

Lake Manitou

Area Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 3

Publisher Fred Farkas

November 2016



Festive Fall decorations at Louann and Jim Bringard's for all to enjoy as Thanksgiving approaches. [Waugh Rd. at Sunset Dr.]

Hello To Our New Neighbors

Four more homes have changed hands around Lake Manitou since September 2016.

After 32 years at Lake Manitou Linda George sold her home at 2120 W. Garrison Rd. Our new neighbors are Bob and Sharon Hudecek along with their children Paige and Brett who attend Owosso schools. Their third child Seth is managing life on his own. Both Sharon and Bob were raised in Owosso but have been living in Fowlerville Michigan for the past several years. Welcome back to Owosso!

Bonnie Griffin sold her home at 4868 Apache Path after many years of life experiences at the lake. Our new neighbors are Fred and Tiffany Rose along with their

New Neighbors (continued)

energetic young children Christian, Noah, Nevi and hopefully soon to be adopted, Mia. The family has been in Perry Michigan for the last 8 years. A few years ago Tiffany discovered our country lake setting from attending our annual community wide yard sales. The family is excited to have the lake at their own doorstep. Welcome to Lake Manitou!

The home of Dorothy Frank at 1900 W. Garrison Rd. was vacant for the past few years and since October has a new owner.

After many years at Lake Manitou, Dave and Dianne Acton just sold their home at 4941 Chippewa Ct., deciding to move into the city of Owosso where they already own property. The new owners will be here by Thanksgiving.

Farewell to our long time neighbors and friends who have helped make the lake community a pleasant and peaceful atmosphere to call home, and hello to all the new families who are settling in to begin new adventures.

Sad News; Hon. Peter Marroso

On November 15, 2016 our well respected neighbor Peter Marroso (80) succumbed to failing health. "Pete" was well known for judicious scrutiny of the facts throughout his career and played a significant role in the early days of our Association. He had a special appreciation for his family and life outdoors. Pete always had the best fishing tales about our lake or from elsewhere in Michigan. Condolences to his wife Joan and all his family.

New Construction

This past March we welcomed Bert and Beverly Eddington to the Lake Manitou community after purchasing a vacant lot on Cherokee Trail. As of July it is no longer a vacant lot; photo below. It's the first new construction in our community in many years.



Photo taken October 15th.

Reiner and Coletta Wedel have owned a vacant lot on W. Manitou Dr. for two years. On November 7th excavation began for their new home construction.

Family Gift

Are you looking for a gift for someone? Consider purchasing a membership to the Michigan Lake and Stream Association, ML&SA. The group is dedicated to preservation, protection and wise management of Michigan lakes and streams. With the membership comes a subscription to The Riparian Magazine which is mailed directly to the home. There are monthly email postings of informational and educational lake and stream articles. The annual membership fee is \$45.00. You can sign up on their website:

<http://www.mymlsa.org/>

Manitou Island

The Association is looking for volunteers to help maintain the community island, primarily with keeping the flowers weed free and maybe some mowing. This coming Spring some of the flowers will be moved into clusters. Contact Fred if you have ideas on design or have flowers to donate.

"Desire is the starting point of all achievement."

Recovering Manitou Neighbors

Life itself brings experiences of joy, sorrow, sickness, health, emotional distress, and the trials and tribulations of maneuvering through the goal posts of life.

Our neighbor and friend Lloyd Sutliff has been dealing with several acute personal medical conditions since last January starting with what was supposed to be a relaxing Florida vacation that turned into hospital lodging. Since that experience a few more setbacks developed and recently Lloyd began chemo therapy treatment.

On October 11, 2016, our good neighbors Phil and Pam Strauch were driving on M-52 heading into Owosso when they came to a stop at Dewey road waiting for a car in front of them to make a left turn. An approaching semi truck driver didn't notice the stopped cars and crashed into the back of the Strauch's vehicle. Phil was fortunate to have received only bruising and soreness while Pam is slowly recovering at home with multiple bone fractures.

There are most likely more folks around the lake that we haven't heard about who are suffering. To everyone; best wishes for recovery, happiness and peace!

Nature's Corner



This past June and July my lakeside yard was a temporary home to an American Kestrel. The kestrel is the smallest and most common falcon in North America. It is about the size of a Blue Jay and it commanded the air and ground space when it was around. No matter how much bird seed was in the feeders, there were no takers when the kestrel was around. On the ground there wasn't a

Nature's Corner (continued)

squirrel or chipmunk moving about as the kestrel feeds on small birds, small furry four legged rodents and large insects. What was most interesting was that occasionally three or four Robins worked cooperatively keeping a close eye on the predator. Perching themselves at different locations they made a distinct alarm call and would take turns dive bombing, within inches of the kestrel's head as it sat on posts or tree tops. Unfazed, it continued hunting and I happened to see it find and make a meal of a baby robin. No wonder why the adult robins were so persistent.

Sitting still and quiet outdoors opens a window into many experiences occurring in front of us, especially with such a wonderful lake environment that we have to enjoy throughout the year. We can miss out on many natural and wonderful occurrences if we are not paying attention to what's around us in both nature and our personal relationships.

I'm pleased to mention that we have a new aquatic plant establishing itself in Lake Manitou. This is the second year in a row that I've found carnivorous Bladderwort. It's a unique submersed plant that captures and digests small water insects. You can find out more about it by searching online [aquatic carnivorous bladderwort](#). Plant diversity is essential to an aquatic habitat. Judicious use of aquatic herbicides allows native plants such as bladderwort to establish themselves.

From fishing reports that I hear about and personal observation, I am optimistic that our fish population and size of fish have improved over the last three years as a result of allowing and managing aquatic plants. Aquatic plants are essential fish habitat as food, protection and spawning, and there's still plenty of room for all the other water sport activities.

Fireworks Display

This past July 3rd was another super summer day of family and friends around Lake Manitou. There was abundant warm sunshine and many water activities of all types throughout the day and into the evening. It was a full day of enjoyment as evidenced by the boat load of fun seekers pictured here.

Fireworks (continued)



The day concluded with our annual pyrotechnic display which was the collective gift of many residents and friends who donated hard earned cash for the enjoyment of everyone who attended. Thank you neighbors and friends for your support!

The 2017 fireworks are tentatively planned for Saturday, July 1, 2017 as we still need to confirm the date with ACE PYRO. The donations collection goal is \$5,400.00. We are looking for more residents to help organize the donation collection. Early donations to the Association for this event are extremely helpful. Contact any board member for details if you will help.

Community Cooperation

Communication is essential for an informed community. We all have a vested interest in health, safety and timely news of events taking place in and around the lake and area. Our Association website provides a direct connection. Along with that is an automatic email system when new information is posted on the website. To be included on the email notification, contact Kathy Landes at director-4@lake-manitou.org.

The Association has an updated telephone notification call system for those who may not be on the email list. The Association also sends periodic news information through the U.S. mail and meeting minutes are posted on line. Although not an official publication of the association, this newsletter was created to help keep Lake Manitou residents informed.

Summer Reflections



An early morning kayak expedition June 18th on Lake Manitou with trusted furry family member Daisy. Michele and Brian Felton have been here since March of this year and are enjoying their lakeside home as well as the fishing and exploring.

As The Lake Churns

Winter is around the corner. When will ice completely cover the lake this season? In 2014 the lake was completely covered with ice on November 15 and it didn't depart until March 30, 2015 as it was a long cold snowy winter.

Ice didn't cover the lake again until January 10, 2016 and it departed March 8, 2016.

It's big, green and can be slimy just like the creature from the black lagoon. Algae. It has become more prolific in Lake Manitou and for longer periods of time, based on comparisons of phosphorus levels from 1994 – 2003, and phosphorus measurements obtained in the last three years. High concentrations of phosphorus fuel algae growth, including blue-green algae that produce cyanobacteria which contain potentially health harming mycrosystin. As mentioned last year, our lake water recorded the highest phosphorus concentration of 208 lakes that were monitoring phosphorus; the year before that we were the third highest.

For many years residents have been looking at the water. For the last three years we have been looking into the water chemistry with the goal of identifying contaminants and their sources. Our goal is to greatly reduce or eliminate the contaminants that degrade water quality within Lake Manitou and the

As The Lake Churns (continued)

watershed. The use of more lake water chemicals will not eliminate the problem.

Based on water testing, the Hardy Jennings Drain is a major source of phosphorus entering the lake.

This year the Association began e. coli bacteria water testing in the drain and around the lake. The Hardy Jennings Drain is proving to carry extremely high concentrations of e. coli and soil into the lake after heavy rain events. So far, around our lake shores e. coli is below the state safety thresholds. Soil sediment from erosion is also apparent. We are working on plans with local and state agencies to address these contaminants with the goal of improving water quality.

Lake Manitou Board Positions

This past May the Association had several reelections of board members with the election of Brian George who replaced Charlie Jones. Brian and Cindy George have been residents for 23 years and enjoy the peace and quiet of our community. The board appreciates having Brian's wisdom and willingness to lend a hand in representing our community.

You Should 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.

Your thoughts, opinions and suggestions are very much appreciated. Contact Fred Farkas at 734 417-1276.

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

Do not let your TODAY be stolen by the unchangeable past or the indefinite future!
Today is a new day!
The best six best doctors in the world are sunlight, rest, exercise, diet, self confidence and friends.

Until next time, happy trails to you.