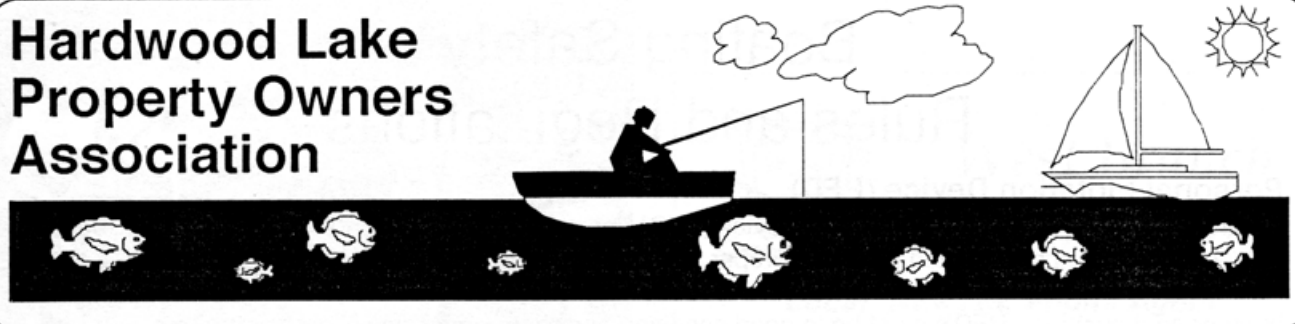


Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association



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June 2000

Annual association meeting changed to July 8

The date of the annual Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association meeting has been changed. The meeting has been moved up one week to Saturday, July 8 at 9 am at the Richland Township Hall in Prescott. The meeting date was changed after considerable discussion by the board. It was felt this would be more convenient during the July 4th week since it is traditionally when a lot of the owners are at the lake.

Coffee and a variety of refreshments will be provided. As a further incentive to attend, door prizes will be offered. Members attending the meeting also have a chance to win a one year membership to the association.

The election of vice president and secretary/treasurer will take place at the meeting. Vice President, Rod McLane said he will run again. Judy Sheehan, long time secretary/treasurer was undecided if she would seek reelection at press time. If you are interested

in serving the organization please consider running for an office. The president and directors are elected in odd years while the vice president and secretary / treasurer are chosen in even years.

Gil Ezzo was named to replace Sheryl Sowa as a director. Sheryl resigned her position in January. Gil, whose property is on the east and south end of the lake will serve until the directors election in the summer of 2001.

Membership dues of only \$15 are once again payable. There is a separate notice enclosed. At present, a major expenditure for the association is the dust control of both Hardwood Heights and Gillings Road. The county and townships do NOT do this. We have to contract for it through the association. Once we commit to having it done, Ogemaw County pays one-third of the cost. We barely take in enough dues to cover the cost of brining. About half the property owners belong to the association which means the other

half are receiving the advantage at no cost. Over the years, the association has paid for fish stocking and was the driving force behind the lake cleanup project.

There seems to be a misconception about membership dues and the lake cleanup. The special assessment on your tax bill for lake cleanup is ONLY for the lake cleanup. The tax dollars collected are administrated by the Hardwood Lake Improvement Board which reports to the Richland Township Board. These monies collected do not go to the Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association and are not used for dust control or fish stocking. The meeting in October is the HARDWOOD LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD which this year will be either October 7th or 14th. A representative from Progressive Engineering and local officials will be there to answer questions and bring everyone up to date on the lake cleanup.

Lake level

With the differing levels of water on the lake over the past couple of years it was suggested that we establish a standard water level. This can be done through the county. Further discussions are needed and will be brought up at the annual meeting.

Meeting topic - road brining, gypsy moth control special assessment

About 15 years ago gypsy moths were quite a nuisance at Hardwood Lake. Logan and Richland townships took measures to control them which included aerial spraying. These controls were very effective in combatting the moths. Before that, the moths not only defoliated the trees but created a mess while in the caterpillar stage. It was while as caterpillars they fed on the tree leaves literally raining their green droppings on everything below. The gypsy moth is making a comeback but there is no money or desire for the townships to control them. As an association we have the ability to request the township to establish a

special assessment district for gypsy moth control. This would be put on your taxes as any other special assessment.

The dust control of the two non-paved roads is another item that was brought up to be considered for a special assessment. This is a fair way to pay for special needs on Hardwood Lake. This way everyone pays for services rendered, not just a few.

Please bring your thoughts and ideas to the meeting on July 8. If the paid members feel it is a good idea to proceed with the special assessments, the association will move ahead.

Tidbits

Progressive added 9.7 quarts of Sonar to Hardwood Lake on May 31st. This brought the level to the required amount to kill off the milfoil.

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Lake Association Vice President, Dr. Rod McLane and his wife Darcy, are proud parents of a baby boy born January 6, 2000. His name is Garrett David McLane, He weighed 6 1/2 pounds and was 19 inches long. They also have two daughters.

New members Bob and AnnaMae Barber bought Don and Helen Bradleys cottage in August of 1998. We welcome them to the association. It was reported that during the winter both Helen and Don passed away.

Social gathering / bonfire

Gill Ezzo has suggested it might be nice to have a few social gatherings, such as a bonfire, a couple of times over the summer. Bring your ideas to the meeting for discussion.

Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association
Edith M. Sommers
3664 N. River Road
Freeland, MI 48623

FIRST CLASS MAIL

**LAKE ASSOCIATION
MEETING SCHEDULED
SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2000
DETAILS INSIDE**