

PINE LAKE ASSOCIATION



Staying in Touch with the Pine Lake Association.

There are many ways to find out what is going on at the lake. Our Official Web site <http://www.pinelk.org/> has many articles, current events, the calendar and great photos to look at.

If you are more of a Facebook kind of person, join us at: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/103027626401730/> This is a bit more current and interactive.

You may contact the Board by mailing us a Pine Lake Association PO Box 3, Plainwell, Mi 49080

Pine Lake Association Board

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Cindy Hook
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State of the Association

Our last year in review:

The all lake garage sale was done in June and it was a success. We will be doing it again. Thanks to Kim England for coordinating this in 2014. This year it may coincide with the Lake Doster garage sale event that should bring even more folks out our way. A registration form is attached to this newsletter for this year's event.

Fourth of July events:

The fireworks for the Independence Day celebration were fantastic. Larger fireworks and even a painted shot was incorporated in the display. The music was great and the sight of all the boats on lake three was amazing.

This year the fireworks will be on the 3rd of July. There again will be different set backs or exclusion areas because we are going to be using some larger fireworks this year. So if the Marine Patrol asks you to leave where you usually parked, it is not because they are picking on you, its so we can have a safe and hopefully larger display. There will again be music playing over by the Kauss Haus. If you want to hear the tunes, you may want to park over there. Thanks to the Kauss Family for letting us set up the music on their beach. You may have heard that Ted Kauss passed away this last year. We extend our sympathy to all of the Kauss family on this unexpected loss.

Turtle Race was a great time for all. Little shortage of turtles, so some turtles got to race more than once. Note to all, get your turtles and keep them safe for the race this year so we will have sufficient numbers of turtles to race. Nancy is going to hold this wonderful event on the 4th in 2015.

The night time boat parade was a big success and we will be doing it again on the night of the 4th. There may also be a day time parade of antique boats, but this is still being firmed up.

Pig Roast in 2014, was a success but there has been a gradual reduction in the numbers of attendees and donations so for the next year we are considering rescheduling it to be part of the Winter Fest. Thanks to Chris Khoury, Pine Lake volunteers and Fire Department Team who helped prepare, set up, and serve the food. Thanks to General Equipment Rental for the Dunk Tank and the Bounce Tent.

Halloween Party, almost 100 ghouls and goblins of all sorts and sizes showed up. Again it is amazing that in just a few short hours, the Prairieville Fire Station converts from a fire station to a spook house and then back again in less than an hour. A great time was had by all.

Winter Fest: Wow! What a great time! The weather was great, and the food was great, and the music was great, what more can we say. As mentioned above, we are considering moving the pig roast to be part of the winter fest activities in the coming year. Big thanks to Cindy Hook and Chris Khoury who coordinated this event. Many people helped in the set up for this event and thanks to all of you too.

“Here comes Peter Cottontail.....” The Easter egg scramble” was a bit underwhelming this year with only a few egg hunters showing up. Although those that did show up really scored big. We will probably do this again next spring if we get a coordinator and figure out a way to get more participation.

Volunteers! WE thank you all so much for the help that you have given to the Association over the last year. You are the energy that keeps us going. Please everyone, If you enjoy any or all of the various events that we sponsor, help us out. “Many hands makes for light work.”

Don Haneckow
President
Pine Lake Association
664-6677

A WORD FROM THE WEED CONTROL COMMITTEE:

The 2015 season will be the third year of exotic plant management on Pine Lake. In that time, we have observed significant declines in Eurasian watermilfoil on the lake, while maintaining good cover of beneficial native plant species. In 2012, prior to management, Eurasian watermilfoil was at 39.5% cumulative cover on the lake. Sonar A.S. was applied in the spring of 2013 with the goal of reducing milfoil levels throughout the lake. In September of that year, milfoil levels had dropped to .98% cumulative cover. In 2014, control was maintained and milfoil cumulative cover remained low at .83%. We have also seen an increase in the number of submerged native species observed. When milfoil was dominant, seventeen native species were found. In 2013, twenty were observed. In 2014, that number increased to a total of twenty three native species. This type of trend is fairly common when a significant reduction in Eurasian watermilfoil occurs. Native species that were crowded out will reestablish once released from competition.

While the program started with a whole lake treatment, management in 2013 and 2014 consisted primarily of monitoring and maintenance. The lake is evaluated 4-5 times during the year. If any new growth is found, it is addressed immediately on a spot treatment basis using the appropriate control option. The goal of this strategy is to slow/stop the spread of milfoil on the lake and to maintain control as long as possible. For 2015, the same treatment strategy will be used.

Despite management efforts, milfoil will most likely return to levels where another whole lake Sonar A.S. application may be required. Some lakes require Sonar A.S. every 3-4 years while others have gone 10 or more years

without requiring it. We will do our best to maintain the control as long as possible.

Andy Tomaszewski
Southern Lakes Manager
PLM Lake & Land Management Corp.
(616) 891-1294 ext 2002

Garage sale: The lake wide garage sale is approaching quickly. Have you cleaned out your closets and garage? What a great time to get rid of some of your unwanted items and have fun meeting new people and make some money. Fill out the enclosed flyer and get it to Kim England to ensure your address is on the lake wide map of homes participating.

Treasurers Report

As of May 15 :

General Fund \$14,294.17
Fireworks Fund \$10,743.47
Buoys \$3,501.21

2015 Fireworks are 50% paid.

We have received 153 memberships for this year.

Total contributions so far for 2015-2016 are:

\$3,825.00 for Membership
\$4,280.50 for Fireworks
\$1,047.00 for buoys
\$380.00 for other contributions

Message from the Fire Department

Greetings from your Fire Department,

Once again the Fire Department would like to thank the Pine Lake Association for the generous donation to our equipment fund. We used the money to purchase a leaf blower that is actually used to control wildland fires, and a chain saw which is to be used in various ways on rescues,

downed trees, and fires.

With the Fourth of July coming, we want to remind all to be safe while using fireworks. The fireworks now available to us legally are very powerful and can cause permanent injury or death if not used responsibly. Please be careful.

Numbers on your house so that we won't have to guess which house is yours is very important to us when responding to a medical emergency or fire call. Please make sure these numbers are properly placed and visible to us from the road.

"Neighbors helping Neighbors"

Prairieville Township Fire Department

is continuing to improve the services to all of the residents of the township. At this time we are looking for a few great people that are interested in helping out their community by working with the Fire Department.

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The Township has a need for people, male and female, that are interested in assisting us by responding to medical or fire related calls.

If you are interested in helping your neighbors by responding to medical emergencies we can, review your current credentials, or send you to a recognized Medical First Responder (MFR) class. Upon credential review or successful completion

of the MFR classes, you will be called to assist when there are emergencies in your area.

We are also looking for people interested in fire fighting. If you are interested in being a fire fighter, we will send you to a State of Michigan sanctioned Fire Fighter school. Upon successful completion of the classes you will be recognized throughout Michigan as Fire Fighter I and Fire Fighter II certified. We also pride ourselves on our continuing in-house training that includes controlled burn training, live burn training, and real structural fire fighting scenarios.

You do not have to do both. You can choose to be only a fire fighter, or only be a Medical First Responder, but we would love it if you chose to do both.

If you have an interest, please call the Township Hall at **(269) 623-2664** and ask for an application to join the Fire Department. We will send you an application and give you more information.

Again we thank you for your fantastic support and we hope you have a great summer at the lake

Opportunities to serve the Pine Lake Association

There are many ideas and activities that have been suggested over the past year to keep us busy. With only a handful of volunteers we cannot do all of them. If you have an interest, there is always something you could volunteer your time to do. Ranging from a few hours of time to heading up a committee. Think about stepping up to help make our lake great!



Tervis Tumblers for 2015

The 2015 version of Tervis Tumblers will feature this logo. For those that pre-ordered, the anticipated delivery date is the end of June. Watch our Facebook page for updates. Additional Tumblers were ordered so if you would like to make a purchase contact Robin Williams, 269-512-5909 or through our Facebook page.

Pine Lakers can certainly relate to these rules:

Rules of the Lakehouse Guest

1. If you have been here before you're no longer a GUEST, if you need something get it.
2. In attune to above, if your hostess needs a drink, make them one should you be going to make you one; you have no idea how small gestures remind us what great friends/families we have.
3. I live here year around, be courteous to my neighbors; I am blessed with the best neighbors ever, don't screw it up....LOL

4. If you get it out, please put it away, the maid quit years ago over guests, so we are all on our own.
5. No you're not taking a beach towel home, even if you say you'll bring back, over the years I have "LOST" over a hundred.
6. Yes, we love to boat as much as anyone, toss in for gas, I'll take care of the repairs, storage, payments, insurance, etc. the rest of the year. There are marinas on the lake feel free to stop and buy a gift certificate for fuel; we love to pull you skiing, and tubing, etc.. However, nothing runs on air. Piggy bank is in the liquor cabinet.
7. If you have small kids, teach them not to SCREAM a death scream, if little Jackson is splashing the girls. If you do not want to get wet, stay away from the water. We locals panic and think someone is drowning.
8. When going boating, never ask the question "How long are we going for," we never know, it could be from noon, until midnight, look at how much is being packed, you will have an idea, if you need to ask that question maybe you should stay on shore.
9. No I don't know everyone on the lakes; however, we have this lake thing that everyone waves going through the channels, I guess we are all so relaxed we are just happy, so we wave.
10. There are no whiners on the lake.
11. If you're here on a holiday weekend such as the 4th of July, toss in a kitty or ASK where you can donate for the fireworks. Sorry it's not in our taxes we donate just like everyone else. This year's budget is \$9,000.00 plus the DJ, so around 10 Grand, getting the picture? LOL
12. Bring food to prepare a meal or two, snacks, also what you want to drink and your mix, a bag of ice goes a long way when more than one person brings one.
13. Take out trash, pick up after yourself, if you see something need to be done, then, please do it, again see rule #5.
14. Always pitch in (don't be shy).
15. Pick up after yourself and your family. Dishes go in the dishwasher, full trash in the Herby Curby can. Wet towels or suits should go hang to dry--keep

wood floors dry.

16. While in the boat do not assist unless you are asked. Extending hands and feet while docking may cause injury or damage to the boat as the captain must now focus on your safety and not docking.

17. If you take my boat out, and you see someone broke down, tow them to either marina, we look at that as "pay it forward" it could be us next time.

18. Furthermore, lake day's plans can change in a second, maybe weather, a party, someone needs help. Understanding makes it easier, and I have made the best friends in the world over a breakdown.

19. As stated above plans change, go with the flow, you will find it takes a lot to rile us. We are all blessed where we live on these beautiful lakes. We love to play cards on boats, and socialize. We may tie up together for hours; we solve the world's problems, laugh at each other; read quietly, we float in the water, and again solve more world problems. At times kids are also on the boats, be respectful in your language.

20. Have a wonderful time! My lake house is here to enjoy with our family and friends.

2015 Marine Law Changes

There are a couple of Marine Law changes as of April 16, 2015. Operating While Intoxicated on a boat law now mirrors that of the motor vehicle code. In a nut shell, the legal limit for Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) is .08 and this applies only to those operating a motor boat. In the past it included all vessels. Now it is worded "motor boat"- any watercraft with a motor, including a trolling motor. There will be zero tolerance for those having a BAC of .02 or higher if under 21 years of age and operating a motor boat... etc.

We also want to remind folks that kids born after June 30, 1996 must have a boater safety card to operate any motorized vessel over 6 hp and anyone born after December 31, 1978 must have a boater safety card to operate a personal watercraft. I saw that the boaterexam.com website is offering half off for

one week only. The cost is normally 29.99 but if you register between April 20-26 then make a payment by May 8, you can get your card for 14.99. Of course anyone can use the site for free when you register however you will not get a card unless a payment is made.

The below listed link is the Michigan handbook. I am going to be ordering hard copy handbooks but it can also be viewed online. (<https://www.boat-ed.com/michigan/handbook/>)

Finally, we will be offering a free boating safety course at Shady Shores, on Gun Lake, June 27, 2015. More details will be posted on the www.barrysheriff.com website soon. The national event, Operation Dry Water, will be June 26-28 this year. There will be heightened OWI patrols as we educate the public about the increased effects of alcohol on the water.

We look forward to serving the people of Pine Lake again this season and hoping for a safe summer.

Julie Jones

Barry County Sheriff's Office – Marine Division
[269-948-4801](tel:269-948-4801)

10 Most Common Marine Law Violations 2015

All watercraft shall be equipped with a Coast Guard approved PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE (PFD) of appropriate size for each passenger. Boats over 16' are required to have a Coast Guard approved wearable for each person and one additional throw-able device. All PWC(Jet Ski) occupants are required to wear PFDs. Children under 6 must wear a Type I or II PFD while riding on an open deck of a vessel. Check the printed Coast Guard information on each jacket.

2. Vessels are required to operate at a slow, no wake speed, within 100 feet from any raft,

dock, occupied swim area, anchored or moored vessels, or persons in the water. The speed limit for an inland lake is 55 M.P.H. maximum and less for reduced visibility or congested areas.

<https://www.boat-ed.com/michigan/handbook/book.html>

3. Watercraft shall travel in a counter-clockwise direction on the lake.

4. An operator of a vessel shall not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

5. Occupants of a vessel shall not sit or stand in an area not built to be stood or sat upon while the boat is under way, i.e. seatbacks, decks, bow and gunwales.

6. Watercraft must have proper lighting from sunset to sunrise and during periods of restricted visibility.

7. A Personal Watercraft (PWC) may be operated during the hours between 8:00 AM until sunset.

8. Persons born after December 31, 1978 must have a Boaters Safety Certificate when operating a PWC. The minimum age for operating a PWC is 14 with a parent or 16 without a parent. To operate a (non-PWC) motorized boat over 6 H.P., the operator must be a minimum age of 12 with a boater's safety certificate. Those born after July 1, 1996 must carry a boater's safety certificate while operating any motorized vessel on Michigan waterways.

9. A PWC may not jump the wake of another non PWC watercraft within 150 feet of the boat's stern unless at a slow, no wake, speed.

10. Water skiing is legal 1 hour before sunrise until 1 hour after sunset. An observer other than the operator of the vessel is required.

For further information contact the Barry County Sheriff's Department or visit

