

Lewiston Lake Living

Twin Lakes Property Owners Association

"making a difference in the life of our lakes and our community"

AUGUST, 2021

President's Letter

This has certainly been an unusual year for our lake association. Not having met as a membership since August 2019, we met virtually this past May to give our membership an update on the various TLPOA projects and to address questions and concerns. If you missed the live event, you can still view the presentation material at our www.tlpoalewistonmi.com website.

One area of concern now being tracked is the **low water levels** on both lakes, especially West Twin. At this point in time, we have no reason to believe these low lake levels are due to anything other than the low snowfall this past winter and an unusually dry spring. But we will continue to monitor for long term trends and take action if warranted.

PLM Lake & Land Management continues to do a good job treating the **Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM)** invasive plant on West Twin. EWM growth is somewhat more advanced this season due to low water levels and warmer than normal temperatures. So far, no EWM has been identified on East Twin.

Tim Manganello has done a great job overseeing an upgrade to our East Twin **aeration system**. Over the past two years, all compressors and diffusers have been replaced with higher quality and more energy efficient components.

John Jackson continues to diligently monitor the **water clarity** of East Twin. Clarity readings so far this season have been a pleasant surprise showing a significant improvement from recent years. We are not quite certain all the reasons for this improvement due to the complexities of a lake ecosystem. But John is working hard to better understand all these reasons.

Thanks to all those who participated in this year's **Pete Petoskey and Rietta Ott Fourth of July Boat Parades**. Attendance was a bit down this year but everyone who participated had a good time.

TLPOA membership remains strong but has dropped somewhat over the past couple years. As a result, we are planning a membership campaign to reach the many new residents on our lakes. You can do your part by making any new neighbors aware of our organization and pointing them to our TLPOA website at: www.tlpoalewistonmi.com.

Our first in-person **membership meeting** to be held in two years will be **Saturday, August 21 at 9:00 AM** at the Lewiston School. More details to follow. I hope to see you there.

Tom Conquest

TWIN LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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Tom Conquest

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OPEN

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Website

www.tlpoalewistonmi.com

***Join us on Facebook!
Twin Lakes POA, Lewiston MI***

Mailing Address

TLPOA
P.O. Box 807
Lewiston, MI 49756

If you have comments or suggestions, please contact us at

LewistonLakeLiving@gmail.com

Thanks to all those who contributed to this issue.

Dominic Manzi, Editor

**Twin Lakes Property Owners Association
Statement of Activities for January 1 to June 30, 2021**

	Total		General Fund		Aeration		Eurasian Watermilfoil	
	Annual Budget	Actual to Date	Annual Budget	Actual to Date	Annual Budget	Actual to Date	Annual Budget	Actual to Date
REVENUES								
Lake Stewardships	13,500	7,650	13,500	7,650				
Family Memberships	4,500	1,645	4,500	1,645				
Interest	1,000	173	1,000	173				
Other	-	385		385				
Aeration	7,000	3,270			7,000	3,270		
Eurasian Watermilfoil	-	-					-	-
Total Revenue	26,000	13,123	19,000	9,853	7,000	3,270	-	-
EXPENSES								
Education	500	-	500	-				
Memberships and Communication	1,500	817	1,500	817				
Insurance	1,000	959	1,000	959				
Advertising and Public Relations	500	-	500	-				
Postal Expense	1,200	500	1,200	500				
Membership Events	500	-	500	-				
Lake Monitoring & Water Clarity	1,000	274	1,000	274				
Contingency	1,000	-	1,000	-				
Organizational	1,000	125	1,000	125				
Community Donations	1,500	500	1,500	500				
Beach Party	3,000	-	3,000	-				
Aeration	7,000	3,585			7,000	3,585		
Eurasian Watermilfoil	5,000	1,898					5,000	1,898
Total Expenses	24,700	8,658	12,700	3,175	7,000	3,585	5,000	1,898
Total Net Income / (Deficit)	1,300	4,465	6,300	6,679	-	(315)	(5,000)	(1,898)
2021 Beginning Balance Cash and CD		165,682		53,433		8,882		103,367
Balance Cash and CD at June 30, 2021		170,148		60,112		8,567		101,469

TLPOA IN PERSON MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our next membership meeting will be held Saturday, August 21, 2021 in the Lewiston Elementary School cafeteria. It's been a while, and we are all looking forward to reconnecting with our lake friends, learning more about our lakes' ecosystems, and getting updated on TLPOA projects activities.

Coffee and donuts will be available beginning at 8:30 a.m. and the meeting will start promptly at 9:00 a.m.

ANNOUNCING A TLPOA SUMMER PARTY!

TLPOA President Tom Conquest and his wife Pam, have graciously offered to host the TLPOA Summer Party on Saturday, August 28, 2021 at their cabin at 2110 Cobb Road. The summer party will begin at 5:00 pm. Beer and wine will be provided. Members are encouraged to bring an appetizer or finger food to pass. No time to prepare gourmet hors d'oeuvres? Stop by anyway! All TLPOA members are welcome.

FOURTH OF JULY BOAT PARADES

Although official counts of boats participating in the 2021 Pete Petoskey West Twin and Raietta Ott East Twin Boat Parades are being challenged and a recount has been called for, it appears West Twin dominated with 38 boats and East Twin had..... just over 30. **EAST TWIN: YOU GOTTA STEP UP YOUR GAME!**



Photos provided by Tom Conquest

LEWISTON CAR SHOW

The Lewiston Car Show held over Father's Day weekend was a smashing success and featured more entries than ever.



PICTURED ABOVE: Jerry and Krisan Fedokovitz display their 'First in Class' and 'Ladies Choice' awards won for their 1920 Nash at this year's Lewiston Car Show. **Photo provided by Tom Conquest**

SWIMMER'S ITCH

Also called cercarial dermatitis, swimmer's itch appears as a skin rash caused by an allergic reaction to certain microscopic parasites that infect some birds and mammals. These parasites are released from infected snails into the water. The adult parasite lives in the blood of infected animals such as ducks, geese, gulls, muskrats, and raccoons. The parasites produce eggs which are passed in the feces of infected birds or mammals. Once in the water, these eggs hatch releasing small free-swimming microscopic larvae. These larvae swim in search of a suitable host and can burrow into a swimmer's skin. Symptoms include tingling, burning or itching of the skin, small reddish pimples, and sometimes blisters.

To reduce the likelihood of developing swimmer's itch, vigorously towel dry or shower immediately when leaving the water. **And tell Grandma to stop feeding ducks and geese, too.**

For more information on swimmer's itch, go to www.cdc.gov/parasites/swimmersitch/index.html.

BACK IN THE DAY

Although the name of the fellow pictured below is not certain, it is believed to be Robert Judson "Bert" Buell. Buell was a long time member of the Lewiston community and kept his boat on the East Twin canal. The house boat resembled a caboose. Note how the tie ropes came through holes in the boat. Safe to assume this watercraft was not used to pull tubers. Special thanks to Karen Wilding for providing the copy of this great photo.



WALLEYE FINGERLINGS DEPOSITED

Neal Godby, Senior Fisheries Biologist for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, has advised us that approximately 65,000 walleye fingerlings were released into both East and West Twin Lakes in June. That's 130,000 total.

The name "walleye" comes from the fish's pearlescent eyes which allow them to see well in low light conditions. This may explain why they are better fished in the depths of a lake or at night.

Walleyes can grow up to 31 inches in length and weigh up to 29 pounds. That of course depends largely on where they grow. The maximum recorded age of a walleye is 29 years. That age and size is very unlikely in heavily fished lakes however.

TLPOA EMAILS

We have recently sent emails regarding the May membership meeting and the Fourth of July Boat Parades. If you haven't been receiving emails concerning TLPOA activities and would like to stay up-to-date on TLPOA activities, please send an email to LewistonLakeLiving@gmail.com and request to be added to the TLPOA email list.

EAST TWIN AERATION PROGRAM ATTRACTS INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION

Since 2004, lots of tiny bubbles could be seen rising to the surface in 24 separate locations of the north and northeast sides of East Twin. Their purpose: to assist the natural processes of **muck reduction**.

Our measurements to determine whether there was actual reduction in muck levels originally involved sticking a rod into the lake bottom at numerous locations and recording the muck level. In the first few years, the results showed a substantial reduction in muck levels in the areas measured. Equally important, property owners reported seeing a reduction in muck alongside their docks and the appearance of a sandier bottom.

Over the past three seasons, the aeration system has been completely re-vamped with all new diffusers and compressors, thanks to the oversight and management of TLPOA Board Member Tim Manganello. In addition, we have begun a far more comprehensive measurement technique of the lake bottom testing the overall hardness of the lake bottom.

Now in its 18th season, we've received inquiries from Stormwater Technologists in British Columbia working on similar issues in lakes and ponds in that province. Our history and experience provide them with valuable information as they move forward in their endeavors to "lose the muck."

The aeration program is completely financed by property owner donations and is shown separately in our financial reports as a restricted fund, meaning donations to this effort are only spent in this effort. A big **THANK YOU** to all of you who contribute each year to keep our bubblers "BUBBLIN'".

EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL UPDATE

PLM Lake and Land Management were on West Twin Lake the week of July 19, 2020 to survey and perform spot treatments as necessary. Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) can never be completely eradicated once this invasive species finds its way into a lake's ecosystem. However, with the vigilant effort of monitoring existing EWM patches, and early identification of new weed beds, we are able to respond swiftly which translates into lower treatment costs and less herbicides being applied in the lake.

Since EWM was discovered in the fall of 2014, our battle against this evil plant has been completely funded by volunteer donations of property owners from both lakes. Your generosity has been so great that for the past few years, contributions have not been required and program expenses have been covered through our existing balance in the EWM Restricted Fund.

GYPSY MOTH UPDATE

Montmorency County paid for aerial spraying those areas infested with gypsy moths. The results have been mixed with many areas reporting a huge reduction, while others still have a nasty problem. By now the eggs have been laid as see below.



WHAT YOU CAN DO: Scrape these eggs off trees, buildings, etc., into a bucket of water and Dawn dish soap, letting them soak for a few days. Later on, empty the water in an area where the eggs can then be picked up and discarded. Note, simply scraping them off a surface onto the ground does not prevent the eggs from hatching.

Each egg packet as pictured can produce two hundred gypsy moths, so start scraping!

>>> Please check your newsletter mailing label for your current membership status. <<<

2021 TLPOA MEMBERSHIP DUES AND DONATIONS

New *Renewal*

Member Name(s) _____

Email Address(es) _____

Primary Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Lake Address _____

Telephone () _____ East Twin Lake West Twin Lake

2021 MEMBERSHIP DUES AND DONATIONS		
	<i>Membership Dues or Suggested Contribution Amounts</i>	<i>My Lake Contribution</i>
Membership Dues Lake Stewardship provides additional funding for special projects to study and maintain a healthy lake ecology and benefit the lake community.	\$150 Lake Stewardship or \$35 Basic Family Membership	\$
Aeration Suggested Contribution Your contribution will allow the TLPOA to maintain the aeration system on East Twin Lake, including replacing parts as needed, and paying for electricity. Suggested contribution rates based on lake frontage owned are shown at right. We welcome all levels of contribution!	Lakefront Owners Less than 75 ft. of lake frontage \$50 75 to 125 ft. of lake frontage \$75 More than 125 ft. of lake frontage \$100 Shared Access \$25	\$
Eurasian Water Milfoil Treatment Generous contributions from our membership along with grants from Montmorency County have allowed the TLPOA to respond quickly to control EWM and have covered the anticipated costs of surveying and treating infested areas.	We are currently funded at a sufficient level to meet current needs and have suspended our requests for funding for 2021. Thank you!	
MY TOTAL LAKE CONTRIBUTION		\$

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT! PLEASE MAIL TODAY!

The TLPOA is a 501(c)(3) public charity and your contribution may be deductible if you itemize your deductions on your tax return. Consult your tax adviser for details.

Please make your check payable to TLPOA and mail to
P.O. Box 807, Lewiston, MI 49756

THE TLPOA NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Have some spare time on your hands or just looking to help out where you can? Our TLPOA Board of Directors could use some help in a number of areas including:

- Newsletter editing and publishing
- Lake level monitoring
- Membership drive and membership data base management
- Planning and coordinating social events
- Website and Facebook maintenance
- Monitoring Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) status and looking out for new invasive species

You don't need to join the TLPOA Board, just help out wherever you can.

Let us know by sending an email to LewistonLakeLiving@gmail.com

Your help would be greatly appreciated by the entire East and West Twin Lakes community!

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE
TWIN LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION!***

**Twin Lakes Property Owners Association
P.O. Box 807
Lewiston, MI 49756**

***PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL.
DO YOU YOU NEED TO RENEW YOUR TLPOA MEMBERSHIP?
PLEASE HELP KEEP OUR LAKES HEALTHY!***