



WATER WATER EVERYWHERE 2020



NEWS & HAPPENINGS

CEDAR LAKE RECREATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

As in the previous two years, Cedar Lake has started out in 2020 with extremely high water. However, this year the lake has risen to levels not seen for over 20 years. The photo above courtesy of Steve Whalen, shows the lake lapping at the front door of a number of residences at the end of Bluff Drive in Becker Beach, Area 6.

2019 CEDAR LAKE RECREATION ASSOCIATION

WEBSITE: CEDARLAKERA.ORG

OFFICERS

Pres.	Jane Harvey	727-776-1361
VP	Joe Weist	574-850-8699
Sec	Barb Walters	269-808-2638
Treas	Chris Onderlinde	269-365-8670

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Area 1	John Lyons	501-1917
Area 2	Needed!	
Area 3	Don Dewey	646-2090
Area 4	Janice Rooks	447-0525
Area 5	Ann Poehlman	646-3392
Area 6	Doug McLaughlin	350-6158
Area 7	Needed!	
Area 8	Barb Walters	624-3391

Since that photo was taken in late March, M-DOT has come out to clear the culvert running under M-40 to Little Cedar Lake. Joe Parman, the Van Buren County drain commissioner, has been working to keep the pipe running out from Little Cedar Lake to the weir and the weir itself operating properly. We have had some success with the lake level dropping a few inches, as shown in the photo to the right taken by Ron Slack on April 16, where the original high water mark was at 894 feet above sea level.



As a courtesy to our fellow lake residents whose houses and property are being inundated by the high water levels, we are asking boaters on the lake to observe a no wake zone along the shoreline of the affected properties until the lake has dropped to a more normal and non-threatening level. The following map is marked up to indicate where the no wake zone is to be observed.

Thanks to Larry Wolfrum for this article



SPRING 2020

FLOATING BRUSH PILES



Please don't throw leaves or brush into the Lake as it can be a hazard for boats and swimmers.

Cedar Notes

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

I want to acknowledge the Area Reps who have retired and thank them for their service: Jackie Tucholke, Area 2 and Barb Mauk, Area 7. It was wonderful working with you.

I also want to thank our new Area Rep for volunteering. Doug McLaughlin, Area 6 We need new reps for Areas 2 and 7 so if anyone is interested, please call!.

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 or text the above 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 Lake Study.

Lost & Found

Nothing yet...Please put a telephone number on things you use at the beach and would like to have returned. Toys, lifejackets, cushions, yoga mats, expensive biodegradable shampoo...They often go for a swim.

We are saddened to report the loss of Cedar Lake residents

Wendy Cornish
(betzlerlifestory.com),

Bill Otte
(LifeStoryNet.com)

and past CLRA president,

Dick Vlasak
(everhere.com)

Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families. They will certainly be missed.



CONSIDER NATURAL EROSION SOLUTIONS

As we again battle high water, problems on Cedar Lake range from dire (water in a house) to aesthetic. If your house is safe but your seawall is collapsing or your lawn needs a submersible mower, this might be a good time to consider replacing some shoreline with buffers and natural vegetation to resist erosion. Beneficial natural shoreline features can now be restored using attractive and affordable techniques. The Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership program website is filled with great ideas and information about how to restore and preserve your lakefront property shoreline. Please visit www.mishorelinepartnership.org

The loss of natural vegetative cover at shorelines and near shore areas leads to high volumes of nutrient laden stormwater runoff. Geese love lawns; rain washes goose doo to the lake and it fertilizes the invasive plants we struggle to control. You can help by re-establishing a natural buffer zone to prevent the nutrients from washing directly into the water by planting a RAIN GARDEN. Please visit the West Michigan Environmental Action Committee sponsored website which is dedicated to giving information on creating and maintaining eco-friendly rain gardens. www.raingardens.org

DEFEND AGAINST AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS

Aquatic invasive species primarily spread from one water body to another by "hitchhiking" on boats, trailers, and other equipment. Through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Forest Service and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Michigan State University is leading a multi-year program to teach boaters how to reduce this risk by properly inspecting and cleaning their equipment



On Friday, August 9th, from 9 AM until 2PM, the MSU mobile boat wash and crew, along with Nor Serocki, our SW district CISMA coordinator, were at our access site offering to wash boats before they entered Cedar Lake. They answered questions Lake residents and visitors had about invasives and washed 30 boats, one of their busiest days all season.

Thanks for the clean day, Nor and MSU boat wash crew!

Quoted from Sportsman's Connection Publishing.

THE BOUNTIFUL BLUEGILL



"Bluegills spawn when the water temperature reaches about 70 degrees. At this time, they move into shallow water – often 3 feet or less. Males fan out a saucer-shaped nest where females will lay their eggs. These nests are usually easy to see if there's good water clarity. Bluegills are very vulnerable when they're on their beds. At that time, the largest bluegills in the lake will be right under your nose and catching them is as simple as dangling a small jig, worm, leech or fly right in front of them. Males guard the nest and will strike anything they perceive as an intruder. Because large bluegills are so susceptible at this time, please practice catch and release, or at least take only a few fish. The future of the fishery depends on it."

Quoted from Sportsman's Connection Publishing.

THE FIGHT AGAINST INVASIVES

Andy Tomaszewski, our rep from PLM, recapped our chemical weed control for 2019:

"The 2019 season was a successful year in regard to exotic plant control on Cedar Lake. Although Eurasian watermilfoil was found, it was not prolific throughout the lake. Spot treatments were sufficient to maintain control. Systemic products were used whenever possible but contact herbicides were used in certain areas of light and sporadic growth in order to minimize spread. ProcellaCOR was used in the southern part of the lake and based on the follow up visit appeared to provide good control. Phragmites was also spot treated in a few small and isolated areas late in the season."

We tested ProcellaCOR in the southern half of Area 4. It is in a new category of reduced risk herbicides that pose a significantly reduced risk to the environment and human health. ProcellaCOR has shown excellent results against Eurasian milfoil and the more resilient hybrid milfoil, even when applied in the very low parts per billion range. It has no swimming, fishing or potable water reservoir restrictions. It only needs an extremely short contact exposure time and moves into milfoil faster than any other presently registered herbicide.

The algae, Starry Stonewort, has been found near the access site and also in Graham's Cove, Area 2. PLM treated it

with copper sulfate and Hydrothol, which might work well because it was caught very early.

Purple Loosestrife, though covered in beautiful purple blooms in late summer, is an aggressive perennial that can out-compete native broad leaf plants, if left untreated. We did not treat it in 2019 because the only chemical effective against it, presently, is an aquatic mix of Round-up which will also kill any natives it touches. Loosestrife tends to be harder than most indigenous species so the spraying would need to be done so precisely as to not over spray anything else or the regrowth from seeds might be more

invasive than native. Luckily, we have a new neighbor and new Area 6 Rep, Doug McLaughlin, (lovely wife Jean) whose expertise is in waterway ecology. He will be working with our CISMA coordinator, Nor Serocki, to come up with the best possible plan for the Purple Loosestrife. Thanks and welcome, Doug and Jean!

Our 2019 bill from PLM, including chemicals, Aquatic Vegetation Assessment Sites (AVAS) survey and DEQ permit fee was \$10,052.00, paid by our Special Assessment District (SAD).

Dick Meade, lake neighbor and Porter Township Clerk, reported that at the end of March, our SAD contained \$56,510.63.



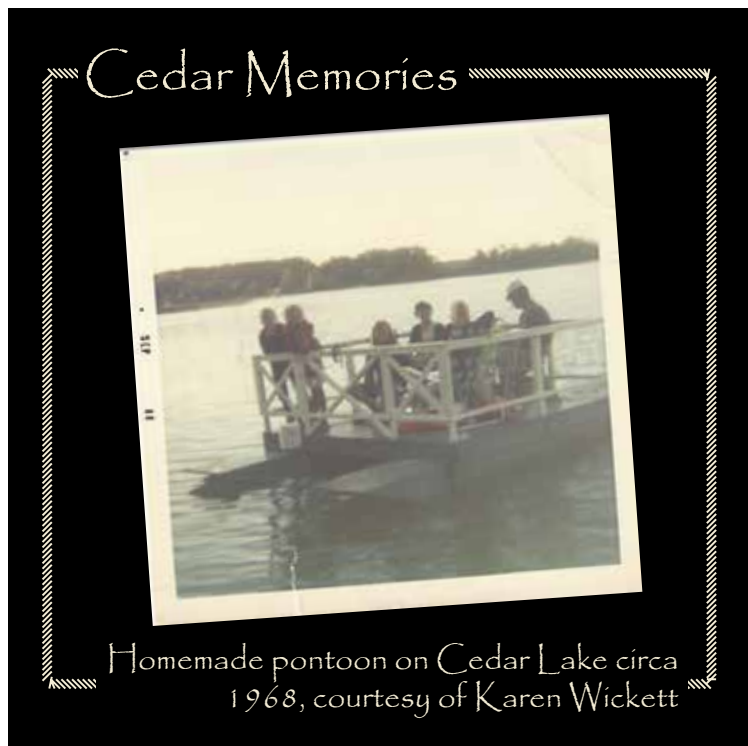
PLM Lake and Land Management Corp 616-891-1294

Cedar Lake has been scheduled for the week of:

Date	Description	Date	Description
5/25/2020	Survey	7/13/2020	Optional Weed Treatment
6/1/2020	Weed Treatment	8/3/2020	Evaluation & AVAS Survey
6/22/2020	Survey/Evaluation	8/10/2020	Optional Weed Treatment

LWM-ANC@michigan.gov

Treatments are never scheduled for Fri. Sat or Sunday
Notices will be posted on each property the day of treatment.



GOOSE OR LAWN PROBLEM?

Ask yourself
"Do I really need all that lawn?"

You can create an aesthetically appealing lakefront landscape without great expanses of lawn and still provide lake access, relaxing and entertaining areas for your enjoyment.



If you have ever complained about Canada geese on your lakefront property you just might have a lawn problem not a goose problem. The reason? Canada geese are grazers and that means lawns are perfect for them because lawns offer an all you can eat buffet! When you turn your healthy lakefront property into an expansive lawn you are putting out an invitation for Canada geese to come to your property. Big lawns are even better because there are no places for predators to hide which means these areas are safer for geese to raise their young. Maintaining natural vegetation at the lakeshore helps to discourage geese and other waterfowl from your property. They might still go through the taller vegetation to find some lawn but they will typically choose the property that has easy access to lawn.

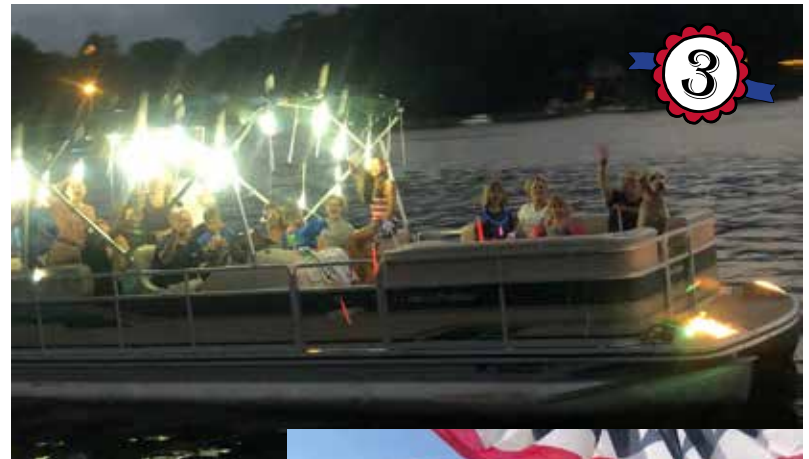


CEDAR LAKE FOURTH of JULY 2019 PARADES



Saturday, July 6th was parade day on Cedar Lake and the weather couldn't have been better. Both day and night events were led by CLRA V.P. and Grand Marshal, Joe Weist, accompanied by his lovely wife, Karolyn and party pug, Winston. There was a good turnout of daytime decorated boats, some pulling tubers on their most laid-back ride of the holiday and an even bigger and better picnic table boat was afloat. After one fun loop, this parade culminated in the traditional, wild splash fest.

Much later, in moonlit twilight, fabulously decorated boats blinked and blazed around Cedar Lake's perimeter. The judges, (thank you Jim B, Mark and Andre and the Deweys) had a tough job with so many great entries to choose from. The glowing McNally Family came in 3rd. Congrats to the Potts Family, (that fire pit is hard to beat), winning 1st prize. 2nd prize went to the eagle topped pontoon whose identity is still a mystery. Reveal yourself and claim \$50 of Apollo bucks!





2019 was the biggest turnout yet for this increasingly popular event, expertly arranged and managed by Don Dewey. The weather was perfect and the many participants kept their socializing in check well enough to move the card drawing along at a fun, yet fast, pace.

The hosting docks had great themes with good food and really good drinks. Thank you all! The prize distributing afterparty had tables laden with delicious pot-luck food and thanks to the party hosts, our neighbors in Mauk Subdivision and the Jones, there was plenty of room for boats to park along the shore. Thanks as well to the folks who set up and cleaned up and as always, we can't thank Don enough for gifting Cedar Lake with a great, though not CLRA sponsored, social function. Many folks at this party wished the Poker Run was an annual event and Don would be happy to hand it over to and coach any Cedar Lakers who would like to learn how to put on the best lake party. Don can be reached at 269-646-2090.



A SWAN STORY

A plastic swan decoy that was no longer needed in the water, was sitting on their beach. One summer evening, they noticed a baby swan snuggled up next to it. Oh no! Was this cygnet lost or abandoned? A wait and watch plan seemed the best. An hour or so later, the swan parents showed up to claim the hatchling they had left with the plastic babysitter. Even though all parents sometimes need a date night, Tiffany decided she did not want to be Cedar Lake Swan Daycare Central, so the decoy got stashed in the garage.

Tiffany Mauk, Area 7

DAN'S LAKESIDE SERVICES

Dan Walters

Dock & Boat Lift
Installation/Removal

Tree Trimming & Removal

269-624-3391



Lawson Oil Company

110 E Third St.
P.O. Box 267
Lawton MI 49065

GASOLINE, DIESEL & CONVENIENCE ITEMS

Lawton • First St. in Lawton
M51 @ I-94 • Lawrence • Marcellus

BULK DELIVERY

agricultural • residential • industrial • wholesale

phone: 269-624-4851

fax: 269-624-7392

HIGH'S MARINE

409 East Delaware Street
Decatur, Michigan 49045
269-423-7065

SUN & SHADE AWNING

Retractable Awnings
Roll Up Curtains
Boat Covers & Tops

12291 Bidelman Rd.
Three Rivers, MI 49093

269-244-5307

www.SunandShadeAwning.com



Logo Design • Brochures • Print Ads

Custom Greeting Cards • Newsletters

Business Cards • Photoshop Retouching

269-217-1368

St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church

296 East Dibble Street, Marcellus

Corner of Maple & Dibble

Sunday Mass 11:00 AM

Office phone 269-668-3312

YUMMIES & MORE

Convenience Store
Gas Station
Open 7 days 6am-12am

52990 M-40 North
Marcellus, MI 49087

Danny & Zac Hutchins

phone 269-646-3202

fax 269-646-0051



Southside of Gravel Lake

15355 96th Ave.
Lawton, MI 49065

269- 423-6011

Open 7 days a week



Your one stop shop for the Lake home
Docks, Boat lifts, Sheds, Play sets, & Amish furniture
www.meyerwoodproducts.com 269-657-3450
32180 Red Arrow Highway, Paw Paw, MI 49079

Dock Bros.

Professional Boat Lift and Dock Installation & Removal

Jacobi Shingledaeker
249-506-4083

Fully Insured

SUE'S STITCHES

Need a gift?
Table Runners - Quilts - Aprons,
Wall Hangings - Baby Blankets
and Holiday decorations

Sue's Stitches located @ Kindt Farm
on M-40 between Lawton & Marcellus
(1/2 mi. south of Cedar Lake)

O'Donnell's Docks LLC

Boat Lifts, Docks & Accessories

Sales & Excellent Service!

www.odonnellsdocks.com

269-244-1446

12097 M-60, Jones, MI 49061

KTS ENTERPRISES

"Ken's Tarp Shop"

••• Boat Covers •••

121 Second Street.

Lawton, MI 49065

269-624-3435

G.W. JONES EXCHANGE BANK

Post Office Box 246
115 WEST MAIN STREET
MARCELLUS, MI 49067

FDIC INSURED 269-646-2151



HOKE'S Place

~Summer Rental~
~Nightly & Weekly Rental~

For further information
contact Mark Hokanson
773.339.0122



SAEGER

WALLPAPERING
AND REMOVAL

Free Estimates

Pam Saeger
269-808-2788

Wagoner's

YOUR HOMETOWN FOOD STORE

101 North Main Street
Lawton, Michigan 49065

269-624-2301
7:00 am - 10:00 pm

The Breakfast Place

Eggs, Bacon & Friends

Open All Week
6:30am - 1:30pm

206 N Main St., Lawton 624-3241



Real Effort. Real Results.

Cressy & Everett REAL ESTATE

Debbie Foster

Broker

& Cedar Lake Resident



26251 U.S. 12 • Edwardsburg, MI 49112 • 574-298-1428

Licensed in Indiana & Michigan
debbiefoster@cressyeverett.com

PADDLE BOATS
SWIM RAFTS
BOAT RENTAL
FLOATING DOCKS
TRAILERS



269-273-2800

Pat Demarais

Jason Hughey

PONTOON RECONDITIONING
ENGINE REPAIR/SERVICE
PROPELLER REPAIR
SHRINK WRAPPING
WELDING REPAIR
BOAT STORAGE



Janis Havice

Broker/Owner

Lakes & Country Real Estate, Inc.

200 S Kalamazoo St.
Paw Paw MI 49079

110 E Spring St. PO Box 38
Bloomingdale MI 49026

Direct: 269-870-0284 • Fax: 269-521-3410
Licensed in Michigan



powered by
patspontoon@frontier.com
www.patspontoon.com

The Best-Looking Docks are Always

Alumi-Span Docks

14860 M-60 Three Rivers, Michigan 49093



Turf life

Nutritional Solutions

Barefeet like our lawns better.

574-850-4866

ADAMS HARDWARE **Do it Best**

115 Third Street
P.O. Box 336
Lawton, Michigan 49065

269- 624-3531
Fax 269 624-2203

Your Ad Here!

Call Joe Weist at
574-850-8699

TERRILL'S SUPER MARKET

Home Dressed Meats
Custom Butchering
Marcellus, Michigan 49067
269-646-3027