



THREE MILE LAKE NEWS

MAY 2012 – VOLUME 5, NUMBER 1

P.O. Box 482, PAW PAW MI 49079

WWW.THREEMILELAKEPAWPAW.ORG

E-MAIL: THREEMILELAKEPAWPAW@YAHOO.COM

2012 – 2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RON CICHINI
PRESIDENT
TERM EXPIRES 2012
269-657-5096

VACANT
VICE PRESIDENT
TERM EXPIRES 2013
269-657-5096

JIM CHLADA
TREASURER
TERM EXPIRES 2014
708-610-2065

ROLAND HARRING
SECRETARY
TERM EXPIRES 2012
269-657-3767

MILLIE PAWLOWSKI
DIRECTOR
TERM EXPIRES 2012
630-977-9796

RICH MAXWELL
DIRECTOR
TERM EXPIRES 2013
269-657-7343

CHARLIE BEAR
DIRECTOR
TERM EXPIRES 2012
269-657-7590

JOE POSODA
DIRECTOR
TERM EXPIRES 2014
269-655-5015

VACANT
DIRECTOR
TERM EXPIRES 2013
269-655-0159

A BIG THANK YOU TO JOYCE BEEDIE FOR SERVING AS PRESIDENT

After leading the Lake Association as President for 6 years, Joyce Beedie decided to step down last year when her second three year term was up. Joyce did an outstanding job organizing the association, scheduling and running the meetings, setting up and maintaining the www.threemilelakepawpaw.org website, serving as liaison to both Paw Paw Township and the Michigan Lakes and Streams Association (MLSA), preparing the newsletters and many other behind the scenes things too numerous to mention. We want to thank Joyce for her dedication to the Lake Association that was obviously driven by her love and concern for Three Mile Lake.

THANKS TO RON CICHINI FOR TAKING OVER PRESIDENT

Shortly after the September 3, 2011 member meeting, Ron Cicchini was elected by the board of directors to temporarily serve as President. Thank you to Roland Harring for agreeing to take on the duties of Secretary, and to Jill Harring for handling the Correspondence Secretary duties.

At the annual Member meeting held in July we will be taking nominations for new board members, and welcome anyone that would be willing to serve as Director or President of the Association. Please contact any of the board members if you are interested or know someone that would be.

NOMINATIONS NEEDED

Each year three board positions open as a result of completed terms of service. This year the board members who have completed their service are Millie Pawlowski, Charlie Bear and Roland Harring. It is important to our association to have NEW people volunteer to sit on the board of directors. We welcome anyone who has knowledge, talent or a passion that would benefit our lake and its residents.

Nominations will begin at our May 26th membership meeting. If you would like to be nominated or need additional information about the position, contact any board member or email threemilelakepawpaw@yahoo.com.

Lake Association Member Meeting – Saturday, May 26^h at the Paw Paw Township Hall on Gremps St – 1:00 pm.

See last page of newsletter for preliminary agenda

NOTES FROM SEPTEMBER 3, 2011 MEETING

As you may know, last summer there were a number of the lake homes that were broken into. We asked the state police if they could address the issue at the Sept 3rd Lake Association meeting.

Officer Rick Carlson, MI State Police, spoke with the group regarding the break-ins around the lake. Here's a summary of what he had to say. It was a bad summer for B&Es. 95% of the B&Es are crimes of opportunity, i.e. houses with open windows, cars unlocked, etc. The harder you can make it for a burglar to enter your home the better. It doesn't have to be much. Lock things up, including boats, picnic tables, lawn chairs, etc. If your neighbors are not home all the time, check on their property. Keep their lawn mowed, if necessary. One simple thing to do is install motion lights. Be sure to mount them high enough that they cannot be disabled. Record serial numbers or any other identifiable numbers from your property. You can write your name in marker or with an engraving tool. You can also put address-mailing labels on your items. Most burglars do not look for or take the time to remove them. When items are stolen, any items that can be identified are put into a database, (LEIN-Law Enforcement Information Network) (i.e. serial #'s, etc.) which makes it easier for police to identify who they belong to. If stolen items are found by the police and they don't have any way to identify who it belongs to, they have to leave it at the property, even if they know it is stolen. Call 911 if you see anything suspicious going on in the neighborhood.

(Late in September, James Lee Justice, was arrested and implicated in 30 to 40 break ins in Van Buren and another county. He confessed to break ins on our lake but not much of the property has been recovered. In March, Justice was sentenced to 8-20 years in state prison for the break ins.)

Rich Maxwell gave a report on the lake treatment by professional Lake Management (PLM). No updates on the water testing except that the mid-summer E.coli was fine. PLM has completed the spring and later summer sampling but reports will not be ready until late September. The

year-end AVAS survey was completed, showing there is good diversity of native plants especially native pondweeds. Milfoil was present in the NE part of the lake and was treated. Milfoil was found in other parts of the lake during the season but control has been maintained. The PLM results should be available on the website.



2012 Boaters Safety Courses

Classes will be held at:

Columbia Twp. Hall, 53053 CR 388, Grand Junction, MI,
May 12th, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Or at:

Lawrence Fire Department, 205 North Paw Paw Street,
Lawrence, MI 49064

May 19th, June 2nd, 9th, 23rd, 30th, July 7th, 14th, 28th,
August 4th, 11th, or 18th

Classes are from 8 a.m. till 2 p.m.

All students must pre-register for the classes. Call 269-657-3101 or register on-line at:

<http://www.vanburencountysheriff.com/marine-patrol.htm#Classes>

If you take an online course and want to take the proctored exam ONLY, please sign up and in the comments field indicate "exam only". The proctored exam is only offered on the days classes are held. Those students taking the exam only need to be at the test location at 12:30 p.m. with a copy of ID and proof of passing the on-line approved course. All students must bring a #2 pencil, something to drink, and a sack lunch.



WATER TREATMENT SCHEDULE FOR 2012

PLM Lake & Land Management Corp will be treating the lake again this year to control the growth of Eurasian Milfoil and other invasive weeds.

Three Mile Lake has been tentatively scheduled for the weeks of:

Week of Treatment	Type of Treatment
5/7/12	Survey
5/21/12	Spot Weed
6/18/12	Spot Weed & Algae
7/16/12	Spot Weed & Algae & E.coli
8/13/12	Spot Weed & Algae, AVAS, WQ

DEQ permitting restrictions, national holidays, and/or weather conditions may influence the timing of treatments throughout the 2011 season. PLM treats each lake according to a schedule or season plan, established with the cooperation of your lake association, lake board or residents on the lake. The treatment schedule is approximate. Please watch your shoreline for the posting of the 8.5x11 inch, yellow or green signs. The signs will indicate the date of the treatment, the products used, and any restrictions on the use of treated water for swimming, watering lawns, etc. The property owners in this area are planning to have the waters chemically treated to control lake weeds and/or algae. This notice is being circulated in accordance with Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) procedures. Below is a list of herbicides that may be applied to the lake and the associated use restrictions. On the day of treatment, signs will be posted along the shoreline within 100 feet of treatment areas that indicate what products were used and specific water use restrictions that apply.

FROM THE VAN BUREN COUNTY SHERIFF’S WEBSITE

As a reminder, here are the special Three Mile Lake boating rules and information about the Marine Patrol, both copied from the Van Buren County Sheriff’s website:

LITTLE THREE MILE LAKE AND PORTION OF THREE MILE LAKE - R281.780.2

High-speed boating and water skiing prohibited.

2. On the waters of Little Three Mile Lake and on that part of Three Mile Lake south of the south eighth line of section 21, T3S, R14W, Van Buren county, state of Michigan, no operator of any motorboat shall:

- (a) Operate such motorboat at high speed.
- (b) Have in tow, or shall otherwise assist in the propulsion of, a person on water skis, water sled, surfboard, or other similar contrivance.

RUSH LAKE AND THREE MILE LAKE - R281.780.1 - Water skiing hours.

On the waters of Rush lake and Three Mile lake, Van Buren county, state of Michigan, no operator of any motorboat shall have in tow, or shall otherwise assist in the propulsion of, a person on water skis, water sled, surfboard, or other similar contrivance during the period from 7:30 p.m. to 11:00 a.m. of the following day.

MARINE PATROL

The Sheriff’s Office also has a Marine Patrol Division with 20 total Marine Patrol Officers under the supervision of Sgt. Chad Jahr. The Marine Patrol is responsible for enforcing all watercraft laws within Van Buren County. Van Buren County has a total of 113 lakes in which there are accesses to 78. Van Buren County also is responsible and has jurisdiction on Lake Michigan for a stretch between Allegan and Berrien Counties.

Marine Patrol has two boats that patrol South Haven, Lake Michigan area, a 21 ft. boat for patrolling the black river, and a 28 foot boat for patrolling Lake Michigan, and two 15 ft. and 17 ft. patrol boats that patrol the lakes in Van Buren Co. When needed, an unmarked boat and Loaner Personal Watercraft machines from local dealers are used for patrolling the lakes.

The Marine Patrol’s first objective is water safety. While enforcing water safety, the following things are looked for:

- Legally registered vessels
- Proper display of numbers
- Proper equipment; including life jackets (PFD’s) in the proper sizes, equaling the number of people on board. Fire extinguishers, registration papers and boating certificates.

NOTE: Life jackets MUST be out of the plastic bags and readily available for quick access

The Lake Association Board Members sends out it's condolences to Judy Schmidt, wife of Dave Schmidt, and family, who passed away on May 3rd. Dave had served as a Director on the Board and will be greatly missed.

Preliminary Agenda
Member Meeting May 26th – 1:00 pm
Paw Paw Township Hall – Gremps St.

1. Treasurer's Report
2. Water Quality Report
3. Formation of the following Committees:
 - Nominating Committee (replacement of three positions with term expirations and two vacant positions)
 - Audit Committee
 - Picnic Committee

Please be sure to complete the enclosed Survey and return to the Association.

Also enclosed is a Membership Form to join the Association for the 2012 year. Your participation is greatly needed and appreciated.

