

Lake Manitou

Area Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 3

Publisher Fred Farkas

September 2015



The guys - Greg taking Rocco for a cruise through the neighborhood. Who is enjoying the ride more?



Check the back page for your invitation

Recycling And Collection Events

Free electronics recycling is being offered Saturday October 3, 2015, 9am-noon at the Shiawassee County Soil Conservation District located at 1900 S. Morrice Rd. at M-52. Check the website for specifics.

<http://www.shiawasseeccd.org/pdf/Ewaste15.pdf>

Free household hazardous waste collection for Shiawassee County residents is being offered Saturday October 24, 8am-noon at the

Recycling (continued)

VG's parking lot on North M-52 thanks to the Shiawassee County Health Department. Telephone the health department for what they will accept at 989 743-2392.

The Greater Laingsburg Recyclers (GLR) have monthly recycling collections and accept a wide range of materials. For more information on their program telephone 517 651-2005.

A special thank you is in order for everyone's efforts to recycle and especially all the recyclers.

As The Lake Turns



Photo by James C. Farkas

Thank you to everyone who donated to this year's fireworks show. Your generous support is greatly appreciated as the show delighted many family and friends around our community. A special thank you to Roy Thelen for all the tireless work involved in collecting revenue for the event.

This year's cost was \$5,400. We were searching for donations right up to an hour before the show, falling short \$185.00. From my personal experience over the past three seasons, receipt of donations has been a challenge, even with receiving some individual donations of

As The Lake Churns (continued)

\$250. This year one donation totaled \$400.00 in an effort to cover the cost. In considering funding of future Lake Manitou fireworks, the association board has had conversation about adding a \$50.00 fee into the resident annual dues/assessment to cover the cost of the annual fireworks show. This would generate about \$5,300. Your opinion matters and the Association board members would like to hear your suggestions on this matter. Help in planning the event would be appreciated as well. Let the board know what you think! Mark your calendars for Saturday July 2, 2016 for another great show.

Seasoned lake shore residents realize at times there is extra work involved with lake shore maintenance. Most everyone has at least one lake rake on hand. Aquatic plant fragments, algae and leaves regularly accumulate at shore and in bays. Aquatic plant growth and algae blooms are unpredictable, difficult to manage, and can occur at the most inopportune times. This past July 4th weekend we had a bloom of aquatic plants intermixed with the invasive Milfoil plant in a few areas. Some would say the plant growth was completely unacceptable while others were more understanding of the lakes peaks and valleys and managed to enjoy all the benefits the lake has to offer. Thank you to everyone for sharing your thoughts and concerns.

Water World Visitors

This past July we had two separate visits from Michigan State University (MSU) graduates. On July 20th Water Resources Educator Monica Day from the Corunna MSU Extension Service was here for a lake tour to better understand our concern over elevated nutrient and sediment input from the Hardy Jennings Drain.

On July 23rd Aquatic Biologist Angela DePalma-Dow was at our lake for several hours as we surveyed aquatic plants growing near the shore line while looking for invasive plants. Ms. DePalma-Dow helps administer the MICORPS (Michigan Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program) and works with the

Water World Visitors (continued)

DNR's rapid response team in dealing with invasive aquatic plants.

Both specialists were here when algae and aquatic plants were not over producing and didn't witness one of the blooms that we occasionally experience.

A few hundred years ago baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all were the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water!" True or not?

A few hundred years ago most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and they still smelled pretty good by June. However, since they were starting to smell, brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odor, hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married. True or not?

Working Too Hard At Having Fun!

I've come to learn that living life on a lake requires extra work. I bought a pontoon for leisurely "life of Riley" rides around the lake. I quickly found that putting the cover on and off it is like wrestling a Burmese Python as I find myself in various contorted positions trying to stretch the cover to align the grommets to snap them in place. A good neighbor forewarned me of this peril and suggested I invest in a special tool to help with the task. Then there's the crawling portion of the process where I maneuver under the cover to place the support poles. Underneath the cover the temperature immediately climbs into the 100's and I feel as if I'm single handedly putting up a circus big top tent. Even with the cover on it, after a rain it's still soaking wet.

Am I having fun yet?

Natures Corner

The majestic eagles have been touring the

Natures Corner (continued)

lake more frequently recently. They have been observed occasionally perching atop the pine trees on the island. Before 11 am is the best time to catch a glimpse as the lake is most quiet. Look for the distinct white color head and tail feathers.

Brakes! Not the Gas!



One of our residents recently forgot the difference between the gas pedal and brake, learning the hard way that John Deere lawn tractors don't float. The family might consider taking away the keys and buying a push mower. This is a good advertisement endorsing a benefit of a "no cut" shoreline buffer zone.

From the mishap new slogans were born: Don't dream and drive. Don't be a victim of distracted mowing and don't text and mow.

Fortunately no injuries were reported.

New Neighbors

Within the past few months we have gained more new neighbors to our community. Jim and LuAnn Bringard purchased the home at 4754 Sunset Drive. We also have new neighbors at 1900 W. Garrison Road. Welcome new neighbors!

In Memory Of Our Neighbors

On July 4, 2015 Madelyn (Madge) Uehlein passed away after a courageous three year battle with cancer. Over the course of her debilitating illness and the effects of aggressive treatments she maintained a positive attitude with the help of her loving family who were at

In Memory (continued)

her side. Madge and Jim had been married 48 years.

Sunday, July 26, 2015 was a sunny, hot and relaxing evening until about 6:00pm when Lloyd (Randy) Fayling (71) met up with an active bee hive that had nested under the house deck. He passed away from a severe allergic reaction to bee stings.

Lloyd was looking forward to retirement this October from his second career and had plans to spend more time with his wife Leslie and leisurely rides on a recently acquired pontoon boat. "He was an authentic, one-of-a-kind, growly bear beauty of a man. His silly humor will be dearly missed."

Flying and Stinging

Bees, hornets and wasps seem to have become more prevalent in the last two years around our area. This summer I've had six encounters with them from hanging nests and ground hives. Please be careful in your walks and activities around your home.

Thoughts To Ponder

"When one has energy, enthusiasm, and the will to succeed, the greatest obstacles we face become small hurdles."

"Inside every problem lies an opportunity".

"Kindness is the language the blind can see and the deaf can hear." - Mark Twain

Just So You Know

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform, educate, enlighten and entertain. It is privately funded and not an official publication of the Lake Manitou Association. The next edition is scheduled for December 2015.

You can find this newsletter in color on the Lake Manitou Association website at <http://lake-manitou.org> Click on "About Us" then click on "Newsletter".

Until next time, happy trails to you.

To:

Lake shore residents of Manitou, Mirror, Eve, Forest, Bambi, Fawn, Bear and Spring Brook.

You are invited to a causal and informative gathering of lake shore property owners.

Purpose:

Managing your lake shore property to help protect water resources.

Residential septic system maintenance and design.

Sharing of water concerns and information.

Aquatic plant identification.

Networking of area lake residents.

When:

Monday September 21, 2015 7:00 pm

Time:

7:00pm – 8:30pm

Where:

Baker College Welcome Center. 1309 S-52 Owosso. MI 48867

The parking lot entrance is via Hopkins Lake road which runs east off M-52.

Sponsors:

Lake and Stream Leaders Institute participants Monica Day and Fred Farkas
Lake Manitou Association. www.lake-manitou.org

Ms. Day is a Water Resources Educator employed with the Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service in Corunna. Fred Farkas is a Lake Manitou resident and Lake Manitou lake manager.

SepticSmart Week begins September 21, 2015. For information from MSU Extension:

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/celebrate_septic_smart_week

Contact: Fred Farkas at 734 417-1276 for more information about this event. Director-5@lake-manitou.org

LSLI project flyer