

STONY LAKE NEWZLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE STONY LAKE ASSOCIATION

|

Spring 2025

President's Letter...Happy Summer!

The sun is shining, the lake is calling, and we're thrilled to kick off another wonderful season with our Stony Lake community. As we mark our 70th year, 2025 brings a few updates for our association, so I wanted to share them with you in my letter.

First, you'll notice we've got a new name—our association is now officially the Stony Lake Association! While the name has changed, our mission remains the same: fostering a strong, connected community and ensuring the beauty and vitality of Stony Lake for all to enjoy.

I also wanted to update you on changes to our membership dues. After careful consideration, members voted at our August annual meeting to approve raising dues to \$50. This increase allows us to cover rising association costs, such as insurance expenses to provide coverage for our water-related activities, event items (like trophies for our boat parade and poker paddle, ice cream and cake for the ice cream social), our website, participation in the Michigan Clean Water Corps Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program, and the production and distribution of our amazing newsletter. We appreciate your understanding and support as we continue to create meaningful experiences and keep our lake community thriving.

To make dues payment easier and to help us keep more of the dues paid via credit card, we have switched from PayPal to Zeffy. Designed for non-profits, Zeffy offers a convenient platform for managing payments and maintaining our membership directory, ensuring everyone stays connected and up-to-date. More to



What a show the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) put on last spring. Brittany Speck captured this photo on May 10, 2024 at 10:47 p.m. from the north shore looking east from behind Green Point.

follow on how to use this system, but rest assured—it's designed to be simple and user-friendly.

I'm so excited for all the upcoming events and activities this summer, and I hope to see you at the lake! Whether you're sailing close to the wind during the sailboat races, hoping to catch a lunker during the fishing tournament, cheering on your favorite in the boat parade, relishing sweet treats at the ice cream social, running or walking in the

Stony Lake Sparkler, working on an inside straight at the Poker Paddle, or simply soaking up the beauty of Stony Lake, there's plenty to look forward to.

Thank you for being an essential part of this community. Together, we can continue making Stony Lake a special place to live, play, and connect.

Wishing you a fantastic summer!

—Jeff Larmore, SLA President

A Sweet Start to Summer at Stony!

Join your neighbors for the traditional start of summer kickoff treats potluck on June 7. The Board decided to move the event a week earlier this summer to avoid conflict with the Father's Day weekend.

Bring a dessert or some appetizers to

share, plates and napkins will be available as well as water and soft drinks. Bring your own lawn chair. Yard games for the kids (OK, adults can play too) will be organized, and a game of Stony Lake trivia may develop. Sharpen your pencils.

It's a great time for all the summer folks to meet up after their winter travels, and to catch up with the year-rounders for local updates. Please stop by from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Benona Ballfield.

Stony Lake Association Board of Trustees

(Year of Election, Term Expiration)

Jeff Larmore, *President* (2015, 2025)

Dale Burmeister, *V. President* (2019, 2025)

Sandy Mitteer, *Treasurer* (2023, 2025)

Neal Miedema, *Secretary* (2019, 2025)

Ruth Fleming, *Trustee* (2016, 2026)

John Mitteer (2024, 2026)

Maribeth Sala-Gietzen, *Trustee* (2019, 2025)

Kathy Sullivan, *Trustee* (2014, 2025)

Sharon Zoller, *Trustee* (2018, 2026)

Sally Malnor, *Sparkler Race Director*

Please see website for
contact info on trustees.

A Resource Guidebook for Stony Lake Homeowners can be found at www.stonylakepropertyowners.com/docs/2015StonyLakeHomeownersGuide.pdf



WHAT'S WITH THE NEWZ?

We pay tribute with our "newzletter" name to Swift Lathers, above, who published the Mears Newz from 1914–1970. The "world's smallest newspaper" was printed in Mears, Michigan, but had subscribers nationwide. Copies are available at the Oceana Historical Park Museum Complex in Mears, which includes his home office.

Send comments about and information for the "Newzletter" to Julie Stivers, jlcastivers@gmail.com.

Newzletter production:

Julie Stivers, editor

Sally and John Malnor, Sparkler Section
Coordinators

Mary Lulich, Pixel Grafix Studio,
production & printing

Stony Lake Newzletter Issue #14

Fishing Tournament kicks off Independence Day Celebration!

The Stony Lake Fishing Tournament has become one of the most popular events sponsored by the Lake Association. We had a great turnout in 2024 with a number of boats on the lake early in the morning. It was a calm but cool day, with a great range of species making a show, especially in the adult division. In addition to the winners below, there were also steelhead trout and brown trout entered as well. Thanks to all!

Adult Winners: (Determined by Weight)

1st Place	Carson O'Dell	Large Mouth Bass	3.4 Lbs.
2nd Place	Nolan Zavislek	Large Mouth Bass	3.2 Lbs.
3rd Place	Jason Sundell	Northern Pike	3.05 Lbs.

Kids Winners (Determined by Length)

1st Place	Ava Sundell	Large Mouth Bass	17-1/2 inches.
2nd Place	Mya Miedema	Rock Bass	8-1/4 inches.
3rd Place	Graham Williams	Rock Bass	7 inches

The 2025 Tournament on Saturday, July 5 will be set up much as usual. Adults and Kids 12 and under compete separately. Trophies will be awarded for first, second and third places in both categories. The tournament runs from 6-11 a.m. Fish caught prior to 6 a.m. will not be considered.

Check in your catch at Dan Brouwer's dock, fifth cottage down the private lane from the swimming beach. A current Michigan fishing license is required and will be checked. Winning fish for adults will be based on weight, the 12 and under competition fish will be based on length.

All fish in the Adult category must be Legal Game Fish! All participants will only be allowed one rod! (Example: Trolling with 3 rods per person gives an unfair advantage from those casting from boat or docks!)

We will check fish in the 12 and under category to see if any caught are eligible for a Michigan DNR Master Angler Award. If they are eligible we will provide the necessary documentation that would be needed to receive a Master Angler award!

Looking forward to seeing all the avid Stony Lake fishers again this summer.

– Dan Brouwer



Ava Sundell, Kids 12 and under division fishing champ and Carson O'Dell, 13 and over division winner.



The Anderson family took first place (again!) with a Star Wars theme, with a separate boat for Princess Leia (below).



Second place went to the always-creative Speck family for Stony Lake F.D., also a two boat endeavor (do we sense a trend here?).



We've had sailboats, we've had canoes, we've had pedal boats, but we think Rob Patton last summer was the first to make the Boat Parade on a Stand-Up Paddle board!



Perennially popular Margaritaville brought third place honors to the Sosnowski/Johnson families. All boat photos by Jim Wildgen.



All Boat Parade participants gathered at the Ice Cream Social for awards and fun! Photo by Matt Ferguson.

Fourth Fun Planned on the Fifth

For nearly 50 years, the neighbors of Stony Lake have come together on the weekend closest to the 4th of July to decorate boats, parade around the lake, and gather for an Ice Cream Social and award ceremonies.

Thanks to volunteers chaired by Matt Ferguson, stepping in for Jeff Larmore, and Sharon Zoller, the festivities continue this summer on Saturday, July 5.

Boats gather at Green Point in the middle of the lake at 1:45 for a 2:00 start. All creative ideas are welcome and all boats receive a

participation medal. Trophies go to the top three votegetters. Voting will again be via the internet – look for more details including the URL link, QR code etc. around the end of June on the SLPOA website and Facebook

Ice cream and cake will be served at the Camp Ao Wa Kiya waterfront at 4:00 p.m., and trophies awarded. Parking is available at the camp; walk down the stairs to the waterfront. Or anchor your parade entry on the waterfront and wade in! (No docking available.)

It's a good time to pay your Association dues, and maybe pick up a hat as well, so you might want to bring along some cash or a checkbook! It's a popular event, usually attracting over 200 people. "We have served around four tubs of Country Dairy ice cream and four sheet cakes most summers," said event chair Sharon Zoller.

Independence Day weekend fun continues on Sunday, July 6 with the Stony Lake Sparkler. More info on the next pages of this issue.

Poker Paddle is Just Plain Fun

Almost three dozen paddlers ranging in age from 3 to 73 turned out for the fourth annual Paddle Poker challenge last summer. Participants could choose from ten docks around the lake to pick up cards for a five-card poker hand. When they gathered at the Jonker beach on the west end, they could turn in one card to improve their hand. Winners in the 2024 tournament were:

- Under 12 best hand: Gwen Ferguson
- Under 12 worst hand: Anthony Maggio
- Over 12 best hand: Jimmy Murphy
- Over 12 worst hand: Rick Arunguren
- Oldest paddler: Mary Mulder
- Youngest paddler: Haley Ferguson
- Most one-eyed jacks: Jackson Geving
- Farthest traveler: Cynthia Maggio
- Guess the goldfish number: Jennifer Furey

Thank you to the many volunteers who helped with the event (listed in the Volunteer section of this issue), and as always to Ellen Jonker and her family for hosting the awards and post-paddle fun on her beachfront.

This summer's Poker Paddle is scheduled for Saturday, July 26. More details will be published on our Facebook page and website closer to the date. Paddlers should look for flags to go up at 12:00 noon on docks around the lake, where they can pick up a map of all the dock locations and instructions. There will be plenty of prizes, a treasure chest for kids and other activities at the Jonker beach celebration, which begins at 2:00 p.m.



Participants and volunteers gather on the Jonker beachfront. Photos by Matt Ferguson.



Winner of the prize for Best Hand in the Under 12 Division was Gwen Ferguson, age 3. Best Hand in the older division was Jimmy Murphy. Tom Oczwarski hands out the prizes.



Paddlers line up at the Stivers dock to collect their card.

A Tradition of Sailing on Stony

There are still some sailors around Stony who remember the old handbuilt Lark boats, on which many youngsters learned to sail at Camp Miniwanca.

Sailing is still a thrill on our perfectly sized lake, with an abundance (sometimes an overabundance) of lake breezes. Volunteer chairs Neal and Amy Miedema are the latest in a long line of committed sailors who organize weekend races that are fun both for participants and spectators.

This year's season begins on July 6 with the only Sunday race of the year (to avoid conflict with the Boat Parade on the 5th!). Races are then planned on Saturdays, July 19, and August 2, 16 & 30.

Racers gather at the west end of the lake near the Miedemas' dock (clearly marked). The first horn sounds at 1:55, second at 1:58. Single sails take off at 2:00, Doubles at 2:02 and Catamarans at 2:04. Participants must obtain and return a signed waiver, email neal_miedema@hotmail.com for information.



How many people remember the old handbuilt Larks?

The Sparkler! Sunday, July 6

by Sally Malnor, Sparkler Race Director

A vision of a community event and a lot of determination led Janie Denman to create the Stony Lake Sparkler, our annual Fun Walk and 5K Run. From that initial start of 500 runners, with the support of many volunteers and local sponsors, the race has grown to be sold-out to a maximum capacity of 1,000 participants for the past two years. The Sparkler has become a tradition—now in its eleventh year and

going strong. “The Sparkler has become a tradition...strong.”

Our sponsors deserve our thanks and support for helping make the Sparkler a reality and for helping us to contribute over \$160,000 to the Crystal Valley Care Fund. Please see a list of our community sponsors here: <https://stonylakesparkler.com/2023-sponsors/>

Make sure to thank them for their sponsorship!

Key Information for 2025:

All race details and online registration can be found at <https://stonylakesparkler.com/>

Friday, June 21, midnight – Last Day of Guaranteed T-Shirts and Early Bird Discounted Pricing.

Saturday, July 5 – 9-11 a.m. Packets available and late registration (only if spaces remain) at the Stony Lake Inn, 4722 Scenic Drive.

Sunday, July 6 – RACE DAY! Limited Free Parking available on the ballfield, please carpool, walk or bicycle to the race if possible.

ble. Packet pick-up from 7-8 a.m. at Stony Lake Inn. One-Mile Fun Run/Walk begins at 8:00 a.m., Sparkler 5K begins at 8:30.

Come join us for great fun, food, and prizes, and to celebrate the racers, volunteers, and this wonderful community. Our volunteers make this day what it is – email us at Malnorsb@gmail.com to volunteer. We need the help and what a great way to make new friends around the lake!



Overall winners Graeson Lawrence from Muskegon, with a time of 17:14.1, and Eliza Schwass from Scotville, with a time of 19:05.5, took home Birdhouses from Stony Lake Custom Birdhouses.



Fish plates from Claybanks Pottery were awarded to Grand Masters David Anderson from Grand Rapids, time 20:21.6 and Judy Grotke from Evergreen, Colorado, time 26:24.2.



A symbolic check (the actual final amount of the donation was \$25,291.07) was presented to the Crystal Valley Care Fund to assist Oceana County residents with sudden urgent needs. From left, back row, Dale Burmeister and Jeff Larmore, SLA; Sally Malnor, Race Director and in front Deb Mitteer and Judy Kocx from CVCF.



Jeffrey Weber of Traverse City, with a time of 17:27.5 and Valerie Corwin of Bloomington, Indiana, time 20:48.0 took home the wind chimes in the Masters division.



Taking the cake prize for the family with the most participants was the Wadel Family from Hart, Houston and Ludington.

PLATINUM SPONSORS



PETERSON FARMS
FAMILY OF COMPANIES

A Proud Sponsor of the

**Stony Lake
Sparkler 5K Run**




**SERVING MICHIGAN WITH
THE BEST HOME EXTERIOR PRODUCTS
FOR 130 YEARS**

STOP IN TO OUR MUSKEGON BRANCH!

2010 E SHERMAN BLVD
MUSKEGON, MI 49444
231.220.0190

WWW.EIKENHOUT.COM



**Innovative
Autonomy**

Mark Skoog, owner • Stony Lake

**STONY
LAKE**
ASSOCIATION
EST. 1955

Become a Member
stonylakepropertyowners.com

Special thanks to families and individuals who sponsor the Stony Lake Sparkler

Platinum
Bob & Mary Jo Schierbeek
The Mixer Family



GOLD SPONSORS



JEFF PAYNE | 231-861-6841

2870 W Shelby Rd | Shelby, MI 49455
harbordesignandconstruction.com



Lake Effect
ARTIST COLLECTIVE

The Lake Effect SUMMER ART SHOW

JULY 5&6, 2025
SATURDAY + SUNDAY
11AM-5PM 11AM-4PM



www.LakeEffectArtistsCollective.com



LOCATED ADJACENT TO
STONY LAKE DEPOT
4189 Scenic Dr.
Shelby, MI. 49455



Remodels Electric Heating Cooling Pole Buildings

Up North



**FARM MARKET
& Petting Barn**



UP NORTH

Garden Center

STONY LAKE INN

*Your Meeting Place for the
Stony Lake Sparkler!*

Locally Owned • Family Friendly

Great Lakes Perch
Wild-Caught Walleye
Norwegian Salmon
Steaks
Burgers
Salads & More!

4722 S. Scenic Dr Shelby

231-861-4427

See our full menu online

www.StonyLakeInn.net

GOLD SPONSORS

FFCU
FAMILY FINANCIAL
Credit Union

Homegrown & Here to Stay

Rooted in West Michigan and proudly local *since 1942!*

Visit us to open an account today!

4075 W. Polk Road in Hart!

ff-cu.org



Farmhouse

KITCHEN AND MARKET



Dine, shop, and celebrate with us at our beautiful space on the 17th hole of Benona Shores Golf Course.



For hours and reservations visit www.farmhousetonylake.com

3666 Scenic Drive
Shelby, MI 49455
231.259.0029



Michigan's Premier Adventure Farm



www.Lewisadventurefarm.com




LAKESHORE

PLUMBING & HEATING, LLC
*Licensed & Insured

TODD SELIG

OWNER

Mobile: 231-425-7812
Email: toddrselig@gmail.com

2890 South Scenic Drive
Shelby, MI 49455



media technologies

envision • design • create

892 Industrial Park Drive • 231-861-2194

GOLD SPONSORS



**Oceana's
HERALD-JOURNAL**

OCEANA COUNTY'S WEEKLY NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1869

Where local news matters!

www.oceanaheraldjournal.com

Providing local news since 1869!

123 S. State Street
Hart, MI 49420
231-873-5602




HOLIDAY CAMPING

**HEATED POOL
CAMP STORE
LAUNDRY**

Resort

**FULL HOOK-UPS
PULL-THRU SITES
CAMPING CABINS**

5483 W. Stony Lake Road
New Era, MI 49446
(231) 861-5220

www.holidaycamping.com



JAMIE ZIMMERMAN
JAMIE ZIMMERMAN REALTY
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPLE BROKER



JAMIE ZIMMERMAN
REALTY

✉ JAMIE@JAMIEZREALTY.COM

🌐 JAMIEZREALTY.COM

📞 616-723-5777

📍 1206 S. 24TH AVE
SHELBY, MI. 49455



meijer®

**1800 Holton Road
Muskegon, MI 49455**



**STONY LAKE
CUSTOM
BIRDHOUSES**

Lenny Lewandowski
231-861-0582
4715 S. Scenic Drive
Stony Lake, MI 49455

GOLD SPONSORS



Carefully edited, high-quality options for
your closet and home

189 Hancock Street | Pentwater
1.231.869.2200
@CrazePentwater



**Maximize your playing opportunities
with a dual membership between
Oceana Golf Club and Benona Shores
Golf Course.**

Separated by only 12 miles, this unique golf membership
provides access to two well-maintained courses for a
mixed golf experience at one affordable price.

Play Oceana for 6,292-yards at par 72 course known
for its challenging greens.

Play Benona for a shorter yardage length at par 60
with scenic rolling hills.

Sparkle. sprint. Stay.

1 MILE FROM DUNES • LAKE FRONT

WWW.SILVERSANDSMI.COM

HEATED POOL • CABINS • COZY ROOMS

Silver Sands
HOTEL + RESORT

BOOK ONLINE OR CALL US AT: 231.873.3769
8446 W. HAZEL RD MEARS, MI 49436

WEST MICHIGAN
FamilyDental PC

SHELBY

4140 W. Shelby Rd.
Shelby, MI 49455
231-861-4858

FREMONT

517 N Stone Rd.,
Ste. 102
Fremont, MI 49412
231-924-5542

MichiganFamilyDental.com

Special thanks to individuals who sponsor the Stony Lake Sparkler

GOLD

Bridge View • Mark & Sally Myers • Camp Wa Ha Ha Sa Cra

SILVER SPONSORS

**GOOD LUCK
and Have Fun!**

SSB | Shelby State Bank 
www.shelbybank.com 231-861-6062

**BECKMAN
BROS.**
INC.
SHELBY, MICH.
231-861-2031

- Excavation
- Trucking/Hauling
- Landscape Materials
- Ready-Mix Concrete
- Snow Removal

www.beckmanbros.net

STOVALL
CONSTRUCTION, INC.

"Our Reputation is Building"

StovallConstructionInc.net • 308 S. State St. • Shelby, MI 49455 • 231-861-2652



MORE THAN JUST A MARKET!

Handcrafted Pizza
Sandwiches, Groceries
Ice Cream
Spirits, Gifts
Takeout - Dine-in
Outdoor Seating



STONY LAKE MARKET - 4724 SCENIC DR. - 231-861-4412



NOVOSAD
REALTY PARTNERS
Integrity. Knowledge. Results.

Barb Glashouwer Realtor / Partner
Unsurpassed Service, Outstanding Results
616-307-1114 barb@novosadrealty.com

MEYERS
CHEVROLET
SALES - SERVICE

4748 1st Street, New Era, MI 49446
231-861-2525 • 1-800-861-3325
Serving West Michigan Since 1937
www.meyerschevrolet.com

Brenda Bouwman LUTCF LTCP CASL® 
Agent
704 E Apple Avenue
Muskegon, MI 49442-3648
Bus 231 722 1189 Fax 231 725 9319
brenda.bouwman.gscq@statefarm.com
www.brendabouwman.com
Providing Insurance and Financial Services

HALLACK CONTRACTING

4223 West Polk Road
Hart, MI 49420
231-873-5081
Fax 231-873-2889
www.HallackContracting.com



- LOCAL GRAPES
- CLASSIC WINES
- FUTURE STYLE OF WINE
Visit us at the vineyard or -
Pentwater Farmer's Market
Portview Wine & Beer Market
522 N 69th, Hart, MI 49420-9024
pleasantvalleyfarmandvineyard.com

Oceana Veterinary Clinic


Dr. Analisa Horton
Dr. Emily Pluger
Dr. Allison Potter
Dr. Gretchen Kronsbein
Dr. Amber Shoberg



 231 **861.8196**

5778 S. Oceana Dr • New Era, MI • OceanaVetClinic.com



Gaby Peterson
REALTOR®

five star*
REAL ESTATE LEADERS

✉ GabyPetersonHomes@gmail.com
🌐 www.GabyPetersonHomes.com
📞 @gabypetersonrealtor
📞 231-830-7037

Karl Lemmen

231-893-3516
NEW ERA

K&S
GARAGE DOOR

Sales, Service and Installation of Garage Doors & Door Openers
1-877-KNS-DOOR (567-3667)

SILVER SPONSORS



Jacob Jonker

8811 Stone Road
Shelby, MI 49455
231.861.5708
jbjlawncare@gmail.com



Jason Fleming
231.425.7198

2024 S. 96th Ave.
Shelby, MI 49455

flemingfarms13@gmail.com



PORTA-JONS

☺ Restroom Trailers ☺ Construction ☺ Parties
☺ Farm Equipment ☺ Job Trailer Tanks

231-843-9191 allseasonsportajons.com
service@caribouservices.com



LARRY BYL
BROKER/OWNER

E LarryByl@gmail.com

C 231-578-4671

O 231-861-2103

H 231-861-5979

163 N. Michigan Ave
Shelby, Michigan 49455

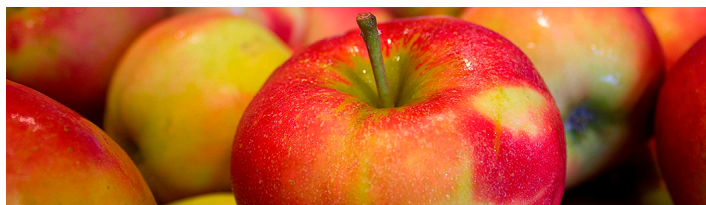
wickstra.com



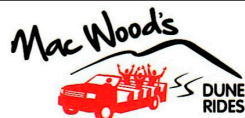
– Trustworthy
– Reliable
– Reasonable
– New Construction

JAMES BAGGE
JamesBagge@EfficientHCP.com

616-581-2576



RABE ORCHARDS LLC



SHELBY & CHRIS OLSON – OWNERS
GARRETT & SARAH TALMADGE – MANAGERS

LOCATED AT SILVER LAKE SAND DUNES
629 N. 18th Ave. • Mears, MI 49436
231-873-2817 • www.macwoodsdunerides.com
EMAIL: info@macwoodsdunerides.com
DUNE MOUNTAIN GIFT SHOP ON-SITE

Boat Lifts & Docks & Shrink Wrap



Please Call Us
734-223-3953



7060 S. Scenic Drive
New Era
231.894.4177

CRYSTAL VALLEY
CARE FUND



Special thanks to individuals who sponsor the Stony Lake Sparkler

SILVER

Davis Point
Green Point
The Larmore Families
The Malnor Families
Deb and Jim Mitteer
Modrack Family Cottage

The Polk Family Cottage
Robinwood
John and Julie Stivers
Kate Van Bokkelen
Sally and Joe Van Bokkelen
The Voges Family



Join Your Neighbors for Annual Meeting



Come on down to the Ball Park on Saturday, August 2 for the Annual Meeting of the Stony Lake Association – we'll be celebrating our new name!

Bring your own lawn chairs, grab your neighbors, friends and

visitors to gather and hear the latest Association news about the summer's fun activities as well as useful information on the health of our lake. And get yourself into our annual Family Photo for posterity. The meeting starts at 9:00 a.m. and is open to all.

Thank You 2024 Volunteers!

FISHING TOURNAMENT

Dan Brouwer, chair

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Sharon Zoller, Chair; Libby Brouwer, Penny Burmeister, Patti Mullen

SAILBOAT RACING

Neal & Amy Miedema, chairs; David Lattie, Carolyn Lehr

POKER PADDLE

Tom Owczarski (T.O.), chair; Ellen Jonker and family, hosts; Dan Brouwer, emcee; Matt Ferguson, photographer; Dock Dealers Libby Brouwer, Chris Fisher, Ruth Fleming, John and Sandy Mitteer, Mark and Sally Myers, Merry Rosenberg, John and Julie Stivers, Kathy Sullivan, Kate VanBokkelen and Kate Schnipke



Sparkler volunteers celebrate at the end of Race Day 2024.

BOAT PARADE

Matt Ferguson, Jeff & Sue Larmore

MEMBERSHIP

Ruth Fleming

SPARKLER

Megan Bueschel, Deana Fox, Chris Kok, Jeff Larmore, Sally Malnor, Suzy Polk, Kathy Sullivan. And the dozens of Race Day volunteers! Thank You

COMMUNICATIONS

Maribeth Sala-Geitzen, chair; Matt Ferguson, photography; Julie Stivers, Newsletter

WATER QUALITY

Dave Zoller & Steve Lawill, Lake Management Board; Matt Ferguson, John Stivers, Justin Mikkelsen, CLMP monitoring.



The volunteer spirit is alive at Stony Lake in many ways. Big thanks to Dan Felix and Joe Veltman, above left, who saw a need and stepped up to repair the much-beloved carousel in the township park. Past generations who have fond memories, and future ones who are making them now say a big "Thank you!". Construction photo by Don Muckel, re-opening celebration by Sharon Zoller.

Newz From Around the Lake

Water Works

Two new projects on upper Stony Creek will make their debut this summer, impacting the continuing health of our lake and improving water quality and access to the creek that feeds Stony Lake. The area around Marshville, on Stony Creek about two miles upstream from Stony Lake, has historic and cultural significance to local residents. George Marsh established a sawmill there in 1861 and a grist mill two years later. A village grew around it, but was destroyed by the same storm/flood that took out the mill town around the mouth of the creek at Stony Lake in 1883. In the 1920s local fishermen built another dam in a different location on the creek to create a pond to pursue their sport, but over the years vandalism and lack of maintenance caused irreparable damage to it.

In 2020 a group of local government agencies, organizations and interested individuals came together to determine the future of the site,

focusing on conservation and water quality efforts, expanded public access and the restoration of the Creek's natural flow. Led by the Oceana County Parks & Recreation Board, the project has restored full fish passage to over ten miles of Stony Creek and its tributaries. All species of fish can now access habitats blocked for over a century. Public access to the fishing area is improved and now includes an access point for people with limited mobility. A large sign at the park will emphasize the historical significance of the site. For more information, check the Oceana Parks website.

In the last edition of this newsletter, we highlighted a project by the Oceana Conservation District to establish a 40-acre nature preserve a mile further upstream from Marshville. Donated in 2022 by descendents of the Hunter and Hedlund families, the Stony Creek Nature Preserve is still under construction as we go to press this year. Keep an eye on the District's website, where you can also find a virtual tour of "these magical woods" created this winter.



The new bridge replacing the culvert on Stony Creek at Marshville. Photo by John Wyls.



Pathway at Stony Creek Nature Preserve. Photo by Oceana Conservation District.

Fine Art, Antique Motors and More

Other residents around the lake are planning events that might be of interest to Lake Association members. Though not officially sponsored by the Association, we're happy to include details when we have the space.

A group of motor enthusiasts has been informally gathering each summer to show off their collection of antique outboard motors. This year they plan to get together on June 28 from 9-3 at the Township Beach in beautiful downtown Stony Lake, and invite the public to stop by.

The Lake Effect Artist Collective is a group from Stony Lake/Cobmoosa Shorecommunity. They have hosted pop-up markets

and exhibits with local and out-of-town artists. This year they are planning their second event to coincide with the Sparkler 5K on Saturday, July 5, 11-5, and Sunday, July 6, 11:00-4, in the field adjacent to the Stony Lake Depot.

For information about participating, check their website at LakeEffectArtistsCollective.com.

In the works for next summer is a Garden Tour, being organized by local resident Jan (aka Suzie) Carr. For information contact her at Zelda500@gmail.com.



Stop by the Antique Outboard Motor Show on June 28, 9-3



Keeping Our Lake Healthy

There are several ways we can insure the continuing health and water quality of our little lake. We have participated in the Cooperative Lakes Management Program (CLMP), a state program to collect data on Michigan's lakes, since 2004. This history of information enables scientists to evaluate the aging process of our lake and make informed decisions about the best way to treat it. The Lake Management Board was established in 2010, also to collect data and manage annual harvesting of plant overgrowth and control of invasive non-native water plants.

Minutes of the Management Board are available from Dave Zoller, dzoller@hotmail.com, who also can answer any questions about treatment and harvesting.

(Continued on page 15)

STONY LAKE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP



**Detach this form and
send with \$50.00 dues to:**

**Ruth Fleming,
Membership Chair
2700 S. 64th Ave.
Shelby, MI 49455**

☐ Check here if this is a renewal membership and your information has NOT changed.

Name: _____

Newzletter Mailing Address: _____

Other address: _____

Preferred Phone #: _____ Other Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Make checks payable to SLA.

☐ Check here if you'd like to volunteer for SLA

JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS TODAY – SUPPORT THE SLA!

The Stony Lake Association (SLA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, established as the Stony Lake Property Owners Association, in 1955. We are dedicated to preserving Stony Lake, maintaining the health and welfare of the lake, and promoting a sense of community. Membership covers our annual Newzletter, social activities, and regular testing of lake

water to monitor the condition of the lake.

Membership is open to all who have an interest in the well-being of Stony Lake. Annual dues are \$50.00, payable by check or by credit card (PayPal) for new members (link at stonylakepropertyowners.com). We are transitioning renewing members to Zeffy, a free fundraising platform for nonprofits, which also accepts credit cards.

Newzletters are mailed to members in early May and are mailed to your primary address, unless otherwise specified. Our Member Directory is on our website and is password protected. Email stonylakepropertyowners@gmail.com for password.

It's easy to keep up with us on Facebook, at stonylakepropertyowners.com, or check the Association Board next to the market.

IN MEMORIUM

We have a lot of names for this section this year, probably because more people are asking to have their loved ones remembered by friends around the lake. We wish we had the space to include extended tributes. We encourage you to search online for more information about these departed neighbors.

Don Huey, age 80, brother of Nancy Huey Migas (who died 2022) and part of the Lake's historic Huey pioneering family, died August 9, 2023.

Sylvia "Poochie" Vanderleest, Stony Lake mom and Shelby banker, died on May 5, 2024 at the age of 88.

Todd Chandler, brother of Holly, son of Mary & Art, died May 8, 2024 at age 59. We all knew Todd, soft-spoken lover of Stony Lake and his red Hummer.

Jan Thomas Hartman, animal lover, died May 14, 2024 at age 67

Philip Hickey, Jr., grandson of the family who owned the beloved Hickey's Landing in the middle of the last century, died May 30, 2024 at age 67

Max Burmeister passed away in Muskegon at the age of 99 on July 21, 2024.

Barbara Burmeister, born in 1934 in a farmhouse just north of Stony Lake, died on November 30, 2024.

Janet Baker, long-time Stony Acres resident, died on January 17, 2025.

Alan Burmeister, life-long farmer and co-owner of historic Lakeshore Farms, died February 13, 2025 at age 61 from injuries suffered in a snowmobile accident.

Marilyn Knoch, avid golfer, Red Hat Queen, who with her husband Bill (died 2021) ran the Stony Lake Yacht Club for many years, died on February 17, 2025 at age 81.

Keeping Our Lake Healthy

(Continued from page 14)

For information about the data collected in the CLMP over the years, visit micorps.net, click on information about individual lakes, then on Stony.

To do something yourself to help maintain the good water quality we all enjoy around our lake, consider

putting in some native plants on your waterfront. The Oceana Conservation District Native Plant Sale is Friday, May 23 from 10-3 at the District's office, 1064 Industrial Park Drive in Shelby. Muskegon Conservation District sale is May 17, 10-1 at their office, 4735 Holton Road.



8050 W. Stonycroft
Shelby, MI 49455

Dates to Remember this Summer!

JUNE 7 TREATS PICNIC POTLUCK

Benona Twp. Park
6:30-8:30 p.m.

JULY 5 FISHING TOURNAMENT

6:00-11:00 a.m.

BOAT PARADE

Gather at Green Point
1:45 p.m.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Camp Ao Wa Kiya
Waterfront, 4:00 p.m.

JULY 6 STONY LAKE SPARKLER

Stony Lake Inn Parking Lot
8:00 a.m.

JULY 6 SAILBOAT RACES

2:00 p.m.

JULY 19 SAILBOAT RACES

2:00 p.m.

JULY 26 POKER PADDLE

12:00-2:00 p.m.

AUG 2 ANNUAL MEETING

Benona Twp. Park
9:00 a.m.

AUG 2 SAILBOAT RACES

2:00 P.M.

AUG 16 SAILBOAT RACES

2:00 p.m.

AUG 31 SAILBOAT RACES

2:00 P.M.



CHECK WEBSITE,
FACEBOOK PAGE AND
COMMUNITY BOARD
NEXT TO STORE
FOR UPDATED INFORMATION



Contact us at
stonylakepropertyowners@gmail.com