



# FALL 2016 Silver Lake IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION *Caring for the future of the lake*

## The Great Big Silver Lake Beach Ball

... In sitting down to write this article about the giant community beach ball, it's hard to believe how this idea has become such a strong lake tradition! Five years ago I attended a beach party at the Britten's on the north end of the lake and saw this huge beach ball. That's when the idea of floating it on the lake a few days prior to the 4th of July for residents and visitors to sign and enjoy was hatched.



*(Taplin family signing ball during Regatta)*

The Britten's generously donated the ball the first year, and the SLIA has purchased a ball each

year since then. What a great five years it has been! There are hundreds of signatures and messages on each of the five balls. (Of course we can only see this on four of the balls since one year the ball mysteriously disappeared!)

In 2016, the ball was launched on June 29th and was the best year yet thanks to **Jerry Niezgoda and his grandson, Cameron.** They engineered a rope system that allowed it to be towed when it washed up on shore from the wind and it also provided the option for anchoring.



Thank you all for your participation in this community event, wishing you an enjoyable fall and winter on the lake, **and keep watch for what 2017 brings!**

*Chuck Hathaway, Social Committee*



## The Silver Lake Regatta

The Independence Day Regatta was again a tremendous success, thanks to all those who participated! Laughter and smiles abounded, and a beautiful day greeted us all as the

Regatta toured the lake with the Blue Angels circling overhead.

With eighteen entry boats, the judges scattered around the lake, the shoreline participants, ...whether keeping the shore safe with water blasters or just cheering us on, it all made for a fun event!

Following a week of beach ball signings, the Regatta helped to bring the Silver Lake community together. The flags flying on the boats and shoreline also lent itself to the patriotism of the day!

Congratulations to the Winners! The



*"Fat Albert"*



*Keeping the shoreline safe from the armada!*

voting was extremely close, with the winners receiving Silver Lake Winner's Flags and Certificates at the annual meeting. A great job by all who participated this year! Kudos to our judges for taking the time to evaluate, rate, and take notes on each one of the entries, a big job well done! What made it all worthwhile were those on the shore who got involved, cheered, and supported the event.

**... The Regatta is for all!!!**

*Mike Reed, Social Committee*



### Muskrat Ramble, Muskrat Love?

"Look at them shuffling, shuffling down..." as the song goes.



Many reports last spring of very costly damage to boats due to these cute little critters making winter homes, or spring nests. They especially like the area near the motor on pontoons, and the tasty wiring which is lubricated with peanut oil (yes, peanut oil vs. motor oil, a change in recent years).

According to the DNR there was a surplus population in the area last winter and is antici-

pated for this winter as well. *So what to do to protect your property?*

They may be live trapped and relocated (Word is they like apples). They may be hunted or trapped during trapping season, which is November through March – **all requiring permits from the DNR.**

There is also provision for "Nuisance Animal Control, **again – according to DNR rules.**

The local DNR office has been very helpful and supportive to our lake community over the years, "Thank You"! Mr. Tim Lyon provided this information and is willing to help you with more information, permits, or put you in contact with licensed "Nuisance Control" people.

Tim can be contacted at 231-922-5280 or [lyont@michigan.gov](mailto:lyont@michigan.gov)

### CHAIRMAN'S COVE

Summer is rapidly coming to a close on another wonderful season on Silver Lake. I have observed so many people enjoying this warm and sunny time on the lake, several that I have the pleasure of knowing and many more I have yet to meet.

The advent of fall brings preparation for departure from our lake until next spring for our "snowbird" residents. Docks will be coming in, boats taken off the lake for storage, leaves raked up, (See recycle article).

Silver Lake will become a place of lovely solitude for those of us that remain throughout the winter. I, for one, enjoy the winters as much as the summers here on the lake. I do miss the friends who have gone to warmer climes, but I relish the time allotted me to reminisce and refresh my spirit. I know that come next summer, I will be seeing you all again.

**B. Scot Ogden, SLIA President**

### FALL LEAVES – "YOU" CAN CHANGE THE BALANCE!



You can rake or blow them into the lake to create more phosphorus & muck - OR -

You can take the high road and rake, bag and recycle!

#### Grand Traverse County Recycle Center

2471 N. Keystone Road, 231-941-5555

April-November:

Tuesday 12-7, Thursday & Saturday 9-3

**It's only \$1 for a large bag!**

(Garfield Township Residents, call 231-941-1620 for a FREE Fall Brush Pass for the Recycle Center.)

...Please advise your lawn service provider!

### SAVE THE DATE ADOPT-A-ROAD, 2016

Our next cleanup date is **September 24th**, meet at the Silver Lake Park at 10 am ..... and remember – "many hands make light work."

(Questions - contact Ron Grin at 943-0293)

### MEMBERSHIP FORM

We are enclosing the 2016-17 membership form, if you have already paid your dues – thank you and please disregard. If you haven't – today would be a good day to do so!

# Independence Day 2016

It was a grand day – we paraded – we shared – we finished with a big bang of fireworks – it was the Silver Lake Community in action!

Thank you to all ...



**1st Place:** Geskus Family – The Super Squad – Leaping tall waves in a single bound!



**2nd Place:** Weaver Family – May the 4th Be With You – The force at the ready!



**3rd Place:** Anderson/Worsnick Families – 'Merica Rocks – Celebrating the Colors!



**Honorable Mention:** Berden Family – Home of the Brave – It's A Grand Ole Flag!

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2016 WINNERS

The voting was extremely close, with the winners receiving Silver Lake Winners Flags and Certificates at the annual meeting. Great job by ALL who participated this year!

## REGATTA ENTHUSIASTS ON PARADE



The Knight/Ogden's lead boat proudly flying the colors!



It's Silver Lake – "On Parade!"



**Burritt Family** – Party in Slooow Motion



**Alpers Family** – Tiki Toon



**Kleinrichert Family** – Christmas in July



**Bembeneck Family** – 'Merica



**Finch Family** – Patriotic



**Perry Family** – Red, White & Blue



**Breneman Family** – Red, White & Brody



**Bogard Family** – Olympics – Rio



**Marshall Family** – American Flag



**Bauers Family** – John Paul Jones Lives



It's a Family Affair



Come on, guys! Let's do it!

# SHORELINE PARTICIPANTS IN ACTION



Just relaxin'



Hula fun



Ready for the show



Here they come



Front row seats



It's a generation thing!



Say cheese!



Here we are!



Always wear your life jacket!

## THANK YOU TO OUR JUDGES

Kudos to our judges for taking the time to evaluate, rate, and take notes on each one of the entries. A big job well done!



**Kreiser, Bowman, Ford Families** – Lovin' Silver Lake for 4 Generations!



**Bock Family** – Taking this job seriously!



**Schmidt Family** – The best seat on the lake!



**Reed Family** – Bring it on – show us your best!

## FIREWORKS!



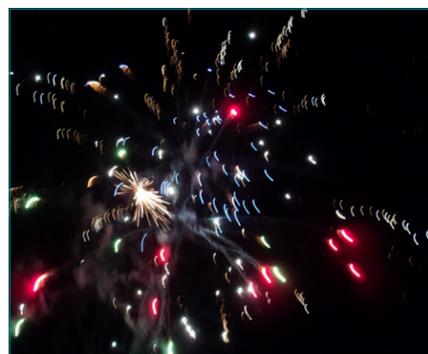
Gathering for a great display



Lookin' up



Can we start now?



## ICE FISHING ON SILVER LAKE

*Not recommended...*



## ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

It has been a good summer on the lake from an environmental standpoint. The spring survey for Eurasian Milfoil (EUA), spotted several small and a few large areas of the EUA. The total designated treatment area was 7.5 acres, which was done prior to the 4th of July. Over the course of the next couple of months, most of the EUA that was treated had died.

On September 9th, we will have an end of season survey done to determine if we need an additional fall treatment.

I was notified by a fellow board member that there is a large patch at the north end of the Lake 2/3rds of the way toward the shore from Government Island. It is in line with the large new house being built at the North shore and the Northern point of the Island. *If you are still boating, please avoid this patch as it is getting close to the surface. Be advised that if this patch is bit and chewed up by a prop, it could turn into many new seedlings!*

If you see Purple Loosestrife blooming - it is quite a beautiful purple at this time of the year - pull it up by the roots and bag it!

*B. Scot Ogden, Environmental Comm*

## DRAIN REPORT

Our SLIA drain report in the spring newsletter was entitled "Water, Water Everywhere!", reporting the level at 862.28 on May 16th, with even the Great Lakes reaching record highs. Since that time, the lake has receded almost one foot to a level of 861.4" at press time (September 1st). Thankfully the rains in early August gave us a little boost.



For those of you who may recall from last year's annual meeting, due to the tri-annual drain inspection and survey, the lake level gauge was raised almost two inches to be at the correct height. For those of you who may be new to the lake please visit our website ([silverlakeimprovement.com](http://silverlakeimprovement.com)) and under the heading "Events" you can scroll down to Annual Meeting Speakers, August of 2015, and click on Drain Commissioner Kevin McElyea's excellent and informative power point presentation on the operation of our drain.

As of November Steve Largent will be replacing Kevin as the new Drain Commissioner. We thank Kevin for all his efforts on behalf of the Silver Lake community and we will be meeting with Steve at the beginning of the year to ensure that our drain continues to operate efficiently during the transition.

*Barry Andrews, Drain Liaison*

## ... "WINTER HARVEST ON SILVER LAKE" ...

Ice harvesting was big business on area lakes in the late 1800's, providing local farmer's with winter income. It was hard and dangerous work, using primitive ice saws to cut large blocks or "cakes" of



ice, which were then loaded onto horse drawn sleds and carried to ice houses to be stored for summer use. The cakes of ice were stored in layers with sawdust as insulation between and around the layers.

By the turn of the century many homes had "Ice boxes", the forerunner to our refrigerators. The top shelf was lined with zinc to keep the ice frozen and preserve items on the shelves below.

The ice delivery man would deliver the ice cakes in a horse drawn covered wagon to the customers along his route.

*Picture from the archives of The Silver Lake Inn, West Silver Lake Road*

## "DEAR BUSYBODY"

*I heard through the grapevine that putting Cayenne Pepper in your bird feeder will keep the squirrels away. Is this true?*

*Sincerely, Silver Lake Bird Lover*

Dear Bird Lover,

I have received mixed reviews on this one. Some have had success; some not. Ideally, the birds are okay but the squirrels don't like it - worth a try. I have no more dogs leaving their deposits in my yard after peppering the dropping spots, although I have to replenish after rain or sprinklers - so dogs, YES - Squirrels - MAYBE!

.... Happy Birdfeeding, Busybody



(Questions for "Dear Busybody", send them to [info@silverlakeimprovement.com](mailto:info@silverlakeimprovement.com), subject busybody)

## IT'S ALL ABOUT TURTLES



...90 days later & we have babies!

See the details on website - "Wildlife"  
[www.silverlakeimprovement.com](http://www.silverlakeimprovement.com)

## WELCOMING COMMITTEE

If you have a new neighbor, please let us know so we may welcome them to our lake! Contact any board member or email us at [info@silverlakeimprovement.com](mailto:info@silverlakeimprovement.com).

## SLIA BOARD MEMBERS

Barry Andrews 231-943-7005	Nancy Knight 231-943-9487
Dennis Bogard 231-943-4547	Scot Ogden 517-749-3895
Dan Brady 231-620-7346	Bruce Reavely 231-645-5640
Rachel Johnson 231-620-9591	Mike Reed 231-943-4171
Chuck Hathaway 231-943-3912	Kelly Smith 248-252-7022
Ken Kleinrichert 231-941-1126	Dave Wilcox 231-941-7065

## WHO DO YOU CALL?

Life threatening or dangerous violations.....911

Boating violations, wildlife harassment (MC number required) or launch site violations  
Central Dispatch.....922-4550

General Marine questions (leave msg)  
Sheriff's Marine Division  
231-922-2112

DNR Traverse City Office  
231-922-5280

Lost and Found (Barry Andrews)  
231-943-7005 or  
[TC.Silver.Lake.Association@gmail.com](mailto:TC.Silver.Lake.Association@gmail.com)

More information at [www.silverlakeimprovement.com](http://www.silverlakeimprovement.com)



**Silver Lake**  
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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