

## Annual Newsletter May 2020 Edition

## Association Board & Volunteers

President, Randy Klinger  
[president@pinelk.org](mailto:president@pinelk.org)

Vice President, Corey Case  
[vicepresident@pinelk.org](mailto:vicepresident@pinelk.org)

Secretary, Sara Smith  
[secretary@pinelk.org](mailto:secretary@pinelk.org)

Treasurer, Christine Yake  
[treasurer@pinelk.org](mailto:treasurer@pinelk.org)

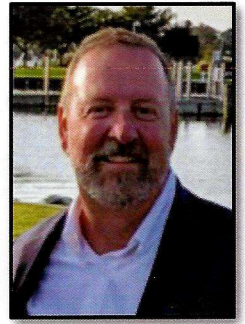
Sergeant-at-Arms, Sheree Brynick  
[Sergeant-at-arms@pinelk.org](mailto:Sergeant-at-arms@pinelk.org)

PLA Newsletter Editor, Sandy Uridge  
[sandy.uridge@gmail.com](mailto:sandy.uridge@gmail.com)

Contact info: [plaofficer@pinelk.org](mailto:plaofficer@pinelk.org),  
Message or post on Pine Lake FB page.

## Message from the President

Reflecting on last year and looking forward to this year we see many changes coming to the lake. With these changes comes opportunity for your involvement. Several board positions and various volunteer opportunities are opening and we encourage you to consider getting involved and taking a turn at shaping the various activities that make Pine Lake a great place to live. Below is a *partial* list of positions that need to be filled at the next board meeting June 6<sup>th</sup>.



Randy Klinger,  
Resident since 2012

- PLA board** - President, Treasurer, and Sargent at Arms  
2021 Activity Leads (learn the ropes in 2020 and take control in 2021)
- July 4<sup>th</sup> Turtle Race Coordinator/lead
  - Halloween Coordinator/Lead
  - Newsletter Editor

A big thank you to Marty Ann Bero for rekindling/spearheading this year's Kids Easter Egg hunt, Rob Kelly for leading a street sign revitalization project, Lori McAdam for taking over the community garage sales, Brooks Craft for leading the boat parade and Nancy Whitney for coordinating the fireworks display.

A sincere **THANK YOU** for over a decade of service and leadership to Nancy Robinson (Turtle races) and Joanna Haneckow (Kid's Halloween party). With today's hectic schedules it is a true testament to your volunteer spirit. **Thank you!**

Another change is to this year's fireworks display. The budget was increased to make this year's show the biggest ever AND the display will take place **on the water**. Anchor your boat in your usual location and watch the show as the fireworks are launched from a floating platform. PLUS, accompanying music will be available via your own radio by tuning into a designated channel. (More info to follow via Facebook) With this change/improvement came a commitment to raise additional funds to cover next year's show. A modest increase in the fireworks donations is included in the annual PLA dues statement. If you enjoy the show, please consider including this donation with your membership.

As I pen this letter, spring in on the horizon and so are the spring rains. As we brace for the impact of additional historic water levels please be considerate of your neighbors. Be ever mindful of your boat wake as you travel the lake. According to the county drain commissioner, relief is on the way. Unfortunately a solution will not be in place to help with this spring's rain.

Randy Klinger  
PLA President

Contact info: [PLAofficer@pinelk.org](mailto:PLAofficer@pinelk.org) or join or post on the Pine Lake Association Members Facebook page.

If you are receiving this mailing, thank you for joining your neighbors in sending in your membership to support the Pine Lake Association.

The purpose of the PLA is to promote an understanding and appreciation of the rights and responsibilities of owners of riparian lands.

It helps maintain the natural resources and beauty of the area and also to work towards improving and developing programs to serve our lake community.



## Treasurer's Update

We currently have a total of \$41,298.74 in our accounts. \$18,628.80 in the General Fund, \$17,202.82 in the Fireworks account and \$5,467.12 for buoys. No payment has been made yet for the 2020 Fireworks display.

As of the publishing of this year's newsletter, we only have 111 memberships for the current year. In a typical year approximately 260 people send in their membership dues. Again, the membership dues are the primary funding mechanism for all of the projects and activities that the Pine Lake Association takes on. For example, the Easter egg hunt, the turtle races, Halloween party, etc. So, please make sure you send in your dues and remind your neighbors to do the same. The more donations given equals more that we can do for our lake community!

Lastly, Chris Yake, who has been our trusted Treasurer for 6 years has decided to step down. Do you or anyone you know have interest in supporting the PLA by becoming the Treasurer? If so, please contact [PLAofficer@pinelk.org](mailto:PLAofficer@pinelk.org) or come to the June 6<sup>th</sup> board meeting to find out more.

## Prairieville Police Reminders



Just a reminder that the department is offering seasonal house checks! If any lake resident would like their property checked by an officer we'd be happy to help. Since about 40% of the residences on the lake are seasonal it makes sense to have it checked periodically. The property check form is available online, on the Township's website and also through a form you can fill out at the Township Hall and at the Police Department. This service is not offered by many departments any more and we are proud to continue it in an effort to make our community feel more safe and secure.

While Summer is just around the corner, the winter tundra will be upon us in no time and we would like to remind all residents to please slow down on the icy snow packed roads in Prairieville Township. Last Winter we had an increase in motorists following too close for conditions and not being able to stop for hazards due to the reduced visibility and slippery road conditions. Please drive your vehicle with the headlights on even during the day. Blowing and drifting snow limits other motorist's ability to see your vehicle. Please ensure your vehicle battery is at a full charge and carry safety equipment like a blanket, water, flashlight and a L.E.D. flasher. If your vehicle becomes disabled call 911 and do not attempt to walk out in extreme/frigid conditions to seek help on foot. Stay in your vehicle and use your cell phone to call for help. If you're stuck or off the road, clear the snow or ice from the vehicle tail pipe or pipes if there are two exhaust ports. Have a safe and enjoyable Summer & Winter!



William B. Thompson  
CHIEF OF POLICE

Prairieville Township Police Dept.  
10115 S. Norris Road  
Delton, Michigan 49046  
OFFICE (269)623-2691  
FAX (269)623-8966

# Prairieville Township Fire Department

The **Prairieville Fire Department** would like to thank the many fine folks at Pine Lake and the surrounding neighborhoods for the very generous financial support that was shown for one of our firefighters that was injured while fighting a fire in November of 2019. The firefighter is healing and is expected to have a full recovery!



2019 was one of our busiest years to date. Most of our calls for service were for medical assistance to people in our community. We are Medical First Responders, so we go to all calls when an ambulance is dispatched into our community. On many occasions we get to the scene and make a difference by providing critical assistance before the ambulance arrives. We're also State of Michigan certified fire fighters and respond to fires, possible fires, smoke detector and carbon monoxide alarms. We also assist our neighboring communities when they are in need of help.

Ironically we do not have any photos of our real fires (we were too busy to take them) but we do have photos of our training. We train in fire suppression tactics, vehicle extrication, cold water rescue, and familiarization with current and new equipment.

We would love to have you join us as either a firefighter or Medical First Responder or both. If you're interested in joining, contact the Township Hall at (269) 623-2664 and they will get you in touch with an officer for more information/application. You can also stop by the fire station on Lindsey Rd on any Monday at 6:00 PM during our regular weekly meeting/training and get a tour of the station and equipment. Here's to a safe and healthy Summer!





## Hello from Barry County Sheriff's Marine Division!

New laws were passed designed to protect Michigan Waterways from the spread of nuisance species and fish disease. Public Act 0451 of 2018, Sec. 41325, prohibits the transport and spreading of invasive species by requiring all boats being launched be free of plants and aquatic organisms. It further requires that the boat must remove drain plugs and drain all water from bilges, ballast tanks and live wells prior to leaving that lake area. Lastly it is illegal to release unused bait and fish caught in one body of water cannot be released in another unconnected body of water. Violation of this law is a Civil Infraction and \$100 fine. The complete law and reports supporting the law can be located at the links below.

[http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(042a2204iy4bbaluzh2peant\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=2018-SB-1072](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(042a2204iy4bbaluzh2peant))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=2018-SB-1072)

[https://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/Sec\\_41323\\_PA\\_451\\_of\\_1994\\_-](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/Sec_41323_PA_451_of_1994_-)

[Invasive Species Report 418648 7.pdf](#)

While many of our lakes are already affected by the spread of nuisance species, we have not experienced the full effects of fish disease. Complying with the law will help prevent the introduction and spread of Aquatic Invasive Species.

## Signs Signs, Everywhere A Sign

You've all seen them. The beautiful road signs that adorn our streets and in some cases have gone missing or need maintenance. Thanks to Rob Kelly for stepping up and leading an effort to get them all back to good. To date Rob has done an assessment of all the signs and is working on a plan to fix/replace the rest of them moving forward!



**Nancy Whitney**  
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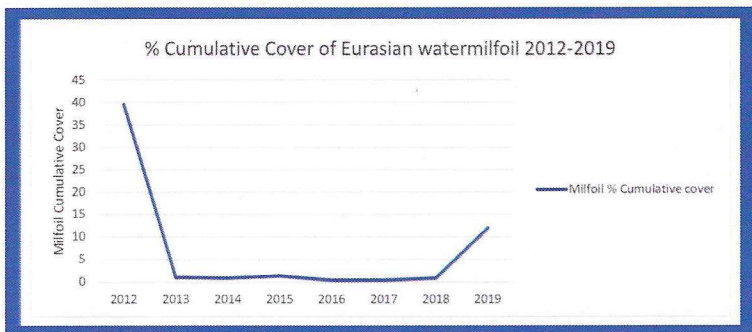
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You can help keep our favorite lake traditions alive and create new memories too. Please consider volunteering for a board position, committee or just even donate your time to your favorite event. Events like the Turtle Races, Garage Sales & the Kid's Halloween party need volunteers and even leads. Just a few hours makes a big difference. And, it's a great way for high school kids to earn their community service hours too! 🙌

# 2020 Pine Lake Management Update

Management of EXOTIC plant/algae species on Pine Lake has been going very well. The 2020, season will mark the eighth year of management. During the past seven seasons, PLM has been able to keep Eurasian watermilfoil to minimal levels by conducting spot treatments. Initially a whole lake Sonar treatment was conducted to provide a “reset” of milfoil to a near zero level. Although we have been seeing an increase in milfoil distribution on Pine Lake over the past few years, we have attempted to identify and aggressively address this growth. In addition to milfoil, the program has also addressed the exotic macro algae Starry stonewort as well as Curly Leaf pondweed (also exotic). Naturally occurring species have not been addressed since they are needed for a healthy lake ecosystem. Many of the phone calls and emails we receive throughout the summer end up being native vegetation.

In addition to treatment of exotic vegetation, PLM also conducts comprehensive lake surveys each year (AVAS surveys). These surveys allow us to track relative densities of both exotics and native vegetation. Since 2012 (pretreatment), Pine Lake has gone from 21 recorded native plant species to 29 species. This indicates good recovery of native plants. Eurasian watermilfoil has been maintained at a low level through the year 2018. In 2019 we did see an increase in milfoil abundance. We will evaluate milfoil levels in 2020 and make recommendations for a possible change in strategy to “reset” the milfoil for 2021. The graph above shows the trend in milfoil abundance over the past eight years.

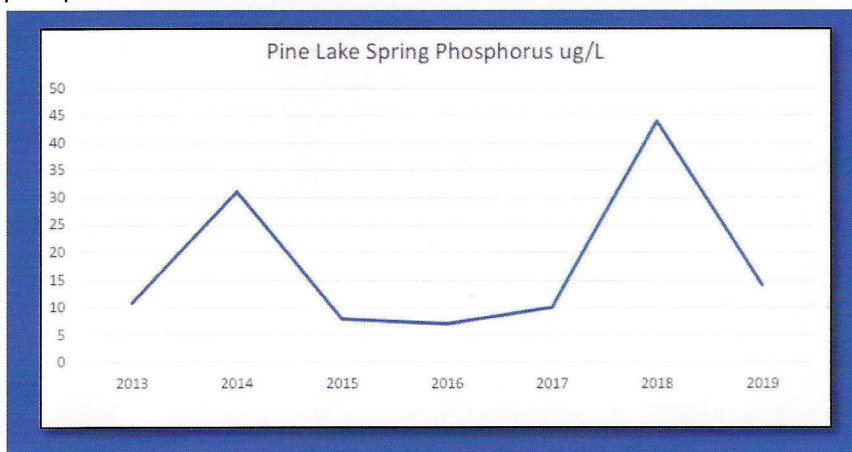


Eurasian Watermilfoil



Curly-Leaf Pondweed

Water quality monitoring has also been a part of the program since 2013. For the most part, Pine Lake has had good water quality. Two key parameters checked each year are phosphorus and nitrogen. These nutrients are important in regards to how the lake grows plants and algae. Lakes high in phosphorus tend to have problems with algae growth while lakes high in nitrogen tend to be productive in regards to plant growth. Pine lake has had fairly stable and low readings for nitrogen over the years. Levels have ranged between 200-300 ug/L which is what we typically see on most lakes. For the most part, phosphorus readings have been low/normal in most seasons. The exception is 2014 and 2018 where higher than normal spring readings were measured. The graph below shows the trend in spring phosphorus since 2013.



For 2020, we anticipate spot treatments will be sufficient to maintain control of Eurasian watermilfoil, Starry stonewort and Curly Leaf pondweed. Pine Lake will be evaluated ~ every 3-4 weeks. IF we do see an upward trend in milfoil abundance, it is likely that a change in strategy will be recommended for 2021. As always, if property owners observe a weed problem, please contact us so we can investigate.





# Parks and Recreation Update

## Prairieville Township Parks & Rec Goals

- Optimize the usage of the Parks
- Prioritize all the resources available to renovate, replace, or repair existing facilities to meet the safety standards
- Maintain all facilities so that recreational opportunities are available & assessable to all residents including its disabled users
- Assess Prairieville Township residents continued support of all Parks

There is so much to enjoy in the parks from boating, going to the beach, picnicking, playing baseball or softball, hiking, and more things being added all the time. Did you know there are 7 park locations? Did you know that a nine hole disc golf course was added last year? Did you know that pickle ball courts are included in the goals for 2020 for Pine Lake Recreation site? Did you know 2 of the parks are on the North Country Trail route? You may purchase an annual pass for the locations requiring an entry fee or pay daily fee, and 3 of the locations are free. If you would like to be involved in any of the projects, add your input or just get updates, please attend the monthly meetings the last Monday of the month (except December that is the third because of Christmas) at 6:30 PM. For more information go to [prairievilletwp-mi.org](http://prairievilletwp-mi.org) See you at the Park!

Joanna Haneckow  
Parks & Recreation Chairperson



## Experience & Dedication

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Municipal Park  
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Parker Road Park  
Parker Rd.  
Delton, MI 49046

Pine Lake Recreation Area  
11481 Doster Rd.  
Plainwell, MI 49080

Center Street Park  
10732 Center Street  
Plainwell, MI 49080

Gull Lake Park  
15457 M43 Hwy.  
Hickory Corners, MI. 49060

Lower Crooked Lake Park  
13000Norris Rd.  
Plainwell, MI 49080

Upper Crooked Lake Park  
7317 Delton Rd.  
Delton, MI 49046

# Pine Lake Kid's Halloween Party

It was a fantastic time in 2019! Thanks again for the many sponsors and people that helped with the creation of the Halloween spook house, game room, and lunch area with no shortage of spider webs. Thanks helpers for picking up pizza, assisting our little goblins decorating cookies, staffing games, the spook house and the face painting.

Doster Store and Pine Grocery again donated pizza for the hungry and scary Pine Lakers in attendance. We thank them for their continued support and we hope you will patronize them. A special thank you to my husband, Don, for all the prep work and his coordination with Prairieville Township and Prairieville Fire Department to use the fire station on Lindsay Road.

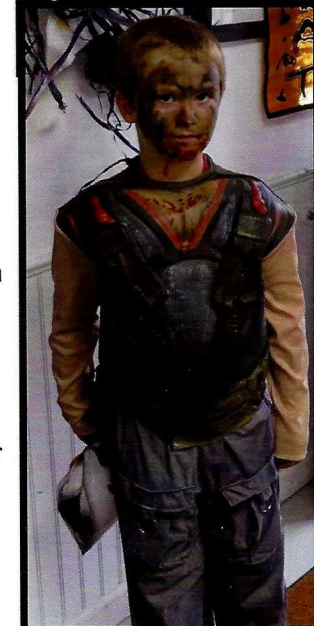
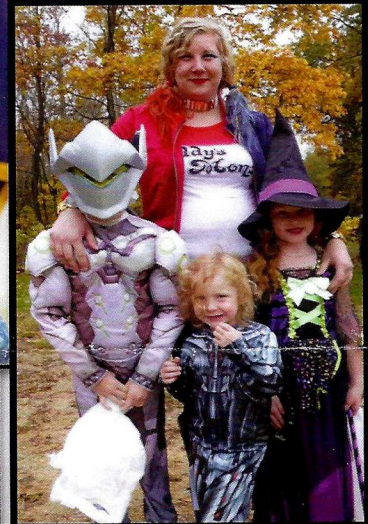
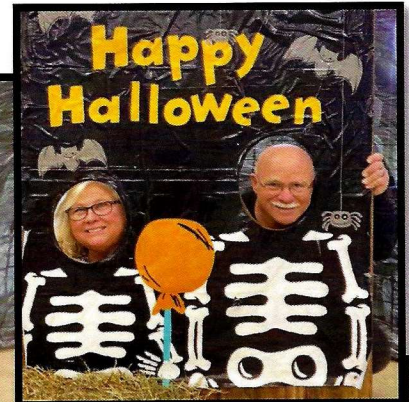
Behind the scenes are many other volunteers that get together to pack the goody bags. We had a great time together and enjoyed a wonderful evening. Thanks for all the hands. The day of the party is like magic. In the morning we clear the fire station and create the spook house, game room, added new games this year and converted the meeting room to a really spooky lunch and gathering area. By noon the prep is done and everyone takes a break to don their costumes and be back to host the party at 1PM.

Every year Don changes the layout of the spook house with the creativity and input of all his helpers. The first brave victims to enter this year really enjoyed the moving monsters, spooky music and live spooks. They all make it through and some said it was too spooky; and then by the third time through they were guides. LOL.

At 3 PM everything comes down, is put in storage containers and by 4 PM the trucks are back in the station. Thank you to all of the fantastic volunteers that help make this event happen every year. Without the help of so many this could not happen.

I want to announce that Don and I are looking for a Team to take over. We have done this many years and have had a wonderful time. We would be very willing to work with a takeover team this year, as this will be our last. Please let us know in advance so that we can show you all of the planning, purchasing and contacts necessary to make it happen. Know that you may do it however you would like to support our Pine Lake Kids. We had many changes over the years and support that a new team continue to adjust and improve going forward.

Joanna Haneckow, Kids Halloween Party Chair



# The July 4<sup>th</sup> Boat Parade is Back!

Many of you probably remember the days when you'd see amazing boats pass by your home... all decked out for the July 4<sup>th</sup> Boat Parade. Well, good news! Thanks to Brooks Craft it's back. Look for more details at the June 6<sup>th</sup> board meeting or check the PLA FaceBook page.



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Just a shout out to all the amazing neighbors and friends that have helped and supported each other this Winter and Spring and throughout the recent COVID19 crisis. We have an unbelievable lake community and we should all be proud to be a part of it!



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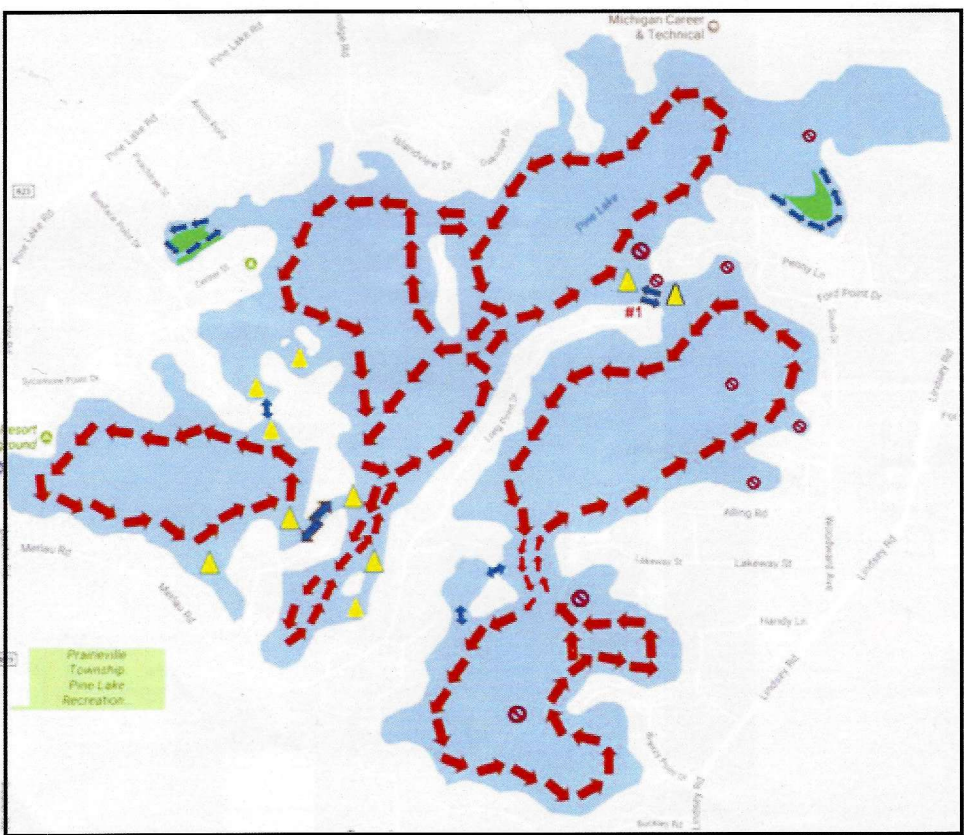
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## Pine Lake Boating Map

-  All Boats Direction
  -  Channel. Idle only. No riders.
  -  Hazard
  -  No Wake Zone. Idle only.
  -  1 boat at a time
- #1 The red buoys do not indicate adequate depth. North side has many rocks. Stay as close as possible to the green buoys.



This map is useful as it shows no wake zones, legal boating directions, etc. Should you have any questions, you can always email Sergeant Steve Lehman at the Barry County Sheriff's Marine Division slehman@barrycounty.org

# Pine Lake Association 2020 Calendar of Events

Event	Lead	Date/Location
February Meeting	PLA Board	2-4-21, MCTI Cabin
Easter Egg Hunt	Marty Bero	3-27-21, Pine Lake Recreation Area
Buoy Drop/Removal	PLA Board	Before Memorial Day/After Labor Day
Annual Newsletter	Sandy Uridge Lead needed in 2021	Month of May
Annual Mtg/Officer Election	Randy Klinger	6-6-20 @ 9:00 am, MCTI Cabin
Garage Sales	Lori McAdams	6-26 & 6-27 based on map locations
Fireworks	Nancy Whitney	7-3-20 @ dark, Lake 2, near MCTI (rain date 7-5-20)
Turtle Races ***Need Volunteers***	Nancy Robinson – Lead needed in 2021	7-4-20 11:00am registration, Race @ noon/MCTI
Boat Parade	Brooks Craft	7-4-20 meet at Lake 2, East-side of Twin Island @ 2 pm
Kid's Halloween Party	Joanna Haneckow/ Nancy Green	10-24-20 set-up @ 9:00 am, party from 1-3 pm Prairieville Township Fire Department