

Lake Manitou Area Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 3

Publisher Fred Farkas

June 2014



A Great Day On Lake Manitou!

Michael and his mighty companion Katrina were noticed this past Memorial Day weekend enjoying the water and sights around the lake.

Thank you Neighbors



Over the past two months the sound of chain saws was in the air as nearly everyone had tree debris to contend with on land and in the water. Some had more than others, but everyone in the area got to it like eager beavers to GET-ER-DONE! Thank you for all of your effort.

Bang For Your Buck

Lake Manitou July 5th fireworks display is fast approaching. Currently we have received less than \$1,000 towards the \$5,000 goal. Without strong donation support by June 15th we will have to scale back the display to \$4,000. The event is completely funded by donations and no Association finances are involved. It is

Bang For Your Buck (continued)

through the organizational efforts of a few committed neighbors that the event is possible and if you can, a donation would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be made to Dan Cody, Roy Thelen, Fred Farkas or any association board member. The Lake Manitou Website has all the information under Events or Current News. <http://lake-manitou.org>

Resident Watercraft, Wave Runners And Idle Times

It all starts with us as individual association members for the benefit of everyone around the lake. Without your individual support of our rules the organization crumbles.

Summer boating and water sports are here and a little helpful cooperation is appreciated. Here's a sample of what is requested of lake residents: All watercraft must be registered solely to a Lake Manitou resident and display a Lake Manitou sticker on the right side of the craft. No boating above idle (that means slow and slow means no wake) after 8:00pm or before 10:00am on legal holidays, Saturdays or Sundays. No boating above idle after sunset or before 10:00am on weekdays. All lake rules for lake boating apply to wave runners. All wave runners must be registered solely to the Lake Manitou property owner and display a Lake Manitou sticker on the right side of the craft. No relative or guest wave runners are allowed on the lake. On our website <http://lake-manitou.org> at the top of the page you will find SAFTEY. In it is a summary of boating and water rules to promote a safe and peaceful lake experience for the enjoyment of all.

"What we think, or what we know, or what we believe is, in the end, of little consequence. The only consequence is what we do."

Carp Fishing Tournament

Fish on! The tournament is in progress. \$100 prize for the longest carp and \$100 for the most total weight of carp caught from Lake Manitou during the tournament which runs until 2:00pm July 5th. As of May 27th Dylan S. leads the weight category with 64lbs. from seven carp. Matt O. has brought in the longest carp at 34". In Matt's words, "it's been a blast so far". And what do we do with the fish? Fantastic organic garden fertilizer! For an informational flyer and who's who, you can check it out on the website under Events, Carp Tournament at: <http://lake-manitou.org>.

Lake Management This Year

This year the association board has undertaken a new path of lake and chemical management which will be carefully evaluated both for effectiveness in control of algae and aquatic plants and the cost effectiveness for future use. We have contracted with Lake Pro out of Swartz Creek which is a commercial lake management company who will be applying algaecide and herbicide.

We are also conducting a few experiments with environment friendly alternative lake chemical products as possible alternatives for future use.

The association board would like to receive your comments about the lake water level, water clarity and your perceptions of the overall lake water quality as we proceed through the summer season.

It would be very helpful if shoreline residents would rake or pick up and dispose of floating aquatic weeds, sticks and dead fish along the shore as algae tends to attach itself to this debris and multiply. Lawn clippings floating in the water also promotes algae growth.

Island Botanical Garden

The north end of the island is taking shape with a variety of flowering plants. All the plants have been donated from residents who wanted to contribute to the garden theme or thin out their flower beds. Thank you to the Bergin's, Gert Weever, Hedge's, Bateman's and Ms. Lupu.

Island Botanical Garden (continued)

There is room for you and your plantings. If you would like more information on this check it out at <http://lake-manitou.org>

Lake Manitou Web site

I'm sure you are picking up the hint about the Lake Manitou Association website as I've already mentioned it five times up to this point.

Our Webmaster is currently testing an automatic email notification to all those that we have email addresses for. When new information is placed on the website a notification will be sent to email addresses along with the link to the website so you can stay abreast of the latest information.

Kathy Landes has spent many hours mastering website code to upgrade and enhance our website as a show piece for the technological world to admire. We hope you will take advantage of it.

Summer Membership Meeting

The Lake Manitou summer membership meeting is scheduled for Sunday June 29, 2014, 2:00pm at the Baker College Welcome Center at 1309 S. M-52, Owosso, MI.. All association members are welcome to attend.

Association Elections Time

Election ballots will be mailed to your homes soon. Please consider your choices and vote.

Proposed By-Laws Updates

Your vote matters! The Association board is unanimously endorsing a few updates to our by-laws. The intent is to clarify operating procedures that we currently follow, correct typographical errors and streamline just a few procedures. To adopt the changes, at least 70% of the responses must be in favor. Each property within the Association receives one vote. Your kind attention to this would be greatly appreciated now and for future directors.

Lake Manitou Yard Sale

Make room for that new stuff you've been wanting by unloading the old stuff. It's a hoot of a good time around the lake with a one day bargain hunting frenzy. Join in the fun and let Mary Jo Forsythe know you want to be included in the sales map. Yes! There's a map to guide all of the potential buyers to your doorstep. How cool is that? But you need to contact Mary Jo soon to be included and it would be very much appreciated if you would consider making a contribution towards the newspaper advertising and maps. Guess what? Everything you want and need to know about the association-wide yard sale can be found on the website: <http://lake-manitou.org>. Imagine that!

Points To Ponder

Everyone has a photographic memory; some just don't have film.
If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.
The early bird gets the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
Quoted from Wright's observations.

Nature's Corner

Michigan's non poisonous Northern Water Snake is a look-alike to a Water Moccasin. The Water Moccasin is sometimes referred to as a Cottonmouth which is highly poisonous but resides in the southern United States. In Michigan, if you come across a dark brown color snake with darker color bands it is the Northern Water Snake. It might also have a solid dark color skin. The Northern Water Snake can be, as with any other snake, aggressive when threatened. Their bite can cause infection if not cleaned properly.



Nature's Corner (continued)

The Michigan DNR website contains facts on all of Michigan's snakes.

www.michigan.gov/dnr. Search snakes.



This spring it seems that the Baltimore Oriole is being seen at many areas around the lake. It has brilliant orange plumage (brighter than the Robin) with black and white wings. Their nests hang from branches and they are attracted to feeders with fresh orange slices or jellies such as grape or strawberry.

Trinkets, Doodads & Knick Knacks

What is the attraction about wanting, needing, collecting and possessing trinkets? What is it that attracts so many people to the act of hoarding? Should I be receiving psychiatric therapy if I gravitate toward collecting a stash of doodads? I opened a kitchen drawer the other day, with some difficulty I might add, and it was filled with every imaginable and unused kitchen utensil that I haven't seen in years. I rediscovered a drawer full of kitchen gimmicks that didn't slice, dice, peel, clean or stay forever sharp. But yet I can't quite part with these doodads.

I'll also admit I have a place where I keep parts and pieces of pens, half used pencils with dried up or missing erasers, paper clips, rubber bands and whatnot. On occasion I spend some time combing through all of the whatnot just to take a mental inventory for future reference, although I'm not sure why.

I know I'm not alone in this. Are you a "closet collector?" You can admit it. It's OK.

Some time ago I visited a neighbors home and once inside there were dozens, if not hundreds so it seemed, of Santa's staring at me. There were big ones, short ones, fat ones and round ones. Inside another neighbor's

Trinkets (continued)

home I noticed on a living room table a tray filled with decorative round glass paper weights of all designs and colors. In another home I noticed a wide variety of collectibles and memorabilia on the walls and throughout the living and family rooms. It appeared to me to be more of a delightful and interesting living museum.

U. S. Fish And Wildlife Service Visits Lake Manitou



This past May 21st two officers visited the lake to evaluate the probability as to whether or not the Sea Lamprey could find its way into Lake Manitou by traveling up stream and over the spillway. The officers are inventorying dozens of locations throughout southern Michigan. Since 1938 these primitive non native invasive parasitic fish have been in the Great Lakes introduced by shipping vessels. They attach themselves to fish and suck the fish's blood and fluids, similar to what a leech does to humans. By the 1950's they had greatly reduced sport fish populations. Since then governmental agencies have been controlling their population with chemicals and other means, spending millions of dollars annually.

This is an example of why it is so important for us to be careful to not introduce invasive plant or animal species into Lake Manitou.

In 2004 the Limnologist did not find any Eurasian Watermilfoil (invasive aquatic plant) in Lake Manitou, but for years now we have been controlling its spread with chemicals. Check out the boat ramp which contains information on aquatic hitchhikers as many invasive species make their entrance into lakes from boats and trailers. This is also a reason that we do not allow visitor watercraft on our lake. Please do not allow your friends to use their watercraft in the lake.

For more information on the Sea Lamprey:

www.sealamprey.org

Who Let The Dogs Out

A few of our neighbors asked that I make mention that when dogs are let out unattended at night or day, some of the four legged K9's them make their way into others yards. Some leave reminders that they've visited either by digging or from waste deposits. Please be accountable for your pets.

Watercraft Decals

If you own watercraft that is on Lake Manitou, please telephone a board member to obtain your official water craft decal. Supportive neighbors for the good of the association are much appreciated by all.

Just So You Know

This newsletter is privately funded and is not an official publication of the Lake Manitou Association.

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform, educate, enlighten and entertain. You can find this newsletter on the Lake Manitou Association website where it's in color by going to "About Us", then click on "Newsletter".



This photograph was taken by our neighbor Renita Mikolajczyk on May 29, 2014. The mature Bald Eagle was perched atop the tree waiting for its next unsuspecting fish.

The next edition of this newsletter will be in August. Until then, happy trails neighbors and friends.