



JUNE 2010 Silver Lake IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION *Caring for the future of the lake*



IT'S REGATTA TIME AGAIN
... AND WE'VE MOVED IT UP TO GET YOU HOME
SOONER, SO CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS AND
READY SET GO...



CHECK OUT THE PARADE MARSHAL'S
ARTICLE FOR ALL THE DETAILS
Any Questions Call 943-9487 or 943-3912

4TH OF JULY BOAT REGATTA

Wow! It is hard to believe another year has gone by. We were greeted with an unusual start to spring and all of us began to think, "Let's get out on the water!" Then reality set in when I awoke to find snow on a vehicle. Hopefully we will get back on track and the weather will be beautiful for Regatta 2010.

Speaking of the regatta, we will be making a few changes this year. First, we have decided to move up the start time to 2:00. We will all gather at the regatta staging area, the public boat launch, at 1:45. Here you will be given a registration form to fill out. You will also be given a number that we ask you to adhere to the shore side of the boat. This will be used by the judges to identify boats as we cruise around the lake. All judges will be given a scoring sheet to use to help uniform the judging process.

We ask that all boats remain in the parade throughout the event, stick close to the boat you are following, and come to the staging area at the boat launch for door prizes and camaraderie at the close of the parade. As always, the official winners will be announced and awarded at the Silver Lake Improvement Association meeting in August.

I know that many of you have been working all winter on ideas for your entry. In my opinion it will be hard to top 2009. Best of luck and see you on the 4th!

Your parade marshal,
Chuck Hathaway (and crew)

Invasive Species Control

Last year \$23,915 was spent on treatment to reduce Eurasian Milfoil in Silver Lake and to control phragmites. Additional monies were spent on legal fees, advertising and mailing in connection with setting up the Special Assessment Districts. Renovate OTF was the herbicide used last year with mixed results.

This year, on the applicators recommendation, Navigate herbicide will be used where usage restrictions allow and continue to use Renovate OTF elsewhere. Navigate is a tried and tested product the applicator has confidence in.

Michigan restricts the use of Navigate within certain distances of water wells. We have been building a well data base (well depth and distance from shore) for the 380 or so parcels with Silver Lake frontage so we can observe the restrictions. We have obtained available county health department well depth information.

An April mailing to 130 property owners requesting well information produced some 50 replies. Lake association board members have been going door to door obtaining well information for the balance.

Can You Top This?????

On April 1, 2010 many of you may have heard a loud scream from the North end of Silver Lake. If so, it was the sound of Brendan Fowler, the 8 year old grandson of Andrew and Trudy Fowler, jumping off his grandparent's raft. His grandma reported he first took one step down the ladder, then another and finally declared "Don't be a wuss!" and jumped in. That's when the scream heard around Silver Lake occurred. If anyone can top this date for jumping in Silver Lake, we need to hear your story. Also, if anyone has a record of the ice in and out dates of our lake we would like this information for a future newsletter.

Pat Adams, Publicity Chair

Fall Cleanup



The lake association is attempting to set up a cleanup date in the fall. We haven't set the date as yet, but will be discussing it at the Annual Meeting on August 7th. Please plan to attend and give us your input regarding this event. It will take a lot of volunteers to make it successful. See you at the Annual Meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S COVE

Welcome to Silver Lake, version 2010. Certainly much improved from 2009. We have had a very early spring and a very late snowfall. I am not sure what to make of it all but I am optimistic about this summer on Silver Lake. The lake level is about a foot low as a result of the lack of snow this past winter (No, this is not a result of the drain. The water hasn't been draining out for several years.), but all other signs point to clean, clear, weed free water and higher temperatures for the summer season. The SLIA continues to monitor, discuss and consider the following issues:

1. Increasing our membership (All lake front property owners should belong.)
2. Publishing an interesting and informative newsletter.
3. The Eurasian Milfoil problem. (We believe we have things under control.)
4. Water quality testing.
5. Fisheries improvement (both habitat and planting).
6. Keyhole provisions with both Townships.
7. SLIA website.
8. Muck Eradication.
9. A lake clean up day.
10. Plans for our Annual Meeting (August 7, 2010)

and, believe it or not, several other issues. But the Association board members are never too busy to listen to your concerns. Please, let your thoughts be known so we can all work together to protect what we should never take for granted. How lucky we are to live on Silver Lake!

Jim Lievense, Board President

FISHING CONTEST

Sorry to report, that due to lack of interest, the Fishing Contest



has been cancelled again this year. If you are interested in getting something going again please contact our Fisheries Committee chair, Larry Wesholski, at 943-0632.

ANNUAL MEETING

AUGUST 7, 2010

at the Garfield Township Hall at 9 a.m.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the Annual Meeting of the Silver Lake Improvement Association. Plan on coming early (8:30) for coffee and donuts and socializing with your fellow property owners from around the lake. We need your input and appreciate your support. Please note the flyer included with this newsletter. For anyone who has rental property on the lake, please post this in your rental so they too have information to make our lake a more pleasant place to enjoy the summer.

DEAR GOOSE GUY...



Dear Goose Guy,

I personally enjoy reading your column and have found some of your advice helpful on how to handle pesky geese and gophers, but my wife basically thinks you are well, in her words, "full of carp" (I've softened her remarks by re-arranging a couple of letters). Here is our dilemma: While we both enjoy living on the lake my wife doesn't like getting in the water. She has challenged me to write and ask advice on how I might get her to warm up to the water. Any Goose Guy advice on this one?

Sincerely, A House Divided

Dear House,

Initially I was going to address you as "Dear Divided" but have chosen to focus not on your differences (you like my column and the water - she dislikes my column and dislikes the water) but that which you have in common (you both enjoy living in the same house on the water). I like having feedback from readers, so let's honor your wife by calling a spade a spade and not confuse crap with carp. Carp is a fish - crap is what geese produce, carp eat and politicians dish-out. Here is my advice as to how you can help your wife "warm up to the water":

Don'ts:

- Don't bug, nag, cajole, manipulate, bargain or beg your wife to get in the water with you
- Don't psychoanalyze your wife and try to figure out "why" she doesn't want to get in the water
- Don't compare her to others who enjoy getting in the water
- Don't use others to get her in the water, such as the dog, the foreign exchange student, the grandchildren, the neighbors or host a beach party for Barack Obama and his family as a ploy
- Don't invite Barack Obama and his family for a beach party if your wife voted for John McCain

Dos:

- Do enjoy the water for yourself and gently share with your wife how refreshing it is to swim on a hot summer's day
- Do listen to your wife to gain an understanding of how she feels about swimming, boating, fishing, etc. (you may need to ask her about her feelings and then do nothing to fix it - got that House?)
- Do participate in lake activities that she does enjoy, such as decorating a boat-float for the 4th of July Parade
- Do assure her that Asian Carp were not introduced to Silver Lake by the SLIA back when Jerry Ford was in office and have been lurking at a depth of 72 feet until just this year when these six-foot fish will leap from the water to feed on wake boarders like brown trout on a fly
- Do take-in at least (6) sunsets this summer with wife, dog, fire and glass of wine - then call me in the morning and let me know how she's "warmed up to the water"

Sincerely, The Goose Guy

If any of our readers is doing battle with Mother Nature on Silver Lake (or with teens or tweens or spouses) and would like to share a story or two - write: The Goose Guy, C/O SLIA Newsletter.



CONTINUED KEYHOLING CONCERN

We continue to be concerned about the lack of adequate restrictions regarding the "Easement to Water Front", (keyholing) ordinances in Garfield and Blair Townships. We have sent letters to both townships advising them of the excess boat capacity on silver lake and the concerns about future development that could only put further pressure on the lake. We have learned that Garfield Township is in the process of rewriting their zoning ordinance and expect to complete that task in 2011.

As development has slowed due to the lackluster economy now is a good time to push the townships to address this situation before the economy improves and potential development becomes more feasible. There are model ordinances suggested by the Michigan Lakes and Streams Association, that will be recommended to the townships as a possible solution.

You can help move this process along by writing letters to Garfield and Blair Townships requesting that their Easement to Water Front ordinances be revised to provide better protection from over crowding on the lake.

A sample letter is enclosed in this newsletter.

We will attend the appropriate meetings to make our case. Hopefully the administrations will realize the importance of the residents of Silver Lake to their townships and they will work with us to make the necessary changes and improvements in the ordinances to keep Silver Lake a clean and attractive place to live.

NESTING SWANS

There is a pair of nesting swans on the south end of the north-most island (across from the Old English Subdivision access). This particular area is highly accessed by swimmers, kayakers and paddle boaters due to the close proximity to the subdivision's access. Please be reminded that these birds are very protective and can be aggressive. You should not try to access the area; but leave them alone. Two years ago, I personally saw a male swan, protecting his nest, go after a swimmer. Luckily, a boater saw the distress and herded the swan away. While very pretty, these birds are large and strong. I hope we can go without an incident this summer.

Submitted by Karlene Currie, SLIA member

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Whether you recently acquired property on Silver Lake, happened to find a membership form in your desk, or just realized how valuable your membership is to our association we would like to welcome our newest members:

Russell & Barbara Lawson

Joanne Mack

David & Terry Clarke

Patrick & Carol O'Brien

Dan Ross

Marilyn Baker

Thomas & Judith Clarke

Dave & Lynn Crewes

Dominic Dunn

Lynn Hansen

Mike & Marsha Jurgensen

You may want to check out our web site:

www.silverlakeimprovement.com

SLIA BOARD OFFICERS

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|---------------------------|
| President, Dick Bogard | 943-4845 | dbogard@cherrycentral.com |
| Vice President, Robb Raetz | 943-4358 | rbraetz@juno.com |
| Secretary, Pat Adams | 947-5502 | patadamsdean@yahoo.com |
| Treasurer, Janet Wheeler | 943-4443 | janetwhee41@aol.com |

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Social | Nancy Knight | 943-9487 |
| Exotic Weeds & Lake Monitoring | Russ Adams | 947-5502 |
| Drain Liaison | Bill Helke | 943-4779 |
| Welcoming | Ron Clingeman | 943-4976 |
| Township Liaison | Peter Haddix | 943-8825 |
| Membership | Janet Wheeler | 943-4443 |
| Publicity | Pat Adams | 947-5502 |
| Rules | Jim Lievens | 943-3757 |
| Fishing issues | Larry Wesholski | 946-0632 |
| SLIA Web Site | Wayne Knight | 943-9487 |
| Muck Eradication | Mike O'Brien | 943-0764 |

WHO DO YOU CALL?

Life threatening or dangerous violations.....911

Lake violations
(Sheriff Marine Division)
(Boat MC number required)
922-4514

Launch site violations
(local dispatch)
941-1011

DNR Traverse City Office
922-5280

Lost and found (Jim Lievens)
943-3757

For more information
go to our web site:
www.silverlakeimprovement.com



Silver Lake
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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