or text 616.799.0412.

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Updates and Other Stuff:

Don't Forget to Pay Your 2026 Dues!! Dues are necessary to keep our WCLA community events, insurance, fish plant etc. operating smoothly. \$50.00 is 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.**

NOT SURE IF YOU PAID YOUR DUES FOR 2026?????

*** A link to the **2026** Paid membership list is provided in every President's Corner and the Waterline editions as a helpful reminder. 😊 Please feel free to contact Jamie Skinner at woodbeckcla@gmail.com if you have questions about your dues.

YOU MUST BE A PAID MEMBER TO USE THE LAUNCH AT CAMP CONCORDIA. Be sure you have paid several days in advance of planning to launch your boat, or we will not have you listed as paid. We must receive your dues and then have time to process your payment before the camp can see you listed as paid.

DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE!!!

Here is the process: Pay your dues. Go to Camconcordia.org and scroll down to WCLA INFORMATION, click on it and follow the instructions.

Lake Mapping: When you pay your 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.

NOTICE POSTED: The **2026 PLM Weed Treatment Schedule** has been posted on the WCLA website for your convenience.

WCLA Photo Directory: How fun it is to know who lives 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 has developed 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

Fish Plant Donations: The fish plant committee has again set a donation goal of \$6000.00 for this fiscal year. We believe this amount, in addition to the amount from the general fund, will keep our 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> under the Pay/Donate tab on the top right. **More donations=More fish!**

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

\$3468 (as of March 9th)

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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.

Boater's Safety Class: 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!**

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!

A big THANK YOU to all our sponsors who pay to advertise in the Waterline. Please check them out!! They can help you with many of your needs!

The Waterline: Our WCLA Newsletter is published 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 May 2026. Articles need to be sent to Jamie Skinner by May 1st at woodbeckcla@gmail.com**

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!!!**

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.

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.

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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 in 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/>

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!

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 and 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](#).

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.

Quote for the Month

We cannot always choose the music life plays,
But we can choose how we dance to it.

Author Unknown