

NEWS & HAPPENINGS CEDAR LAKE RECREATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

2018 CEDAR LAKE RECREATION ASSOCIATION

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SPRING-SUMMER II 2018



HIGH WATER!

High water levels have created the big story for Cedar and other area lakes this year. Returning residents have found their lake homes with water in their crawl spaces or basements, beaches gone, docks submerged, missing or damaged along with seawalls, lawns and shore stations while the septic systems along Becker beach in Area 6 totally flooded. Long term lake residents can recall the lake level being higher in 1993-1995 but that is small consolation for those who have encountered problems this spring.

The above paragraph, though mostly true for us today, was actually the front page story of the Spring 2009 newsletter. Thankfully, we no longer need to worry about flooded septics, but also the lake was not higher in 1993-1995 than it is today, in 2018. Old photos show that it has been higher than now but not since the 1950s.



Our staff gauge next to M-40. Left was taken May 3 and right, May 29. Considering all the rain we have had, this is some progress albeit, very slow.

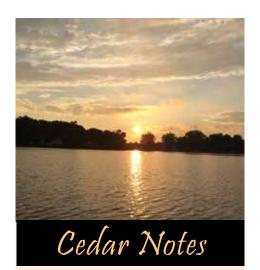
The following is excerpt from a letter from drain commission Joe Parman that was also in the 2009 newsletter. "March 2009 – Contracted to have the tube under M-40 between Big & Little Cedar jetted/cleaned out as well as the outlet tube on Little Cedar. The tube under M-40 is 24 inches and the tube out of Little Cedar is 30 inches in diameter." Both tubes were also cleaned in April 2018 and Peter Van Dop, drain office engineer, says, most days, checking our drains, is his first morning stop.

"The 30" outlet pipe and structure was set-up to relieve the flooding but also limit downstream flooding and erosion. So any future projects will also need to keep this in mind. There was some reported flooding near Gravel Lake that was claimed to be coming from Cedar Lake drain. The drain office is investigating." Now, 93rd Ave between Little Cedar and Gravel is flooded as are 40 other roads in Porter Township. The weir dam outlet of Little Cedar is flowing well and boards have been removed to allow a greater quantity of water to exit faster.

Joe Parman, Van Buren County Drain Commissioner, will be posting warning signs near the drainage structure and will possibly pursue prosecution of those caught tampering with the structure...Hopefully, Cedar Lake's level will be back to normal soon.

GIVEN OUR CURRENT WATER LEVEL, IT IS IMPORTANT FOR ALL OF US TO PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF THE EFFECT OUR BOAT WAKES HAVE ON OUR NEIGHBOR'S SHORELINES & PROPERTY.

The above caution statement is also from the 2009 spring newsletter but now it is a vitally important warning for those of us who use powerboats. The St. Joe County sheriff says that they have an emergency NO-WAKE restriction on ALL lakes in their county. How and why this was adopted, no one seems to know, but the best guess is that it was tied to PROPERTY DAMAGE COMPLAINTS. Van Buren county sheriff doesn't think this is being considered in our county, but is not sure. PLEASE, do your best to make sure none of our neighbors has reason to register a complaint. Our ability to use our sport boats may depend on it.



Hi, I am Jane Harvey from Becker Beach, Area 5 and I am still humbled and thrilled to be your CLRA president!

Again I need to thank all those folks who have been so supportive and helpful, particularly, Jim Hosbein.

If you have any questions or advise, please call me at this number 727-776-1361. If you have any photos, stories, issues or Lost and Found items you would like to see in the next newsletter, email janemharvey@yahoo.com or call that number.

Many thanks to Larry Wolfrum for our website, www.cedarlakera. org. Go there to find water quality test results, old newsletters, links to DNR and state of Michigan and our new Lake Study.

BIG congratulations to Vice President Mark and Andre on their Las Vegas wedding in May! We wish them a life filled with happiness and lovely times at Cedar Lake!

We are saddened to report the loss of Cedar Lake resident, long time Area 6 Becker Beach representative and rummage sale hostess extraordinaire,

Kay Weist

Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family. She will be most sorely missed.

CONGRATS!!

The beautiful girl with the snake is Schantel Myers, Jan Strong's (Area 6) granddaughter. One of those other guys is a very lucky man named Jim Harvey. On the 71st anniversary of Joann and Bob Harvey's wedding date, May 3rd, which was Derby Day in 1947 and serendipitously also in 2018, Jim and Schantel became engaged while watching the Kentucky Derby at Arlington Race Track wearing funny hats. Best Wishes and Much Love to them!!



SADLY, NO POKER RUN THIS YEAR! This is the Dewey's year off and we will look forward to the 2019 Poker Run but if anyone has an idea for a Lake get together this summer, plan it then let us know the details and our wonderful webmaster, Larry Wolfrum, might put it on the website or blast it to our emails. Maybe a potluck pontoon party?

JULY 4TH INDEPENDENCE DAY ACTIVITIES

BOAT PARADES

We will parade on Saturday, July 7th, at 11:00 AM and the lighted boat parade will start at 9:00 PM. (Rain date, with same times, is Sunday, July 8th.) The Not sanctioned by CLRA water fight will happen in the middle of the lake, immediately after the 11:00 AM parade make a full loop around the lake.

The themes for both parades will be Your Favorite College or Stars and Stripes.

Vice President, Mark Hokanson, will be the 2018 Grand Marshall and will lead the parades from his dock at the west end of Graham Beach, Area 2, close to M-40. Mark has once again procured a commitment from Apollo Marine for Apollo Buck prizes and there will be travelling trophies for the top three entries of the 9:00 PM parade. Once again, congratulations to the Lennons, the McConnells and first place winner, the Potts family for their 2017 prize winning boats!



CEDAR LAKE LADIES LUNCH

The first of the season was at Fisher Lake Inn in Three Rivers. Lots of chatting to catch up on the winter news and good lunch too. Thanks to Jen Gervais for taking Carielle home when her mother's transmission fell out.

MICHIGAN HOUSE BILL 5095

Michigan House Bill 5095 lowers state ballast water standards to weaker and less effective federal standards. The release of ballast water from vessels is known to have served as the most active mode of entry into the Great Lakes region for an increasing and harmful array of highly destructive aquatic invasive species that include zebra and quagga mussels, sea lamprey, spiny waterflea and many other macrophytes such as Eurasian water milfoil and Starry stonewort. Bill 5095 is stalled in the House, so it is a great time to call Governor Snyder and ask him to VETO Bill 5095. 517-373-3400 Thanks to Michigan Lakes and Streams for compiling the info and Don Dewey for sharing it.



NOT ANOTHER ONE! WATER PENNYWORT, OUR NEW INVASIVE



Just on the south side of the access site, (wonder how it got there) and at the northeast tip of Area 7, Mauk subdivision, we seem to have pennywort. Restorative Lake Sciences did an in depth weed study in May and found it then. Andy at PLM is not sure if the Diquat he will use on the Eurasian water milfoil will work on pennywort but he will try it at the access site. PLM will spray the first week of June, (being careful to stay away from the fish beds), and as per the vote at last year's June meeting, we will also do a test of the DASH (Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting) this June. There are other new methods to combat EWM being researched including a native fungus, Mycoleptodiscus terrestris. Michigan Tech University is testing this in Lake Huron and getting good results. We shall see!



TOP FACTS

- The floating pennywort has an extremely rapid growth rate, with a mat of vegetation being able to expand by 20 cm a day.
- A native of North, South and Central America, the floating pennywort is considered to be an invasive species in many European countries.
- The floating pennywort can reproduce asexually from the smallest root fragment, which enables it to colonise new areas quickly.
- In 2007, water boards in the Netherlands spent over two million Euros to control the floating pennywort.

FISHERMEN & FISHERWOMEN CAN HELP REDUCE LEAD POISONING

Birds commonly eat little pebbles to grind food for digestion. Small lead sinkers and jigs may be mistaken for pebbles by numerous duck and swan species, bald eagles, sandhill cranes and the threatened common loon. At least 27 species are known to be affected by lead poisoning. In Michigan, lead accounts for about 25% of autopsied loon deaths. We were lucky enough to have a few loons visit the Lake this spring. We can make our environment a bit safer for everyone by switching to a lead alternative. There are some nice natural ones made of limestone. They sink a little slower than lead and this "suspension" gives a natural movement to your bait and also helps with snagging in the shallows.



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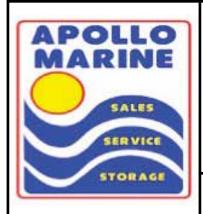
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