

# Silver Lake

SPRING 2016

## IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

*Caring for the future of the lake*

### The Annual Silver Lake Independence Day Regatta is back again this year!



Decorate your boat and come join the fun. And even you don't care to decorate, you are welcome to join the parade. There will be judges around the lake and prizes will be awarded. **Because it is Independence Day, please display a flag on your boat in remembrance of the occasion!**

Meet out in front of the DNR public boat launch on Monday, July 4th at 1:30 pm for registration, with the Regatta beginning at 2:00 pm. Please display a

number of your choosing on the shore side of your boat to identify you – large enough to be seen from the shore by the judges.

**NEW THIS YEAR:** Should you not want your boat to be subject to any water balloon or water blaster attacks on the flotilla – place a large brightly-colored piece of construction paper or poster board with an 'X' on it facing shore. If you would like one provided for you, there will be some available at registration, if you would like one in advance, please contact me.

**If you are a shoreside resident, or another boater, who enjoys these skirmishes – please allow safe passage for those boats who don't care to participate – Let's all enjoy our day!**

If you have any questions, contact Mike Reed at mreed980@hotmail.com.



### IT'S THE 5TH ANNUAL "GREAT BIG SILVER LAKE BEACH BALL"

It's another summer season on Silver Lake and it's hard to believe this is actually the 5th Beach Ball! It has been purchased and is waiting to be launched on to the lake for all to enjoy! **It will be on the lake June 29th through July 4th if all goes well with the weather.**

**I do have one big favor to ask of all lake residents!** If you see the ball and it needs a little help – such as being stuck on a dock, rolled onto a beach, or needs a little air – please come to the rescue! **PLEASE DO NOT PULL IT DOWN THE LAKE BY THE CORD!** The cord is only to be used for the marker bottle, last year numerous people used it as a towing rope with

disastrous results! If you see someone towing it, please take a moment to educate them – after all, it is your membership dues that pay for the ball every year.

I hope everyone has the opportunity to sign and enjoy the ball this summer, and don't forget it will also be on display at Annual Meeting on August 6th.

If you need help, or have questions, please contact Chuck Hathaway @ 943-3912



### A Fun Summer Activity

If you are not aware, The Beach Bums display fireworks on Friday nights with "at home" games – gather with your neighbors at the narrows on the south end to share this "free" entertainment.



The Beach Bums will be featuring a special celebration display on July 3rd!

...Take a cruise on the 4th to enjoy many of your neighbors displays as well! Remember to travel slowly and have your boat well lighted – be safe!

**Caution, if you are displaying fireworks yourself – both Garfield and Blair only allow fireworks the day before, of, and after a holiday.**

### 2016 Loon Update

A male loon came to the lake on April 7th, he doesn't look like our last year's male. I saw him with a female on April 17th. I have heard a lot of middle of the night calling between two loons, but so far have not seen much daytime activity. Hopefully this pair has or will find a suitable nesting location. The high water level creates a challenge for them to find a place that is protected and quiet. Nesting should occur in mid-May with chicks by mid-June. Let's hope we have a successful brood this year!

**Please be so careful to watch for and protect this amazing treasure we have – and report all violators – harassing wildlife is illegal! The DNR 24 hour Wildlife Harassment Dispatch Center number should be your first call at 800-292-7800.** Sherry McNamara, Silver Lake Loon Ranger, silverlakeloons@hotmail.com



### CHAIRMAN'S COVE

By the time you receive this newsletter, it will be the start of Summer and hopefully the weather will be pleasant – *as I write this article on May 15th, it is snowing outside!* I have always loved being here in Michigan to enjoy the four seasons, but this year the weather is really testing me!

In only a couple of weeks, many of our snowbirds will be returning to our lake to get ready for the summer season. We will just be getting into the swing of things, when *wham*, it will be the 4th of July! The party will continue until Labor Day when again, many will be getting ready to leave our beautiful lake for yet another season.

*My one wish is that everyone enjoy our lake, have a wonderful time, be courteous to your neighbors and the wildlife that share our environment, and please be safety conscious.*

**B. Scot Ogden, SLIA President**

### HAVE YOU JOINED OUR EMAIL CHAIN?

One of our most successful programs in recent years has been our EMAIL communication with SLIA members!



... **We** have been able to notify residents regarding important issues such as invasive species treatment dates, safety issues, meeting dates and much more. It is also an easy way for you to contact us with your concerns.

... **With** this spring's early thaw and high water levels, we have been able to quickly reconnect many people with their property through our lost & found!

... **Many** have chosen to receive our newsletters via email.

... **We will not** share your address!

... **Contact us today** to join the SLIA and start receiving these valuable messages.

[info@silverlakeimprovement.com](mailto:info@silverlakeimprovement.com)

### ADOPT-A-ROAD 2016

We had a good turnout of 20 volunteers for the spring cleanup on East Silver Lake Road on April 16th – **Thank you to those who helped!**

Our next cleanup date is July 16th. Meet at the Silver Lake Park at 10 am ..... and remember **"many hands make light work."** (Questions – contact Ron Grin at 943-0293)

### SAVE THE DATE

**SLIA Annual Meeting**  
**Saturday, August 6, 2016**  
**Garfield Township Hall**  
**Meet & Greet, Refreshments,**  
**8:30 a.m.**  
**MEETING 9:00 a.m.**

## WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE!

Once again Silver Lake, as well as all of the lakes in Michigan, has been blessed with an abundance of springtime water!



Then again, some of you may say we've received too much of a blessing?

According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lake Michigan has risen approximately three feet in the last three years. Now that is a lot of water!

Our drain remained open all winter. I've been in contact with Kevin McElyea, G.T. County Drain Commissioner frequently this spring. The spring runoff and early spring rains have contributed to a rise in the lake level. The lake drain outlet structure is located in a wetland area and the cattails, reeds and muskrats have been creating a lot of debris which can impede the flow of water and requires frequent cleaning of the screens.

The lake level is receding, we just have to be patient. As of press time (May 16th) the lake level is at 862.28', as you read this it is hopefully at the 862' high water mark.

Enjoy your summer of water related fun and be sure to play safe!

*Barry Andrews, Drain Liaison*

## ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

I have been in contact with Restorative Lake Sciences, L.L.C. (the company contracted to treat our lake for invasive species) to inquire as to when they will be here at Silver Lake to survey for Eurasian Milfoil locations to schedule for the 2016 spring treatment to contain its spread. The planned date for the survey will be June 16th with the treatment to take place later in that week. We will post this date on the SLIA website. The applicators will be posting notices on properties where the treatment is taking place, warning that the water in their area has been treated. If your property has one of these warning cards posted, please refrain from entering the water for 24 hours and do not water your lawns for at least 72 hours after the application if you are using lake water for your irrigation.

There are also other invasive plants, as well as mussels and fish that have entered other lakes in Michigan. They then have found their way into our lake as hitch hikers on or in boats from neighboring areas. Always make sure your boat is clean and bait wells are empty prior to launching into Silver Lake. Advise your friends to do likewise if they are bringing their watercraft to our lake. As we have sadly learned from the zebra mussels and the Eurasian Milfoil, it only takes one moment to create a problem that cannot be eradicated, only controlled at great expense!

Lastly, please make sure to get your septic tanks cleaned and inspected, let's keep Silver Lake clean and beautiful!

*B. Scot Ogden, Environmental Committee*

## REMEMBER: FEEDING DUCKS = SWIMMERS ITCH!

(If you are not aware of the cycle, please contact a board member or visit our website for information.)



## DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN....

*You could feed your family for a week on an afternoon's catch from Silver Lake!* Now you get excited if you snag a walleye trolling in an evening, or a small mess of bluegills from your rowboat in an afternoon, perhaps a good catch of perch through the hole in your shanty on a winter's day!

We may not match these numbers, but we still have fish in Silver Lake! We must always be mindful of our responsibility to our environment and to those SLIA members who have worked to preserve it through the years - thank you!

Times have changed on Silver Lake, people come and go and the stories are forgotten or never shared with the new generation. If you have stories to tell,



*(Pictures taken of guests at the Silver Lake Inn, Circa 1930-40's, Get those white shoes!)*

we'd love to hear them - old pics, we'd love to borrow and scan for our history file and future newsletters, please contact Nancy Knight.

## "DEAR BUSYBODY"

*I have been reading about the campaign to save the Monarch butterflies by planting Milkweed for them - what do you think?*

*Sincerely, Silver Lake Butterfly Lover*

Dear Butterfly Lover,

After researching your question - I would advise that you not plant Milkweed near Silver Lake; it has an invasive underground root system, plus the ripened seed pods would be spread by the winds and as the result of hungry birds dinner excretions, sigh... This could threaten Silver Lake much as the invasive Eurasian Milfoil and Purple Loosestrife have.

Although Milkweed is undeniably their favorite, a Butterfly garden could include a number of nectar plants, including coneflowers, lilacs, sage, daisies, astors, marigolds, sunflowers, zinnias, snapdragons, (thank you Google!)

.... Happy Monarching, Busybody

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

## SLIA BOARD MEMBERS

Barry Andrews  
231-943-7005

Ron Grin  
231-943-0293

Chuck Hathaway  
231-943-3912

Ken Kleinrichert  
231-218-8530

Nancy Knight  
231-943-9487

Scot Ogden  
517-749-3895

**Interested in serving on the SLIA board? Contact Nancy Knight at 231-943-9487**

Diane Radloff  
231-620-8751

Bruce Reavely  
231-645-5640

Mike Reed  
231-943-4171

Kelly Smith  
248-252-7022

Janet Wheeler  
231-943-4443

## WALLEYE PLANTING UPDATE

Last fall we reported that the DNR had planted a hatchery crop overage of Walleye Fry in Silver Lake in the spring, 2015 and had scheduled a planting of 30,000 Fingerlings for this spring, 2016. This did not happen for whatever reason.

They have at this point scheduled a Walleye planting and a survey for spring, 2017, we will continue to monitor.

*Ken Kleinrichert, Fisheries*

## 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).

## WHO DO YOU CALL?

Life threatening or dangerous violations.....911

Boating violations, Wildlife harassment (MC number required), Launch site violations

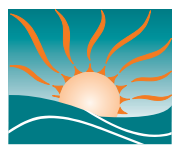
Central Dispatch.....231-922-4550

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

DNR Traverse City Office  
231-922-5280

Lost and found (Barry Andrews)  
[TC.Silver.Lake.Association@gmail.com](mailto:TC.Silver.Lake.Association@gmail.com)

For more information, please visit:  
[www.silverlakeimprovement.com](http://www.silverlakeimprovement.com)



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