



Silver Lake

OCTOBER 2012

IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Caring for the future of the lake

ALL ABOUT MUCK!

Muck Kits

We are still working on investigating methods of eradicating muck in Silver Lake. I am a member of Holiday Park Campground, so I am on the lake seasonally. I will continue to collect "muck kits" and record the results even after I leave in the fall. Committee members Dave and Lynn Crewes, will keep up the "participation map". We hope to have enough information to complete our "muck map" of Silver Lake by the end of next year. This important information will accompany our request for funding through the Environmental Protection Agency. Please send your muck information to me at:

Email: dseeloff@gmail.com

Summer Address: (Memorial Day - Late Sept/2012)
Diane Seeloff, site 68, Holiday Park Campgrounds
4860 U. S. 31, South, Traverse City, Michigan 49685

Winter Address: (October/2012 - Early May/2013)
Diane Seeloff
916 Northpointe Drive, SW, Byron Center, Michigan 49315

Muck Video

The muck video is completed. This is another visual aid to send to the EPA. A big THANK YOU to all of the residents who participated. Your stories and experiences added the personal touch our video needed. The Muck Eradication committee would also like to thank Tom Brady, our seaplane pilot, who allowed our filmmakers to take some beautiful aerial shots of our lake which added so much to this video presentation. Thanks to Clark Bunting for his part in all of this. Clark arranged for our 3 budding filmmakers from MSU to make the film, hosted them while they were here, as well as offering his expertise before, during and after its production. Last but not least, thanks to our filmmakers Colin Marshall, Kirk Mason and Jeff Makaruskas for a job well done!

Submitted by Diane Seeloff

MUCK - MUCK - MUCK - MUCK

"Phosphorus = Muck"

Leaves = Phosphorus

Fertilizer "contains" Phosphorus

Please Bag your Leaves -

Never rake them into the lake!

Please purchase non-phosphorus fertilizer for your fall feeding! (McGough's stocks it)



Let's all be good stewards of our natural resource!

Fisheries Report

Silver Lake is number one on the DNR list for wall-eye planting for Spring of 2013. The plan is for a planting of 30,000 walleye. According to Heather Hetlinger, Fisheries Management Biologist of the Traverse City field office. The survival rate of the planting is 1-5%. Her estimate for Silver Lake is a 2-3% survival rate. When planted the fingerlings are about 2 inches. After one year they will have grown to be 7 to 9 inches. After two years they will be approximately 13-15 inches long.

Silver Lake is scheduled for planting every three years. The last netting by the DNR was in 2007. The result was netting of a few pike, many bluegill - the largest being 9 inches - many Pumpkinseed, large mouth and small mouth bass. The largest netting was 0 frock bass with the largest at 19 inches!

Results of fishing on Silver Lake is said to be that some walleye are being caught while fishing of bluegill and other pan fish has been very good. So get out there and enjoy the fishing!

Submitted by Dick Bogard

Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM)

This year the total area of the lake that was treated for EWM was 12 acres. This is down to about one third of the area that we had when the residents of the lake decided to take a proactive position to fight the invasion of this very aggressive lake weed in Silver Lake. I have kayaked on lakes where this weed had gotten a foothold and saw the weed take over a majority of the lake in a short period of time when no treatment program was implemented. Everyone on the lake should be proud of the action

you have taken to eradicate this weed. Scientists from Lakeshore Environmental, Inc. will continue to monitor the lake for EMW and other exotic species that may invade and also monitor changes in the native aquatic vegetation communities.

Silver Lake Native Aquatic Plant Species

The native aquatic vegetation present in Silver Lake is essential for the overall health of the lake and the support of the lake fishery. There are a total of 19 native aquatic plant species in Silver Lake. These include 14 submersed species, 3 floating-leaved species, and 2 emergent species. This indicates a high biodiversity of aquatic vegetation in the Lake. The native aquatic plant population has increased some during the past year. This is because the elimination of dense EWM beds allows for more light and space for more favorable native aquatic plants to grow.

Silver Lake 2011-2012 Water Quality Results

The water quality of Silver Lake is affected by both land use practices and climate events. Climatic factors (i.e. spring runoff, heavy rainfall) may alter water quality in the short term; whereas, man-induced factors (i.e. shoreline development, lawn fertilizer use) alter water quality over longer periods of time. Lakeshore Environmental has run the water quality testing on our lake water checking several different variables and are very pleased with the results of these tests. They will continue to monitor the water quality and keep us informed if any changes occur.

Previous articles submitted by B. Scot Ogden

CHAIRMAN'S COVE

I think the two words that best describe this summer are hot and sunny. This truly was a wonderful year to be on the lake. Personally, some more rain would have been nice.

There have been many wonderful events that have happened this year. We have had a youth fishing tournament, a Silver Lake night at the Traverse City Beach Bums, a mixed golf scramble, wonderful fireworks around the lake on the fourth of July, and of course the 2012 Regatta. Silver Lake residents are now doing the road clean up on the four mile stretch of East Silver Lake Road three times a year. All who participated in these different events had a wonderful time. If you were not a participant this year, hopefully you can join us next year.

1. A special thank you to Jim Lievense for all the years he has presided as president of the SLIA Board. His shoes will be hard to fill. Luckily, we have a great board of directors who will keep me in line as I take over the responsibilities as president.
2. Thank you to everyone who attended the annual meeting this year. The input we received from the residents of the lake means so much to the board and helps give us direction for the coming years(s).
3. Thank you to all members and associate members for your support. The board would not be able to function without it. If you are not a current member, please consider joining. It would be greatly appreciated.
4. Thank you to all of the committee members and chairpersons for your hard work. Your dedication to insuring that our lake remains as beautiful and safe as it is wonderful.

I would ask a favor of all of you, whether you are snowbirds or year round residents. Starting on November 1st, start doing the Heikki Lunta snow dance (guess you can tell that I'm a Yooper). We can use a winter with lots of snow. The lake will thank you and so will I as I am a skier.

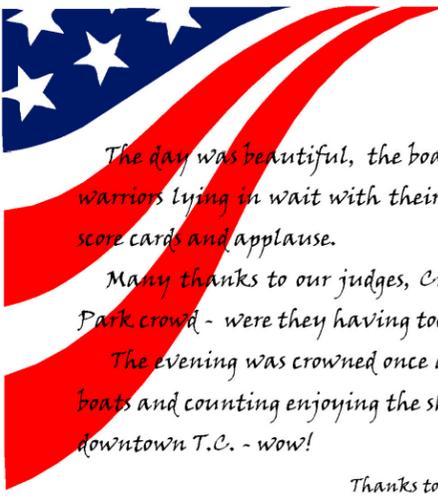
Have a wonderful winter. We will see you next summer.

B. Scot Ogden, President

Boat Launch Problems

There is a great deal of concern about the difficulty of getting boats out of the lake for the winter. You have no doubt noticed the letter addressing this issue which is inserted in this publication. The letter does a good job of explaining the problem. We ask that you take the time to sign and mail it now. Hopefully a mass mailing will draw enough attention to our situation to get a response quickly.

Submitted by SLIA



*Independence Day Regatta on Silver Lake
Time to Share, Time to Care ... and you did!*

The day was beautiful, the boats were spectacular, the shoreline was packed - the young warriors lying in wait with their ammunition, their elders showing their approval with score cards and applause.

Many thanks to our judges, Crewes, Laubach and Testor families joined by the Holiday Park crowd - were they having too much fun?

The evening was crowned once again with a grand fireworks display in Kreiser Cove - 50+ boats and counting enjoying the show. We're told families chose the Silver Lake display over downtown T.C. - wow!

Thanks to all! Nancy Knight and Chuck Hathaway, Social Committee

THE REALLY BIG BEACH BALL

Last spring Chuck Hathaway came up with this brilliant idea to have a "Really Big Beach Ball" on Silver Lake - it was indeed "Brilliant" - and a major success!

It required some "engineering" and "maintenance" but that was part of the fun ... First it had to be weighted down by water so it wouldn't become airborne, then blown up and launched. As time went on, it had to be relocated and patched regularly.

It soon became the talk of the lake - "Have you seen? - Have you signed?" It even made an appearance at Annual meeting for a close up view and more "tales" of it's journey.

The feeling is unanimous that it should become an annual event ...
Thank you Chuck!



"Red Solo Cup"
Bogard/Schell Family
1st Place



Launching w/Dick Bogard



"Here Comes The Sun"
Kreiser/Bowman Family
2nd Place



Parading in Regatta w/Jeana Seidelman



"Proud To Be An American"
Barsheff Family, 3rd Place



"Redneck Yacht Club"
Machuta Family, 4th Place



Signed, Sealed & Delivered



"Tiki Bar" - Alpers Family
Honorable Mention, 5th Place



"Sing America" - Holiday Park
Honorable Mention, 6th Place



Relocating w/Dick & Barry Andrews



Attending Annual Meeting
w/Chuck Hathaway

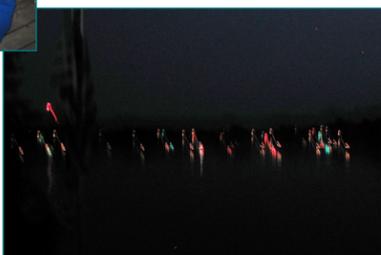


It's a family affair

... THE FINALE

Thank you Kreiser, Ford, Cole and Harrigan families for the final tribute to the day!

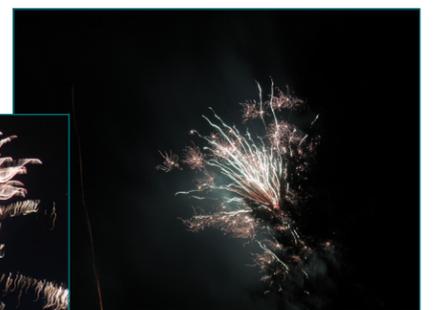
.. the Silver Lake Community,
enjoying the show!



It's a "Grand Ole Flag"



.. the Rocket's Red Glare



REGATTA ENTHUSIASTS ON PARADE



Weaver Family – “Life’s a Beach”



Flynn Family #2 – “Pulling Together”



Hull/Palko – “Barge of Beautiful Babes”



Kleinrichert Family – “Christmas in July”



Geskus Family – “U.S.S. Between Naps”



Thirby Family – “It’s a Family Thing”



Sea Hunt Family – “Joining Together”



Four Winns Family – “Just Having Fun”



Brock Family – “Rocket Launcher”



Blood Family – “4th of July”



Flynn Family – “Playbuoy”

SHORELINE PARTICIPATION IS THE GREATEST!



The competition from the shoreline is fierce – perhaps we’re missing a “Judging Event”!



Crewes Family & Friends

THE JUDGES, A DIFFICULT JOB – “BUT SOMEONE HAS TO DO IT!”

***We’re sorry we don’t have pictures of the Testor Family & Holiday Park Group who also did a GREAT Job!

Thank you all!!



Laubach Family & Friends

BITS FROM THE PAST



Hello, friends of Silver Lake and the surrounding area. I am Floyd Kevwitch and I live on East Silver Lake Road, on a centennial farm that has been in my family since 1886. Our farmland borders Silver Lake. I am 85 years old and am still farming, though just a little slower. My wife, Gladys, and I are cattle farmers.

My grandparents and their three children came to America in 1883 from East Prussia on the ship Polaria. After spending three years in New York, they settled here in 1886. The Protrafka (now spelled Petroskey) family, friends from the home country who also traveled to America at the same time, on the same ship, contacted them about the homesteading property that is now our family farm. The property was all trees and had to be cleared. The only building was a two-room shack that sat on stumps.

It was quite a challenge to clear all the big trees, using only horses and dynamite. My grandparents dug a basement with thick fieldstone walls and enlarged the house to make room for 4 additional children. Then they built a barn. The cattle were watered in Silver Lake.

I remember my grandfather's death. My father, Adolph, took over the farm in 1933 during the Great Depression. We sold cream and eggs and dad fished in Silver Lake, mainly during the winter. Dad also worked building U.S. 31, shoveling gravel into wagons for a wage of \$1 per day. He continued the farming until he was killed in a car accident in 1946.

I was born here on the farm in 1927. I attended Rennie School and then Traverse City Central High School. During high school, a teacher had the task of driving a station wagon to pick up six of us and drive us into town for school. Then, during WWII, we had a bus. After graduation, I worked at the Ford garage on Front Street and I helped mom run the farm. I drove a '39 Ford. A friend who did not have a car wanted to date a girl from Buckley. Since I was the needed driver, his date arranged a blind date for me so we could double. That blind date, Gladys, and I were married in 1948 and are the proud parents of 4 children who have produced 9 grandchildren who have added 6.5 great-grandchildren.

All of them have played in, on, and around the lake. Silver Lake has been the center of lots of their fun. All of our children have stayed in the local area.

I took over the farm to help my mother after my dad died. My brother Al helped when he could. After 6 years of marriage and in spite of being a farmer, the local draft board saw fit to call me to duty for 2 years in 1954. I was a munitions specialist and stayed state side.

Our first of 4 children was born in 1955. My wife, Gladys, worked at Munson from 1948-1958 where she ran the linen department. Her pay was 50 cents per hour. After the second baby, she quit to stay home with her family.

To supplement the farm income, I also worked at Cone Drive Gear for 32 years and did carpentry work. I worked with Will Wiltse, an apprentice of Frank Lloyd Wright, on the Silver Lake Inn. Now I am waiting for my new group of cattle to arrive. I continue to farm.

Many things have changed in my time—new neighbors and saying good-bye to dear friends. Time has a way of passing too fast. We should spend more time at the lake. It is so good to be born in this beautiful area.

Thanks for keeping the lake so beautiful,
Floyd and Gladys Kevwitch

Submitted by Vicki Bush

WHAT CAN AND CAN'T THE SLIA BOARD DO?

Our mission is to protect the future of Silver Lake. This involves working to control anything that threatens the lake such as invasive species or getting a drain system in place when the lake water was so high it flooded homes and septic systems. Our goal is to educate everyone on how best to protect and enjoy Silver Lake. The primary purpose of our newsletter is to educate, but we also use it to inspire a sense of community through events such as the July

Regatta, Beach Bum games and the fishing weekend for kids.

We **do not** have any authority to “police” the lake. So, we are not able to enforce boating laws, fireworks at any hour of the day or night, or neighbor's loud parties and barking dogs. (Check out the “Who Do You Call” article)

Submitted by Janet Wheeler

WHY EMAIL ADDRESS REQUEST?

The SLIA is requesting email addresses for everyone who receives this newsletter, whether you are a member of the association or not. We WILL NOT SHARE THIS INFORMATION!!! Everything will be sent “blind copy” so even others on the email list won't be able to see your address. The purpose of collecting these addresses is to make it possible for us to email various items of interest to all lake residents. Such as:

- Notifying residents when the lake is treated for invasive species as well as when it will be safe to swim after the treatment.

- If and where there is an outbreak of swimmer's itch.
- Reminders of Silver Lake events such as: Annual meeting, Fishing events, Silver Lake night at the Beach Bums and Roadside cleanup.

Your 2012 SLIA membership form has a line for you to fill in your email address, please use it when paying your dues, or even if you aren't joining the association. You can also send this information through our web site: www.silverlakeimprovement.com

Submitted by Janet Wheeler

SLIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Scot Ogden	517-749-3895	President, Environmental
Dick Bogard	231-943-4845	Vice President, Fisheries
Jeana Seidelman	517-812-5259	Secretary
Barry Andrews	231-943-7005	Treasurer, Membership, Drain Liaison
Vicki Bush	231-943-8533	Bits From Past, Township Liaison
Chuck Hathaway	231-943-3912	Social, Regatta
Ron Grin	231-943-0293	Social, Adopt-A-Hwy
Janet Wheeler	231-943-4443	Publicity, Nominating
Nancy Knight	231-943-9487	Social, Regatta, Nominating
Mike Kaufman	517-775-2456	Committee Choice TBD
Randy Williams	231-995-8030	Committee Choice TBD
David Reed	491-367-4742	Environmental
Wayne Knight	231-943-9487	Committee Member, Website
Diane Seelof	616-481-2883	Committee Member, Muck Investigation

**** Feel free to contact any board member by phone, or through website, www.silverlakeimprovement.com**

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome our newest members:

Michael Cole
Jim & Vickie Curry
Michael & Ann Groleau
Jeffrey Homant
Kerry & Donna Kaysserian
Max & Maureen Machuta
Gerald & Pamela Niezgoda
Dale Norconk
Tessa Alexander
Fred Shipman
Ruth Bloomer
Randolph & Michelle Williams
Bonnie Miller

WHO DO YOU CALL?

Life threatening or dangerous violations **911**

Lake violations (Sheriff Marine Division)
Boat MC number required; description of boat & driver requested)
922-4550

Launch site violations (local dispatch)
922-4550

DNR Traverse City Office
922-5280

Lost and found (Barry Andrews)
943-7005

To request a copy of Michigan Boating Laws handbook, e-mail SLIA website:
www.silverlakeimprovement.com



Silver Lake
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 2133 • TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49685-2133
www.silverlakeimprovement.com