



# Lake Geneva Property Owners Association



JULY 2010

Visit us on the web at: <http://www.lgpoa.com>

## 2010-2011 Board Members

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## ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!



There was a flyer circulated this last week (not by the LGPOA) stating an incorrect date, incorrect times, and incorrect contact information for the LGPOA Picnic and wheels parade.

Please see the article to the right of this article and the flyer later in the newsletter. Thank you

## President's Message

As the acting LGPOA President, I left the 2010 annual meeting with a positive outlook for our community and its future. I want to thank all of those in our neighborhood and the Board of Directors for actively working to take positive steps forward as a community. The following are highlights from our meeting and the last year:

As the result of Terry Gartside, Doug Earle, and Craig Benham resigning, and Julie DeRose deciding not to run for another term, we have seen a fair amount of change on the board. Randy Ingalls and Craig Smith were appointed as replacements for two of the Board members. Craig Smith has since been re-elected. Matt Miner and Tom Antaya were elected for the first time during the annual meeting. Since the annual meeting Kammy Frayre has resigned. The opening was posted on our website, and a replacement was voted on in our April meeting and we welcome Bob McClean as our newest Board member.

Financially we remain strong with a catastrophe fund built to a fiscally responsible level. Members voted again this year to approve a budget based on \$135 per household. This amount supports maintenance of the parks, lake, electricity for the pumps, funding for upcoming events, repairs, and upgrades as needed.

Feedback provided by many clearly supports the fact that our parks are looking great. The number of families using the parks has grown

(Continued on page 3)

## Save the Date!

## Annual Lake Geneva Festival

→ Sunday, August 8th ←

August of 2009 marked the first year of the Lake Geneva Festival, a gathering of LGPOA neighbors, at our West Beach. A beautiful day and a great turnout provided a wonderful atmosphere where friends gathered, children played, and neighbors from every subdivision came together for a terrific weekend afternoon! The LGPOA would like to thank the countless neighbors who donated time, work, food, and sweat-equity in their quest to make this event a success.

We hope you'll join us again and help us turn the Lake Geneva Festival into an annual tradition. We're planning the 2nd Annual

(Continued on page 4)

## Rolling out the New Board Members

### MEET TOM ANTAYA

Tom Antaya has lived in DeWitt for 20 years with his wife, Ellen. All three of their sons attended DeWitt Schools and graduated from DeWitt High School. Tom enjoys watching MSU sports and reading. He also enjoys exercising, and you will find him most mornings at the DeWitt YMCA or walking around DeWitt in the evenings.



### MEET BOB McCLEAN

Bob McClean has lived in the Lake Geneva area for 13 years, both on the lake and currently off the lake. He retired from the Lansing Police in 1992, was the Chief of Police in Montague, Michigan, and then moved to DeWitt as the new police chief in 1997. Bob and his wife, Chris, retired in 2003. They loved to travel and were always on the road until, sadly, Chris lost her fight with breast cancer in 2008. Bob now works part-time at the Michigan Hall of Justice and serves on the DeWitt Planning Commission.

As a board member it is Bob's hope to help safeguard our beautiful lake and the parks that border it for the use of all of our members. He is also hoping to do his very best to help bring the membership together and build a sense of friendship and neighborliness among us.



### MEET MATT MINER

Matt moved to Lake Geneva in 2009 with his fiancée, Monica, and their two dogs. He is a life-long resident of the area and chose Lake Geneva as his home because of its beauty and his desire for living in a lake community. Matt is employed by the Michigan Senate where he has worked for the past 12 years. He is currently serving as the Chief of Staff to Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop.

Matt is excited to be a part of such a great association and he looks forward to meeting his neighbors and enjoying the lake for years to come.



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

To my surprise, I was "unanimously" elected by the board to serve as the chair on the Parks Committee. Like many of us, I have taken our pristine gems on either side of the lake for granted just a little. On my first couple of trips to them I made some notes on what needs to be done to bring them up to snuff and with some work, they will be in fine shape. Some mulch has already been ordered and spread, with more to come. Sand will be ordered soon also, as well as the replacement of rakes on both sides so that our casual visitors can do their part with a little raking and pick-up before they leave.

We will be moving toward a little more sustainable landscaping in the future, including the planting of a lot more perennials that will awaken each spring without the drudgery of hands-and-knees labor. They will need less watering and weeding when they mature and should give, overall, a more natural hue to the parks. I have a couple of other ideas that I will be bringing to the board in the future that will enhance the beauty and safety of two of our most valuable assets. Once again, I'm glad to be back, and please feel free to contact me with any ideas you may have. - Bob McClean

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- ★ Beach/Parks: Bob McClean (Chair), Matt Miner, Chadd Smith, Ken Fields
- ★ Building & Use Restrictions Revision Advisory: Dan Skorich, Doug Earle, David Zyble, Dan Norberg, Eric Olson, John Waugh, John Donohue, Scott Wall, Stu Shafer
- ★ Building Control: Chadd Smith (Chair), Randy Ingalls, Stu Shafer
- ★ City Liaison: Chadd Smith (Chair) Matt Minor
- ★ Compliance: Stu Shafer (Chair), Tom Antaya, Ken Fields
- ★ Lake Level and Water Quality: Stu Shafer, (Chair) Tom Antaya, Randy Ingalls, Tim Walter
- ★ Newsletter and Information (Website): Matt Minor (Chair) Melissa DeMong-Shafer, and Dave Zyble
- ★ Welcoming: Scott Wall (Chair), Craig Smith, and Ken Fields

### BOARD MEETINGS

LGPOA Board meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month. Be sure to check the Association website ([www.lgpoa.com](http://www.lgpoa.com)) for location and any date/time changes.





## You Will be Allowed to Pass Go (as long as you have your pass...)

Both last year and this year the Board has designated people to patrol the beaches throughout the summer in hopes of decreasing the amount of trespassers that have been appearing in our parks. Overall the response of the people at the beach has been very favorable, and many members have been thankful as they see hordes of people being asked to leave who do not belong to the Association.

As a reminder to members, please have your beach pass with you or accessible when you go to the beach. With so many people being checked, please bear in mind that (even with their Mensa IQ status) anyone checking passes could not possibly remember all the people from both parks on a day-to-day basis, therefore it may not be unusual – if you are at the beach frequently – to be asked for your pass every time someone comes through to check them. Please don't take umbrage at the fact that people are asking for your pass or don't remember checking it previously; just consider they are paying more attention to your pass than to your face.

So far this year there have been an unprecedented number of people at the beaches and it has not been out of the ordinary for the "beach patrol" to check more than 50 passes in one day. There have been a record number of people trespassing that have been asked to leave the parks (close to over 150). Also, if you have guests at the beach you must be with them. Due to all the complications no one will be allowed at the beach without a beach pass. Thank you for your cooperation!

(Continued from page 1)

substantially. Grills, seawalls, and playground equipment have been repaired, sand has been added to the playground, and boundary ropes have been installed in the parking lots. Additional funds will be spent this year on maintenance and upkeep, due to the loss of Terry Gartside from the Board (thanks Terry!), to ensure they are maintained at a level we have all come to appreciate.

After the meeting a raffle that had been suggested was held and local business owners were supportive. This resulted in the donation of decorated baked goods, tool sets, gym memberships, coolers, and floral arrangements, which were given away the annual meeting.

This year the Board will evaluate the viability of offering paddleboats, kayaks, canoes or the like at our parks for member use. In addition the board will evaluate the cost to turn Candy Cane Park back into usable space based on a positive show of support provided during the annual meeting. These items will be discussed and voted on during our next annual meeting.

Professional Lake Management (PLM) has mentioned that the lake is in the best shape it has been in years, with clarity of the water increasing and native plants beginning to reappear.

The safety of children in particular was in mind when the board voted on and removed the river pump platform in the last year. Recommendations will be made at the next annual meeting regarding the cleanup of several areas of the lake that have begun to accumulate seaweed, leaves, and sediment before it becomes a more costly issue.

If you did not have the opportunity to attend the August 2009 LGPOA festival, please join us this year. The efforts of our volunteers were obvious as it was a success despite missing our target date due to inclement weather. Please go to the website for further information - and save the date!

I look forward to working on your behalf in the coming year. Your input and assistance is valuable for growing our community! Please contact myself or any of the board members regarding questions, suggestions, or interest in volunteering to ensure our nine subdivisions continue to be the first choice for existing and future neighbors to live within in DeWitt.

—Scott Wall

## Lake Thawing Dates

1997	March	21
1998	February	26
1999	March	22
2000	February	27
2001	March	30
2002	March	10
2003	March	29
2004	March	22
2005	April	2
2006	March	13
2007	March	21
2008	April	1
2009	March	11
2010	March	19

As you can see from the dates, the lake thaw was about average this year. I'm glad we didn't have to wait until April, but I sure would like another February thaw. We don't get very many of those.

Now that it's not only thawed, but warm, I hope everyone is enjoying the water this summer.

-Yvonne Lantz

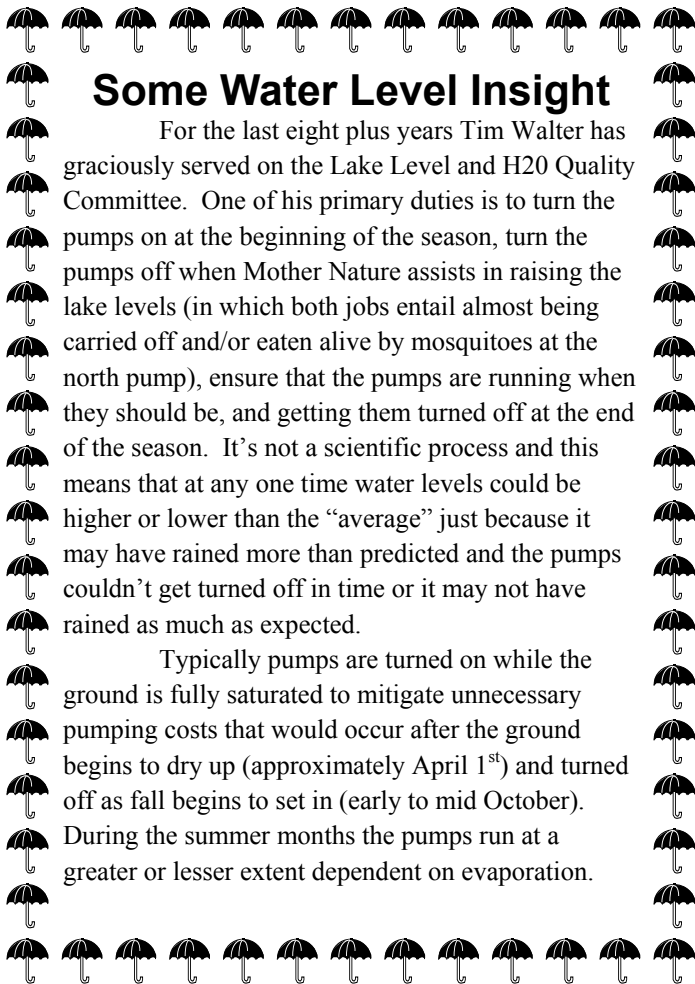
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Lake Geneva Festival for Sunday, August 8th, with a rain date of Sunday, August 15th. Please mark your calendars and join us for another great afternoon! Here are a few activities we have planned for this year's festival: Drawings and prizes for festival-goers; food and beverages provided by the Association, along with any dishes our neighbors bring to pass; an egg race - Hey kids, who can zip through the course with an egg on a spoon? Watch out - those bumps can get messy in this race!

There will be a bounce house available to keep the little ones hoppin'!

Pre-Festival excitement – Don't miss the Wheels Parade starting at 12:30. Decorate your bikes and join the parade! We'll meet at the corner of Lucerne Drive and South Geneva Drive and the parade will end at the West Beach. Feel free to watch as the parade winds up South Geneva Drive towards the beach!

Questions? Please send an email to Craig Smith at [smithc327@gmail.com](mailto:smithc327@gmail.com), Scott Wall at [s.wall@4wbi.net](mailto:s.wall@4wbi.net) or call Craig at 517.285.3150/Scott at 616.340.6742 to share your feedback. We can't wait to see everyone there and are looking forward to sharing ideas and another great festival with you!



## Some Water Level Insight

For the last eight plus years Tim Walter has graciously served on the Lake Level and H2O Quality Committee. One of his primary duties is to turn the pumps on at the beginning of the season, turn the pumps off when Mother Nature assists in raising the lake levels (in which both jobs entail almost being carried off and/or eaten alive by mosquitoes at the north pump), ensure that the pumps are running when they should be, and getting them turned off at the end of the season. It's not a scientific process and this means that at any one time water levels could be higher or lower than the "average" just because it may have rained more than predicted and the pumps couldn't get turned off in time or it may not have rained as much as expected.

Typically pumps are turned on while the ground is fully saturated to mitigate unnecessary pumping costs that would occur after the ground begins to dry up (approximately April 1<sup>st</sup>) and turned off as fall begins to set in (early to mid October). During the summer months the pumps run at a greater or lesser extent dependent on evaporation.

## TOP TEN EXCUSES FOR TRESPASSING AT THE BEACH (So far this year)

10. I was just driving by and saw the lake (the lady had six kids with her and several water toys).
9. I live in Dewitt, that gives me the right.
8. God made the lake.
7. I knew someone who lived here several years ago.
6. I did not know that it was a private lake (just after having been seen spitting on the "No Trespassing, Lake Geneva Members Only" sign).
5. I lived here 10 years ago.
4. My dad said not to worry.
3. I saw it mentioned in the Lansing State Journal by a DeWitt resident who recommended it (who turned out not to have been a member).
2. I am babysitting these kids and they were driving me crazy (note to the parents: the sitter was taking a nap while the kids were in the water)

—And the Number One Reason (honestly)—

1. I just had "these" done and I needed sunlight. This is my first day out of the house since the surgery.



## WHO? WHAT? WHEN?

This year it became clear, when hearing from neighbors during the annual meeting and afterward, that while two hours were enough to provide highlights and accomplishments during the last year and to vote on the annual budget it did not support conversations with the board/public to the level that all would desire. With this in mind the board would like to invite you to a meeting for you to gain answers any questions that you may have. If anyone is interested in this, please contact a Board member and if enough people are interested the Board will make the arrangements.





## Rules, Regs, Reminders, and Reasons

Summer is upon us, the weather is warm, and the lake and parks have been bursting at the seams with people. In order for everyone to enjoy our lake and parks, we remind you of the following rules and restrictions:

1. The lake and parks are for the sole use of LGPOA members and their guests. Anyone else is considered a trespasser and will be asked to leave. Please be prepared to present your Beach Card when asked to verify you are a member. If you have a guest that is going to be at the beach you *must* accompany them or they will be asked to leave. The board has had numerous complaints and has designated people to be on "beach patrol." As a reminder, the beaches, parks, and parking lots close at dusk.
2. No dogs, cats, chickens, pet iguanas, pot-bellied pigs, or other pets are permitted in the parks at any time for any reason no matter how little, how cute, or how well-behaved your particular pet may be. The Board has received numerous complaints from members using the beach and parks who have asked for stronger enforcement. Remember, many people are allergic to dogs and afraid of them. Please be courteous and follow the rules.
3. Fishing is permitted and encouraged; however, this is a catch and release lake. Please be gentle and do not keep any fish. Please note that spearing or bow hunting fish does not fit into the category of catch and release and pursuant to DeWitt Ordinance Sec. 46-69 it is illegal to use a crossbow or bow and arrow anywhere within the City of DeWitt, including Lake Geneva. It's also illegal to use a generator and a large light to shine for fish as it violates DeWitt's noise ordinance.
4. Boating is governed by a "No Wake" Rule, which means that boats must be operated so that its wake does not break against the shore. This means no speeding. There are several reasons for this rule, including protection of swimmers and helping to prevent erosion to our shoreline. You must have an LGPOA decal affixed to each side of your boat for easy membership recognition. If you are in need of one, please contact Bob McClean at 669.9327 or [rncmcclean@comcast.net](mailto:rncmcclean@comcast.net).
5. Jet skis are not permitted on the lake.
6. Swimmers may not swim across the lake unless accompanied by a boat. It is very difficult for boat drivers to see unaccompanied swimmers. In fact, there are circumstances where you cannot see someone in the water at all. The Board has received a number of reports of "near misses" and even more requests for stronger enforcement. Please, please stay safe in the water and don't swim unattended.

Additionally, the Board has received several complaints this year of snorklers and scuba divers not using a dive flag, which resulted in "near misses." If you are diving, please use the appropriate dive flag (as you were instructed when you got your diving certification.) Boaters - please away from the diving flags!



Please be courteous by cleaning up after yourselves and following the few rules we have so that everyone may equally enjoy our lake and parks.

### CLINTON COUNTY CLEAN COMMUNITY COLLECTION EVENT SEPTEMBER 25, 2010

By appointment only.  
This event is for safe disposal of household and automotive hazardous waste. Almost all items can be recycled free of charge. (Two computer items for free per household.)

Call Clinton County Department of Waste Management between the hours of 8am and 5pm, 989.224.5186, or email at [conserve@clinton-county.org](mailto:conserve@clinton-county.org) to schedule an appointment.

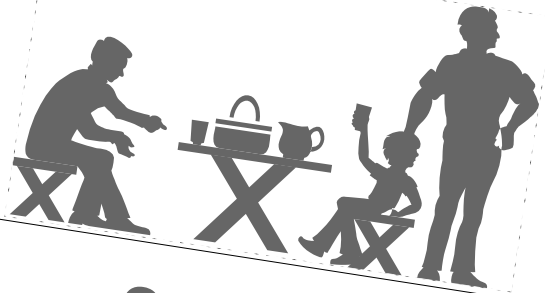
### ANOTHER ENVIRONMENTAL REMINDER

Please ensure you are raking seaweed, leaves, and debris off your shorelines to ensure it does not later become a problem for your neighbor and to minimize nuisances being created in any one area of the lake.

Phosphorous free fertilizer should always be used by neighbors living within the Looking Glass Watershed or near Lake Geneva to reduce fertilizing the weeds within the lake and the river. Bags labeled with a zero amount of Phosphorous should be used.



# Lake Geneva Festival



**Sunday  
August 8, 2010  
1:00 to 5:00 pm**

A main dish and lemonade  
will be provided.

Please bring a dish to  
share,  
lawn chairs or blankets,  
and if you like your own  
beverages, but remember—  
no glass allowed!

**Join your friends and  
neighbors for the 2nd Annual  
Lake Geneva Festival!**

 **Food**

 **Fun**

 **Games**

 **Wheels Parade**



**Wheels Parade** ☐ 12:30 pm ☐ (Note earlier start than picnic!)

**Kids of all ages, decorate your choice of transportation and line up at 12:30 at the corner of South Geneva and Lucerne. We will ride around to the West Beach in time for the start of the picnic. Prizes will be awarded for creativity!**

**Only rules: must be on wheels and no motors.**

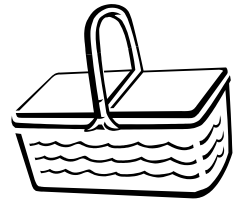


**Lake Geneva West Beach ★ Sunday, August 8, 2010 ★ 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
(Rain date August 15)**



Lake Geneva Property Owners Association  
P. O. Box 356  
DeWitt, MI 48820

**Sunday**  
**August 8, 2010**  
**West Beach**  
**Lake Geneva**



**Bike parade**  
**starting at**  
**3:30 pm**  
**Picnic from**  
**1:00 until 5:00**