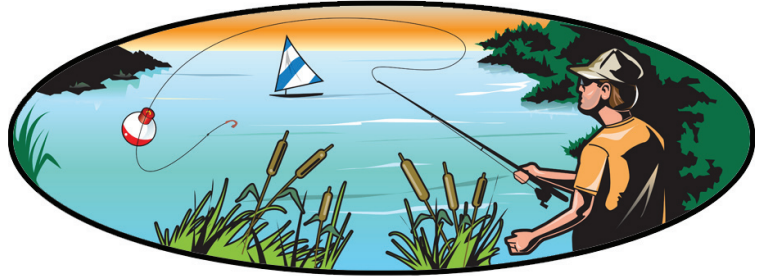


# Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association

[www.hardwoodlake.org](http://www.hardwoodlake.org)



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## Summer 2009



A kayaker enjoys the calm waters of Hardwood Lake as the sun sets.

## Annual meeting July 11 - Picnic August 8

The annual Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association meeting will be held Saturday, July 11, 2009 at 9 a.m. at the Richland Township Hall, 3620 McLean Rd., Prescott, MI. Everyone is welcome to come to the meeting to catch up on the latest information.

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The 2009 Hardwood Lake Association family potluck picnic is 6 p.m. Saturday, August 8, 2009 at the home of Dan and

Pat Brady, 3179 S. Henderson Lake Rd.  
Please bring a dish for 20 servings.

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Lake resident Bob Barber passed away April 25 after a long illness. He and his daughter, Darcy and son-in law, Rod McLane have adjoining properties on the lake.

See LAKE NEWS page 2

# [www.hardwoodlake.org](http://www.hardwoodlake.org)

## LAKE NEWS from page 1

Lake Association Secretary/Treasurer Judy Sheehan served many years as an elected Richland Township official. She was not re-elected as a Trustee in November.

## Weed control update

The weed control project is underway once again this year. A survey of lake weeds was conducted in late May and mid-June by Progressive Engineering. Pam Tynning of Progressive conducted the survey and reported she didn't find any milfoil and very little plant growth in Hardwood Lake when surveyed in late May. A determination will be made on weed control treatment this year from the surveys.

The Hardwood Lake Improvement Board oversees control of invasive, non-native lake weeds. Brian Bellville has served as chair of the board since its inception. He was not re-elected in the November election. Newly elected Richland Township Supervisor Bill Cliff is the new Lake Board chair.

If you have weed concerns in Hardwood Lake contact David Sommers, Lake Association President and Hardwood Lake representative on the Lake Board. He can be reached at [davidsommers@charter.net](mailto:davidsommers@charter.net) or 989-751-8517.

## Keep informed

The Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association is for and about you. Members reside full time on the lake and also come from various cities and counties in the state. A few live outside of Michigan. The newsletter keeps this diverse group updated on events around the lake.

If you have news you would like to share with your neighbors please send it to newsletter editor Edith Sommers. She can be reached at [edithsommers@charter.net](mailto:edithsommers@charter.net), 989-751-3819 or by mail at 3664 N. River Rd., Freeland, MI 48623. You may also send information to [news@hardwoodlake.org](mailto:news@hardwoodlake.org).

The website ([www.hardwoodlake.org](http://www.hardwoodlake.org)) was established last year in an effort to make lake information available to everyone.

It features general information on the lake and campground along with background information on the weed control program.

For information on hours for high speed boating, waterskiing and other requirements check the boating laws page.

As a benefit for members, we are offering a "BUY or SELL" page. If you are having a garage sale or want to buy a boat, etc., it will be listed **FREE** on the web. Send an email to [webmaster@hardwoodlake.org](mailto:webmaster@hardwoodlake.org). There is also has a "COTTAGE RENTAL" page. Postings to rent out your cottage, are **FREE**. If you have a small flier describing the rental, send it also. Contact [webmaster@hardwoodlake.org](mailto:webmaster@hardwoodlake.org) for questions.

Past newsletters are available on the website.

If you're looking for something to do in the area, local websites are linked.

Need to contact an Ogemaw County official? There is a link for that, also.

This web site is for members of the Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association. Please contact any of the board members listed on the Contacts page with thoughts or suggestions.

If you wish to receive the newsletter via email send a note to [news@hardwoodlake.org](mailto:news@hardwoodlake.org).

## Campground fund raiser update

Last year the newsletter reported on an August 2nd pig roast which was held at the Hardwood Lake campground to raise money for playground equipment. A total of \$8,500 was raised with 375 people in attendance. There was live music and food.

During the winter the Ogemaw County Herald reported the following article:

*By Elon Brissette*

*Staff Writer / reporter@ogemawherald.com*

*The Hardwood Lake Campground Advisory*

*Committee has recommended that Richland Township sell the playground boat that was originally planned to be placed in the campground as a memorial for Rae Cline, a Prescott girl who was killed in a snowmobile accident in 2007.*

Township Clerk Dawn Johnson read a letter where it was also recommended that the proceeds from the sale of the boat be used, along with the previously donated funds, toward the project of additions to the playground area dedicating it in the memory of Cline and other children in the community who have died.

According to Richland Township Supervisor Bill Cliff, there has been roughly \$10,000 raised through fundraisers and donations for the memorial, with \$5,000 being spent to pay off the playground boat.

Cline's mother, Margaret, addressed the township board with her disagreement with the recommendation.

"It sounds like you want to do what you want with the funds that were raised," she said. "I would like to move forward with what the money was intended for."

Trustee Dale Bronson explained he understood a lot of work was put into the project, and now that the recommendation of what to do has changed, he hopes the Cline family would support the new idea for the memorial.

"I personally would like to see the Clines stay involved in this — move forward with a playscape-type structure," he said. "I think this is a good direction to head in."

Margaret Cline said that everyone who has participated in fundraisers knew the specific purpose of what their donations would be used for, which was the playground boat in memory of her daughter.

"I don't think you can back out of that," she said. "You decide to do what you want, like I said, you have to face the consequences because I represent the people and what I'll do, I'll take my concerns to the prosecutor and then I'll let her deal with it. I know you want to do something different, but really, legally, I don't think you can."

During public comment, Dan Brady agreed with Margaret Cline that the intended plan for the project should not be changed.

"This is something that we wanted, and I am going to fight as hard as I can against you guys if you try to overturn this damn thing," he said. "It isn't right. I just don't agree, and I think it's crummy."

Treasurer Deborah Burton explained that something is still going to be done with playground equipment in memory of Cline at the campground.

"That is not stopping. OK? That's not going away," she said. "The actual object that is going to be put into the campground is changing."

In the letter read by Johnson, the campground committee recommended that refunds for donations toward the project should be available.

"As several donations have already been made towards this project, it is recommended to the Richland Township Board that anyone who has already donated funds and does not agree with this decision, should the board decide to accept our recommendation, may present a receipt of their donation to the township board for a refund," the letter stated.

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## Remembering Terry Portice

*This letter was submitted over the winter by lake resident Diana Portice.*

My husband, Terry Portice, and I lived on the lake for 2 years. On September 27th Terry was hospitalized with breathing problems, he had a life long rare disease called Alpha-1 Anti-Trypsin Deficiency. He had always wanted to live on the lake so we moved to our place on Gillings Road in 2006. Terry passed away on November 10th from complications of his disease.

Terry wanted to live long enough to give his oldest daughter away at her wedding on Sept.20. That was what he did. As sick as he was, he was able to stand and give her away.

One of his requests was that I take some of his ashes and spread them on the Lake, so on November 24th that's just what I did. He will always be on the lake he loved so much. He loved that lake more than anything else.

So the next time you or one of your readers is on the lake have a drink for Terry.



Kayakers explore the northeast corner of Hardwood Lake.

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## Looking for something to do?

- Visit [www.westbranch.com](http://www.westbranch.com) or [www.tawas.com](http://www.tawas.com)
- Check the Ogemaw County Herald at [www.ogemawherald.com](http://www.ogemawherald.com)
- These sites are also linked on [www.hardwoodlake.org](http://www.hardwoodlake.org)

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