

Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association

www.hardwoodlake.org



President
Vice President
Secretary / Treas
Director
Director
Director
Director
Past President
Newsletter Editor

Kevin Ohlrogge 2134 Woodridge Ct, Highland, MI 48357 C 248-202-8792
Clay Dees 7174 Glenburnie Ln., Clarkston, MI 48346 C 248-778-5081
Margo Dees 7174 Glenburnie Ln., Clarkston, MI 48346 C 248-802-2533
Dan Joseph 311 Yerkes, Northville, MI 48167 C 248-238-5479
Sandra Schafer 3400 Hardwood Heights, Prescott, MI 48756 C 989-274-9210
George McClain, 33448 Brownlea, Stearling Hgts., MI 49735 C 586-863-8246
Sue Young 3406 Hardwood Heights, Prescott, MI 48756 C 810-813-6072
David Sommers 3664 N. River Rd. Freeland, MI 48623 C 989-751-8517
Edith Sommers 3664 N. River Rd. Freeland, MI 48623 C 989-751-3819

email: kevinohlrogge@aol.com
email: clamar1976@yahoo.com
email: clamar1976@yahoo.com
email: dmjoseph@gmail.com
email: brsakala@gmail.com
email: georgmcclain@aol.com
email:
email: davidsommers@charter.net
email: edithsommers@charter.net

Fall 2018

The newsletter is
in **color** on the website and Facebook.

Members of the lake association install an algae boom at the inflow into the lake on May 25, 2018.

Research indicated it might help control algae in the lake.

After one season it looks positive but may be too early to make a determination.

See the article for more information.



Weed control and picnic successful

The lake association annual meeting was held on July 7. About a dozen residents attended. Clay Dees was reelected Vice President and Margo Dees retained the Secretary/Treasurer position. Other officers are elected in odd years.

President Kevin Ohlrogge discussed the algae boom project and Lake Board Representative Dave Sommers discussed the weed control project.

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Lake Association continued

The weed control project will continue. After a couple of years of financial problems it was nice to have adequate funds. You may recall that the tax assessment was increased from \$185.64 to \$344 for front lots per year for the period of 2018 to 2021. Back lots are half that rate. The increase first appeared on the 2017 winter tax bill.

There were four algae and weed control treatments in 2018 as well as a weed harvest. Lake weeds and algae were treated May 23, June 25, July 17 and August 27. Filamentous Algae was the main culprit while small areas of Milfoil, nuisance Wild Celery and Starry Stonewort were treated.

On July 23 & 24 there was a weed harvest (right) with four harvester loads of weeds removed from



Photo / Clay Dees.

11.75 acres.

Lake treatment maps are posted on the web and can be found under the Late Breaking News button on the home page. They are also posted on our Facebook page.



For the past few years there has been an increase in algae in the lake. Chemical treatments were made but it didn't seem as if we could get ahead of it. Several east end residents said they would notice plumes of algae moving out of the swampy area in the northeast corner of the lake.

After research it was discussed that an "algae boom" be installed to help stem the flow. Paul Hausler of Progressive Engineer-

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Condolences

• To the Rod and Darcy McLane family. Darcy's mother, AnnaMae Barber of Clyde Township, MI passed away in July. AnnaMae and her late husband Robert were residents on the lake.



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Tom & Toni Forton
Owners

Continued

ing said they had very limited data on the effectiveness of a boom for algae control.

At the July 2017 Association meeting the membership authorized the purchase and installation on a trial basis.

In May of 2018 the 100 foot long boom was installed by lake association board members.

President Kevin Ohlrogge, (right) shows the floating boom which has a hanging curtain to retain the algae.



Over the summer the algae issue was much better than it has been for the past few years.

There could be several factors in this including weather, increased treatment or the boom.

Paul said he has seen quite a bit of algae this year in the numerous lakes he oversees around the state. He said the boom “appears to be doing a good job” but cautions it is too soon to make a determination.

The area has been monitored by drone surveillance throughout the summer.

Save the dates

The lake association is looking at events for residents to meet and socialize with neighbors around the lake.

If you have any ideas or would like to take a leadership role contact Kevin Ohlrogge.

Proposed events for 2019 are:

- **June 8, 2019** 11:30 am to 2:00 PM Beginning water skiing
- **June 29, 2019** 7:00 PM Ice cream gather-

ing at the shallow area near the boat launch

- **July 4, 2019** 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM Boat Parade around the lake
- **July 6, 2019** 9:00 AM Lake Association meeting
- **July 27, 2019** 9:00 AM Kayak the lake
- **August 17, 2019** 7:00 PM Bring a desert to the gathering at the shallow area near the boat launch

To help keep lake residents up-to-date on happenings around Hardwood Lake, the lake association asked Brian and Sandy Schafer to create a Facebook group. Search for: Hardwood Lake. It is a closed group meaning you have to ask to be invited to join. Contact Brian or Sandy at brsakala@gmail.com



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2018 FAMILY PICNIC



After a five year lapse the lake association family potluck picnic returned. Association President Kevin and Debbie Ohlrogge hosted the event on July 23. Threatening showers didn't put a damper on the event with almost 75 attending, including several local elected officials.

Our own Dan Joseph, a competitive BBQ chef, did wonders with the pulled pork while

Debbie was the chicken master.

After dinner there was a spirited water balloon toss.

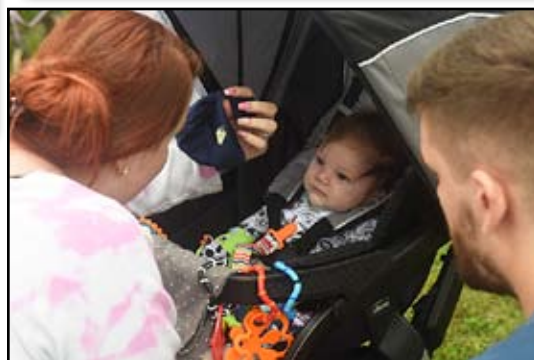
Everyone had a good chance to socialize and meet their neighbors around the lake. There was a large aerial photo of the lake so members could mark their home turf.

The tentative plan is to hold another picnic in 2020.



Members enjoyed eating a multitude of potluck dishes. There was something for everyone.

After dinner Debbie Ohlrogge and Sue Young, above, were among the many joining in the group water balloon toss.



Road signs and speed limits

At the annual lake meeting the topic of speed control on Hardwood Heights was brought up. A lot of residents cross and are using the road during busy summer weekends.

The request was made to put up some type of slow down signs.

Vice President Clay Dees looked into it. The Sheriff department agreed to assign a patrol car to make a pass on Hardwood Heights at least once every weekend.

Traffic signs are another



issue. Signs and speed limits are controlled by the road commission. The 25 mph speed limit cannot be changed. The road commission said Richland Township needed to make the request for signs but Richland Township turned down the request for liability reasons.

The lake association board is looking into other options.

In the mean time slow down. Drive like it's your kids along side the road.

The Lake Board annual meeting will be held Monday, October at the Logan Township Hall, 4507 E. M-55. The meeting is open to the public.

The board will review the 2018 lake project and plans for 2019.

Progressive Engineering is scheduled to report on the watershed mapping study.



During the lake association annual meeting Kevin Ohlogge points out the area of Hardwood Lake where the algae boom was installed (detail at right) with lake association funds.

Looking on from left, are board members George McClain, Dan Joseph, Clay Dees and Sandra Schafer.



Lake Board Annual Public Meeting

Monday, October 8, 2018
7:00 P.M.
Logan Township Hall
4507 E. M-55



Looking for something to do?

Check out local area websites
for current activities.

www.westbranch.com

www.tawas.com

www.ogemawherald.com

www.visitwestbranch.com

The sites are linked on
www.hardwoodlake.org

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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