

Silver Lake

FALL 2020

IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Caring for the future of the lake

The Great Big Silver Lake Beach Ball, Year 9

With all of the crazy things going on in the world today, our lake community never ceases to amaze me!

The 9th year for the beach ball was a huge success. It was one thing we could enjoy together, and still obey the social distancing rules that we now seem to call the new normal.

The days were warm, and the nights were



filled with light winds. It was the perfect formula for a fantastic beach ball season for people to get out and sign it and take "selfies"!

See you all next

year when we will be able to celebrate 10 years of beach ball fun! I am honored to be a part of this wonderful lake activity.

Chuck Hathaway, Beach Ball Committee Chair



Independence Day Regatta on Silver Lake

Yet again we were afforded a wonderful day for the Annual Silver Lake Regatta. The combination of a perfect day, the impressive creativity of the boat decorators, and perhaps a "bit of pent up energy from a season of social distancing", resulted in over 20 boats participating in the parade! A huge "Thank You" to all who participated on the water, and to those who cheered from on shore.

Congratulations to our Winners!

1st place – Silver Lake Ness Monster

Vance Family

2nd place – First Responders, Real Lifesavers

Theobald Family

3rd place – Silver Lake Rocket

Berden Family

Honorable Mention – Candyland

Geskus Family

Winners have each received a Banner and a Certificate with Commemorative Photo. Normally these are presented at Annual Meeting, but this year with that meeting conducted via Zoom, they were delivered by myself to represent the SLIA and recognize



their great contribution to the day!

Many thanks also to our judges – The Green, Heydlauf, Grin, Kaufman, Ford, and Reed Families for their great contribution, taking on the task of rating the entrants!

We did a much better job of reducing the number of water balloon launchers this year, using instead the long range super soakers for those who enjoyed the skirmishes along the way!

A great group effort well done – looking forward to seeing everyone next year! See picture layout with captions in next pages.

Mike Reed, Regatta Committee Chair



Fishing on Silver Lake

As the weather starts to change I can't help but look back at what a memorable year 2020 has been. Hopefully you are remaining healthy enough to spend a majority of your free time enjoying our beautiful lake.

As far as fishing goes, this has been a good year with a few setbacks. Our spring "Kids Fishing Tournament" had to be cancelled due to Covid and social distancing. We will try again for June 12-13, 2021, Free Fishing Weekend. We will advise in spring newsletter, on website and through our gmail.

We were scheduled to receive 30,000 Walleye Fingerlings, but that also gave way to Covid. The DNR plans to continue the Walleye

stocking efforts next spring, as well as a possible fish survey of the lake. Overall it was a good year for Bass and Pan Fish throughout the lake with an occasional Pike mixed in. Fair reports of Walleye being caught in the spring and late summer, with a majority being around 18-22".

As the lake starts to slow down, try to get out for a boat ride and cast a few lines, we still have plenty of fish to be had before the hard water is upon us. If you have any questions or comments, or a great pic of a great catch for our publications, please feel to call me at 231-944-2953.

Tom Thompson, Fisheries Chairman

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

A summer of family fun activities is once again coming to a close on Silver Lake. Maybe it was the great weather, more time on everyone's hands, or low-cost gas, but this "summer of the pandemic" seemed to be one of the busiest ever for enjoying our beautiful lake.

We continued the volunteer spirit by starting out this spring with a Light-Up-The-Lake salute to front line workers. The Silver Lake Improvement Association (SLIA) board recognized one special volunteer, Alan Strange, who makes a daily visit to the clear debris from our lake's drainage weir to help keep the outflow going to prevent high water levels.

We learned to adapt to social distancing by using Zoom for our SLIA board meetings and even held our annual meeting virtually. Many activities like milfoil treatment, our 4th of July regatta, and the highly effective lost and found email system remained on track in 2020 but some things like a planned fishing contest and stocking the lake with walleye fry were postponed.

All in all, it was a great summer and as I watched a bald eagle soar over Silver Lake the other morning, it was a great reminder of how good we have it here.

Ken Kaufman, SLIA President

WELCOME TO SILVER LAKE!



Our welcoming committee strives to personally welcome every new lakefront resident and provide them with helpful information about Silver Lake living!

We have had a large number of properties change hands in the last year or so, this summer has been hard with the social distancing but we have been able to contact with letters, following up with phone calls and delivering information.

We have conducted 22 personal visits with more to follow when we can do so personally. Many thanks to other board members who helped with those in their neighborhoods.

If you are new to the lake and we have not contacted you, or you have a new neighbor that we are unaware of, please contact me, or write to our website – with your names and contact information – we would so much like to follow up and welcome you to our beautiful lake!

Jim Bock, Welcoming Committee,
231-943-4808

... and the Winners Are ...



1st Place – Vance Family & Friends
Silver Lake Ness Monster



2nd Place – Theobald Family & Friends
First Responders, Real Life Savers



3rd Place – Berden Family & Friends
Silver Lake Rocket

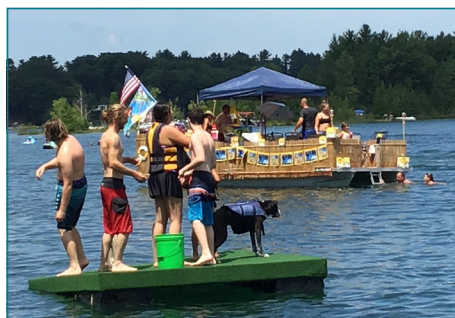


Honorable Mention – Geskus Family & Friends
Candyland

SHORELINE ENTHUSIASTS IN ACTION



We're Ready for the Show



Ready for a Skirmish



Lovin' Your Malibu



Coming Out to Meet You



The Whole Gang's Here!



What Do You Think Dad



Ready & Waiting



... Sorry You Missed.....



... With Scoresheet in Hand ...



... We're Ready for the Show ...

THANK YOU TO OUR JUDGES – VOLUNTEERS DOING A BIG JOB!

We apologize for the lack of pictures – if you were on a boat in the parade – you certainly enjoyed parading your “Stuff” in front of them – and be assured they took their jobs seriously, grading and making tough decisions with so many “Great” themes and decorations – thank you Judges!

**Thank you -
Kaufman, Green, Reed,
Heydlauff, Grin, Ford Families!**

REGATTA ENTHUSIASTS ON PARADE



It's SLIA On Parade!



Lead Boat – Blake Vance & Friend

Due to the Covid Pandemic, we were forced to do things differently this year, requesting you to go online to get your registration form for your boat entry with theme, family name and contact information and send to us. Many of you did – but others perhaps decided at the last minute to enter or didn't have the means to go online and sign up – so we have great pics of many of you without identity. ... Therefore we have identified you with our interpretation of your theme and by your MC number. . . **THANK YOU SO MUCH for joining us, theme or not – it was one of our best years yet!**
Please enjoy seeing your pics – you know who you are!



#72 Barn In USA



Under The Sea - Robertson Family



Corona Beer – Alpers,Emery,Grubb Families



New Kids On the Lake – Kirk Family



MC5432TN – Family Celebration



Malibu Luau Party



MC7506MD – Love Grass Skirts



TikiTunes – Alpers Family



Towing Party Last Boat



Towing Party Middle Boat



Towing Party Lead Boat



Malibu Wakesetter



MC7545TR – It's A Family Affair



Mastercraft Joining In



Shark Bait – Zolinski-Guitar Families



MC7270SD – Stars & Stripes



Happy Days Again – Frazier Family



MC5_37RN – Couple On A Cruise



MC1082TE – Family Enjoying the Ride



MC7172NY – Getting Some Sun



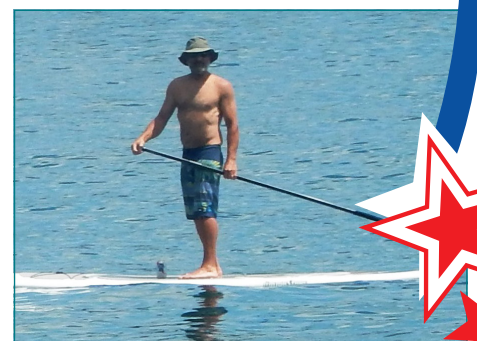
MC5432TN – Family Celebration



MC3599UL – Dogs On Board



It's 2020 – MC0908TV Family



Joining In With My Board

PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE

This beautiful purple “flower” has been reported in Kevwitch and Fashbaugh Cove’s recently. This plant had been quite well eradicated in most areas of the lake several years ago due to the SLIA’S efforts to educate about it – but it does still crop it’s “Beautiful” head up occasionally.



This is what it looks like – it is indeed beautiful – but deadly as far as taking over an area, this featured picture isn’t out in a field, it is in the water where it has taken over!

If you spot it – this is WHAT TO DO...

Pull it out by the roots. Before you handle to do that, cut the flowers off and BAG THEM, then pull out the roots – if you are unable to get the roots out, at least cut the tops off, bag and dispose of them. If you see Loosestrife in your area, do make an attempt to get rid of it before fall comes and it goes to seed and spreads.

For more information on various invasive plants – visit our website – “Environmental”.

“IT’S ALL ABOUT COMMUNICATION!”

Are you on our G-Mail List? One of the most successful endeavors that the SLIA has taken on in recent years is the G-Mail communications. We advise of upcoming events, send alerts about problems, and most productive of all – our “Lost & Found”! We have successfully reconnected people with their belongings, especially after a strong wind (many of those this summer), with many reports of lost or found items to be sent out to the Silver Lake Community. The Grand Traverse County Sheriff has commended us on these communications, even recommended it to other lake communities in the area!



If you are not on our list and not receiving these missives, it is probably because you have not joined the Association, **so we do not have your contact information**. This is just one more good reason to join us – Membership dues are only \$25.00/year – you should have received a form in the Annual Meeting notice sent out at the end of July, if you do not have it, just go to our website, sidebar “Membership” click on download membership form, print, fill out, send in – and you have joined us – it’s that simple!

Nancy Knight,
Communications Committee Chair

2019-20 SLIA BOARD

Jim Bock 231-943-4808	Jon LeJeune 231-943-8907
Denny Bogard 231-342-8515	Ed McNamara 231-313-2779
Gary Borucki 517-281-5200	Scot Ogden 231-463-9365
Tim Brock 231-590-1008	Mike Reed 231-943-4171
Ken Kaufman 989-859-4616	Kelly Smith 248-252-7022
Nancy Knight 231-943-9487	Tom Thompson 231-944-2953

VOLUNTEER COMMITTEES

- Adopt-a-Road – Ron Grin, 231-715-0920
- Loons – Sherry McNamara, 231-313-2769
- Beachball – Chuck Hathaway, 231-943-3912

SILVER LAKE DRAIN REPORT

Many have questioned our current high water levels, please be advised they are high all over the area and state. The SLIA drain outlet has been draining well all summer and Silver Lake would indeed be experiencing higher levels yet were it not for this valuable asset!

There are necessary repairs to be made in the pipe near the outlet requiring the grid to be removed and cracks to be sealed near the outlet. If not repaired the water would continue to drain but at a much slower rate. This repair is scheduled to be performed when the lake

level is at or below the court mandated 862.00” threshold, allowing a contractor to enter the drain. Steve Largent, Drain Commissioner will coordinate the timing. The cost of this repair was built into last year’s assessment so no additional funds should be necessary. The estimated cost is not expected to exceed \$1,500.

The current level is still above the 862.00 mark – be assured the drain will be closed only when it reaches that level, and will be reopened when the repairs are accomplished.

Gary Borucki, Drain Liaison Chairman

SAVE THE DATES

ADOPT-A-ROAD, FALL CLEANUP

Saturday, September 26th – 10 a.m. SHARP!
SILVER LAKE PARK, East Silver Lake Rd N.
(Members will be advised via g-mail, or check website for changes or rain dates) ... and remember – “many hands make light work!”
Questions – contact Ron Grin, 231-715-0920

EURASIAN MILFOIL TREATMENT

Tuesday, September 15th
Areas to be treated will be posted, please do not swim for 24 hours, do not water lawns or gardens for 72 hours in posted areas.
Questions – contact Scot Ogden, 231-463-9365

LOON NOTES

Many thanks to those who helped with our Loon family this year!
... to Denny Bogard and Jon LeJeune for installing our nesting buoys last spring.
... to lake residents for adhering to the notice to stay back while they were on their nest. During the few weeks it takes to hatch a chick, it makes a big difference if they can do it safely without disruption.
... to the people who live near Raspberry Island where they nested for their regular reporting on the status of the Loon family – it was so helpful to have more sets of eyes watching and waiting for the chicks to arrive. Hopefully, next year we will have another pair who want to return to Silver Lake to safely raise another family!

Sherry McNamara, Silver Lake Loon Lady



HONORING A SILVER LAKE HERO!

At our May 13, 2020 meeting, the SLIA board resolved to recognize Alan Strange of Case Ct who has for many years worked hard to fulfill the goal of the SLIA, to “Preserve & Protect Silver Lake”.



... Al has went above and beyond, voluntarily working almost daily for years, removing debris from the 6' diameter overflow control for the drain at the south end of the lake to maintain the maximum flow of water draining into Cox Pond.
... Unfortunately, we were unable to accomplish this at Annual Meeting due to the virus – but our president did meet with Al to present him with a Recognition Plaque and framed art of Silver Lake. Al, being the humble person that he is, certainly did not expect this honor, but was so pleased to accept our recognition, thanks and mementos!
... When you see him, please be sure to thank him as well for all he does for our lake family!

Your Silver Lake Board of Directors



Silver Lake
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 117 • GRAWN, MI 49637
www.silverlakeimprovement.com