



News & Views

vsletter of Your Crooked Lake Texas Association

From Your CLTA President

Summer is officially here, and Crooked Lake Texas is the place to be! One of the things I enjoy most about living on the lake is waking up in the early morning hours and looking out onto a flat, calm, peaceful lake. It provides such a beautiful, relaxing start to the day. Summer is definitely my favorite time of the year. I love seeing all the activity on and around the lake. I enjoy fishing with my wife and friends, and long, slow boat rides in the early evening hours. Every year our three grandchildren come up from North Carolina to spend a few weeks with Grandma and Grandpa. It might not be quite as relaxing, but it sure is a lot of fun! They love coming up here and playing with our neighbor's children, going tubing, fishing, or just swimming. Whew, I'm getting tired just thinking about it, but can't wait until they get here! I know many of you experience the same thrills with your family members, whether they are your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or just friends of the family. It's just wonderful watching people enjoy the water and having a good time.

Which leads me to write about something I feel strongly about – safety. As a former trainer with a large local company, safety was something I took very seriously. I know of several cases where people wished they had followed the safety procedures that were established, but it's too late after the fact. The one major safety violation I have repeatedly witnessed on our lake is people pulling skiers or tubers on a wave runner without an observer. There is a reason why the law requires you to have an observer – you can't watch where you are going and keep track of the skier/tuber behind you at the same time. Did you know this "simple" infraction, if caught by the Sheriff's Department is a \$143.00 fine? I've also witnessed boats that are obviously overloaded. I ask myself, "I wonder if they have enough floatation devices on board if something should happen?" The fine for no PDF's (personal flotation devices), or insufficient PDF's is a cool \$93.00.

Most accidents occur due to one of two factors: 1) People don't recognize the risk, ("I didn't know this could happen."), or 2) They miscalculate the risk, ("I know this isn't right, but nothing is going to happen.") As a lake board we can't make you do anything, but we can do our best to educate residents on safe boating practices. If you haven't done so yet, please visit our website: www.crookedlaketexas.com and go to the link for Michigan Boating Rules and Regulations. There you will find a link to the Rules and Regulations Handbook. Take just a few minutes to read the regulations, especially the rules pertaining to PWC's (personal water craft, i.e., wave runners

and jet skis.) Parents, this is definitely something you need to make sure your children read and understand as well. Our website also lists some of the fines related to such things as no boat registration, or out of date registration, and the fact that some boating violations are misdemeanors whereby a judge determines the fine! A misdemeanor can also be very detrimental to your record.

So, please enjoy the summer, enjoy the lake safely, and let's keep Crooked Lake Texas one of the best lake communities in Michigan.

Sincerely, Jim Hackenberg

Mark this Date!



ANNUAL FUN DAY

Saturday, August 1, 2009

Where? Arleigh Smyrnios' Home
1209 E. Crooked Lake Drive

When? 5:00 PM

What's Going On?

A Picnic! Fun, food, & friendship
Games for the kids
Prizes from area merchants

What to bring? Bring a dish to pass. Your association will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, table settings, lemonade and water.

It's always a wonderful time to meet with lake residents, and the food is great! We hope to see everyone on August 1st.

What's Happenin'

Around the Neighborhood

Lake Directory Update

It's time to update our Crooked Lake Texas Directory. Over the next few weeks your Board members will be doing our best to ensure we have your correct name, address, phone number and email address. If you have paid your 2009 association dues, we have this information on file. If not, **we will be going door-to-door to gather this information.** You can save us some time by emailing us the above information at

bosplace37@att.net or jkhacken@comcast.net

Local Merchants

If you go to our web site, you'll find we've begun to include some advertisements from local merchants.

Crooked Lake Apparel

Interested in some great clothing with the Crooked Lake Texas logo? A large selection of apparel is available from Action Gear Embroidery, located conveniently on Q Avenue.

Catering for Your Next Party?

Radisson Catering is offering some great lake catering specials for your next lake gathering. See their flyer included with this newsletter

And, don't forget the Crooked Lake Marketlocated right here on the lake, traditionally home of great pizza. (See box at right.)

Crooked Lake Market

.....is **SMOKIN'**

Do you know where to go for the **best pizza** in Kalamazoo?

Crooked Lake Market (CLM)

Our toasted sandwiches have been rated some of the best, and our homemade soups, salads, & pastas can not be beat. But because we want to be your seven day a week gourmet store, our cooks at the CLM spent the winter in front of fire, smoke and more. Join us Fridays & Saturdays, at the CLM, as well as Saturday mornings at the Texas Corners Farmers Market 8 a.m.-12 p.m. (through October 24th) as we smoke the best meats and make them treats. Join us for some of the best pulled pork, ribs, brisket, turkey legs, chicken & chicken wings that you will ever taste and you will come to understand, as we have, that barbeque is a technique and not a sauce.

The Crooked Lake Market is also available for any and all of your catering needs (company parties, graduation parties, weddings, etc.) seven days a week.

So call us anytime: (269) 375-5717

...Or visit us at: 6 North Crooked Lake Dr.

(corner of 6th St & PQ).

**Open Monday thru Saturdays 10am-10pm
Sun. noon-9 PM**

That Nasty Purple Loosestrife

Loosestrife, while pretty, is an invasive plant that has become entrenched in Crooked Lake. Purple Loosestrife is considered to be an environmental threat because it forms dense stands that choke native plant and animal habitats. Each plant can produce as many as 2.5 million seeds, which can remain viable for up to a decade before sprouting. The plant can be pulled out by hand in its first year of growth, but even tiny bits of root remaining can produce plants the next year.

Our efforts to eradicate this invasive plant began in the spring of 2006 by introducing the species of Loosestrife-eating

beetle (called *Galerucella calmariensis*), which has shown promise in defoliating loosestrife and restoring native-plant communities. The beetles have been successfully introduced in several areas around Kalamazoo and throughout Michigan beginning in 2000.

The Purple Loosestrife beetles have been purchased once again this year and placed in areas around the lake to combat the spread of this invasive plant. We'll monitor the progress the beetles are making and post some pictures later this summer on the web site. Once again we would like to **thank all the residents who contributed** to this project.

A **special thanks to Nancy Clark** who coordinates this project.

Association Membership Drive

Our lake association membership is down this year. Is it because we as a board are doing something wrong? Is it because of the economy? Or is it because you simply forgot to send in your membership dues?

Our membership dues of \$35.00 cover a number of expenses: newsletter publications and mailings, web site hosting, Crooked Lake Fun Day, membership in the Michigan Lakes & Streams, and more. We rely on a healthy membership to maintain these services and activities. Please join your lake association today.

Below is a list of lake residents who have paid membership dues for 2009.

If you haven't paid your annual Crooked Lake Association dues yet, it's never too late to join. A membership form is included below. Also below is a list of the 2009 lake association paid members to date.

Atkinson, Joe & Irene	McCormick, Neil & Cathy
Bach, Michael	Mueller, Lyla
Bartoletti, Al	Munson, Jim and Bev
Becker, Joanne	Neubauer, Joyce
Bowman, Fred & Ann	Nimtz, Rodney & Rickie (3)
Buxton, Chuck & Sue	Noble, Mike & Linda
Campbell, William & Martha	O'Connor, Michael & Carol
Clark, Dave & Nancy	Pennington, Joe & Pat
Cook, Gary & Nellie	Pontious, Jeanette
DeVries, Daryl & Debra	Potts, Joanne
DeVries, Don & Harriet	Rafferty, Tom & Sharon
DeYoung, Roger & Dorothy	Roberts, Jim & Patricia
Diver, Robert & Angela	Rogers, Nancy
Doctor, Ed & Sandi	Rumford, Cheryl
Eberhard, Tom & Diane	Scarff, Ted & Sonya
Emery, Chris & Judy	Shugars, Dan & Diane
Ewert, Marilyn	Simonds, Don & Eva (Kimble)
Fairbanks, Molly & Pulaski, Richard	Smyrnios, Arleigh
Fallon, Tim & Carla	Southwell, Frank & Judi
Gaines, Mickey & Christine	Springgate, Roland
Gambino, Debra	Stafford, David & Linda
Goyer, Mark	Steege, Glenn & Diane
Gardner, Cindy	Stewart, William & Mary
Hackenberg, Jim & Yvonne	Stratton, Ken
Howse, Clyde & Barbara	Swanson, Ken & Vi
Johncock, Terry & Linda	Way, Chris
Johnson, Emma	Walters, Russell & Sue
LaBrenz, Tom & Shari	Weathers, Joyce
Liggett, Elaine	Welch, Gerald & Margaret
Lundborg, Gertrude	Whittington, Dennis & Dayle
Manski, Stella	Wilkinson, Mark & Pam
Matthews, Kent & Mary	Wright, Scott

Reminder of Annual Lake Association Dues and/or Directory Information Sheet

Annual Dues are \$35. Also, if you have directory changes and have not updated it, please send us any new information for the directory using this form. Thanks. Checks: Payable to Crooked Lake Texas Association. Mail to Fred Bowman, Treasurer, 400 W. Crooked Lk. Drive.

Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

Alternate Address _____

Phone(s) _____ Email _____

Do you want to receive the Riparian? YES NO (circle one)

The Riparian is the Michigan Lakes and Streams Publication about our state's waterways. The association provides it at no cost to any paid member. Because it is a cost to the association, if you do not want it, please help us to save the cost.

Answers to Your Lake Concerns

At the Home of Arleigh
Smyrnios

2009 Crooked Lake Texas

1209 E. Crooked Lake Dr.

Saturday, August 1, 2009

Annual Fun Day

5:00 p.m.

Have News or Stories?

We welcome your input to News & Views, whether it be a full scale article or small bits of information.

Contact Arleigh Smyrnios, Editor

Phone 375-8267 or e-mail at asmynios@kvcc.edu



