Lewiston Lake Living

Twin Lakes Property Owners Association

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

May, 2021

President's Letter

I surely don't have to remind you, our TLPOA membership, that this past year has been like no other any of us has ever experienced. All the continuing COVID 19 restrictions and social distancing guidelines have affected our social interactions with family and friends for all of us to at least some degree.

Despite these pandemic challenges, your TLPOA Board continues to gather at least monthly via Zoom meetings. Fortunately, the pandemic has had little effect on how our West Twin Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) treatment, East Twin aeration, and East Twin water clarity projects continue to be managed and monitored. We also closely monitor state health department guidelines so we can re-start many of our TLPOA social activities when it becomes safe to do so.

It has now been over a year since we last held a TLPOA membership meeting or social event including our annual Beach Party. And while our future event schedule remains clouded due to continued health department restrictions and guidelines, your TLPOA Board has decided to hold a virtual ZOOM gathering for our spring membership meeting. This will allow the Board to review our ongoing projects and events with our membership and allow you as members to ask questions and express any concerns you may have. This meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, May 29 from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.**

For those of you familiar with ZOOM and have internet access, meeting details with a meeting link is available on the main page of our TLPOA website (www.tlpoalewistonmi.com). We will also e-mail these details to those members we have e-mail addresses for.

If you are not familiar with Zoom or do not have internet access, you can still join our meeting via phone by dialing the following phone number and then entering in the listed meeting ID and passcode as requested:

Toll-free conference number: +1 (312) 626-6799
Meeting ID: 895 9465 2943 **Passcode:** 724824

Access to the meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. This will give everyone a chance to join in if, like me, you may have some technical challenges with these new types of meetings. So please join us on May 29 for our virtual TLPOA Membership Meeting. You don't even have to get out of your pajamas.

Until then, please stay healthy and safe. I look forward to seeing many of you again as soon as possible.

Tom Conquest

TWIN LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS-EFFECTIVE 12/1/20

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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

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If you have comments or suggestions, please contact us at LewistonLakeLiving@gmail.com

Thanks to all those who contributed to this issue.
D. Manzi, Editor

Twin Lakes Property Owners Association
Statement of Activities for January 1 to March 31, 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	5,700	13,500	5,700				
Family Memberships	4,500	980	4,500	980				
Interest	1,000	153	1,000	153				
Other	-	350		350				
Aeration	7,000	2,550			7,000	2,550		
Eurasian Watermilfoil	-	-					-	-
Total Revenue	**26,000**	**9,733**	**19,000**	**7,183**	**7,000**	**2,550**	**-**	**-**
EXPENSES								
Education	500	-	500	-				
Memberships and Communication	1,500	560	1,500	560				
Insurance	1,000	-	1,000	-				
Advertising and Public Relations	500	-	500	-				
Postal Expense	1,200	238	1,200	238				
Membership Events	500	-	500	-				
Lake Monitoring & Water Clarity	1,000	-	1,000	-				
Contingency	1,000	-	1,000	-				
Organizational	1,000	125	1,000	125				
Community Donations	1,500	-	1,500	-				
Beach Party	3,000	-	3,000	-				
Aeration	7,000	552			7,000	552		
Eurasian Watermilfoil	5,000	-					5,000	-
Total Expenses	**24,700**	**1,475**	**12,700**	**923**	**7,000**	**552**	**5,000**	**-**
Total Net Income / (Deficit)	**1,300**	**8,257**	**6,300**	**6,259**	**-**	**1,998**	**(5,000)**	**-**
2021 Beginning Balance Cash and CD		**165,682**		**53,433**		**8,882**		**103,367**
Balance Cash and CD at March 31, 2021		**173,940**		**59,692**		**10,880**		**103,367**

TLPOA MEMBERSHIP MEETING REMINDER

NOTE: THE SATURDAY, MAY29, 2021 MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM

We'd love to see your virtual faces on Saturday, May 29 at 9:00 a.m. So, log in as you are.

Join Zoom Meeting on your computer
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89594652943?pwd=ekZjSUFDVFlpMnppQVBzTXQzR2dJQT09
Meeting ID: 895 9465 2943
Passcode: 724824

Or dial in to
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Meeting ID: 895 9465 2943 **Passcode:** 724824

The single-click link is also available on our TLPOA website: www.tlpoalewistonmi.com

UPDATE OF TLPOA BYLAWS

Per our TLPOA bylaws, updates to these documents must be approved by the TLPOA general membership. At our upcoming TLPOA Membership meeting, we plan to present several updates to our TLPOA bylaws to bring them up to date with our current methods of operation.
The proposed changes shown as mark-ups to the current bylaws are available for your review at our TLPOA website (www.tlpoalewistonmi.com). But to summarize, these proposed changes:

1. Clarify how nominations for the Board of Directors can be received.
2. Define the minimum number of Executive Board meetings to be held and the number of newsletters to be published annually.
3. Clarifies the definition of eligible voting members of the TLPOA.
4. Updates mailbox information and financial reporting requirements.

AERATION PROGRAM UPDATE – Tim Manganello

With the ice gone, the aeration system on East Twin Lake was fired up in early April. Over the past couple years, we have replaced the four shoreline compressors and all 24 diffusers (a.k.a. bubblers). During calendar years 2019 and 2020, total operating costs (electricity, repair and maintenance) were $9k and capital expenditures (replacement of compressors and diffusers) were $25k. Thank you to all of those who continue to support the aeration program with an annual donation.

The aeration system was installed in 2004, providing a means to reduce muck levels in East Twin Lake.

Pictured to the left is a Clean Flo Diffuser attached to an air hose. These new diffusers operate more efficiently, are easier to clean and less likely to break while being serviced and cleaned.

Although the system is more robust, a diffuser can still be damaged by the propeller or impeller wash of a boat or jet ski that rides directly over the top, particularly diffusers in shallow water.

Please remind family members and guests who operate watercraft to keep clear of those areas where bubbles are rising to the surface.

UPDATE: EAGLE'S NEST ON EAST TWIN

Darcy Dombrowski has confirmed two new eaglets being raised in the nest on East Twin. The nest has been in use for over a decade. The number of bald eagles in the lower 48 states has quadrupled in the last dozen years to more than 316,000, according to federal wildlife officials. In the late 1960's, there were less than 500 breeding pairs, making this a "historic conservation success story".

An adult bald eagle can have a 7-foot wingspan and can fly at altitudes up to 10,000 feet! They can reach speeds of up to 100 mph in a dive, so be careful when you're holding up your walleye for that photo opportunity!

EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL (EWM) UPDATE

PLM Lake and Land Management Group has been our partner in controlling and treating West Twin Lake for Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM), the invasive species originally discovered on West Twin Lake in 2014. Notices for treatments this summer will be sent to property owners and contain the tentative treatment schedule for 2021: June 14, July 19, and August 23.

As many of you know, EWM can never be completely eradicated from a lake's eco-system, but if left un-checked, EWM can overwhelm native vegetation and create thick patches on the water's surface, rendering the area unusable for boating and other recreational activities. With your past generosity, TLPOA's dedicated EWM Fund is fully funded. Our diligent efforts are keeping EWM spread to a minimum, as well as minimizing treatment costs.

MICHIGAN BOATING LAWS: DID YOU KNOW….?

Everyone should agree that enjoying recreational activities on the lake requires attention to boating safety. Operating any vessel on the water requires courtesy and common sense, but Michigan also has legal requirements that might surprise some. For example, did you know:

- **Those born after July 1, 1996** may operate a boat legally ONLY if they have been issued a boating safety certificate and have it onboard the boat.
- **Those at least 16 years of age and born after December 31, 1978** may operate a personal watercraft (**PWC**) (i.e., Jet Ski, WaveRunner), ONLY if they have obtained a boating safety certificate.
- All vessels must be equipped with Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) for each person on board.
- **Boats over 16 feet** must also have a US Coast Guard approved throwable device on board.
- **Children under the age of six** must wear a US Coast Guard approved PFD when riding on the open deck of any vessel underway.

Getting a boating safety certificate in Michigan isn't hard. An online course is available and takes 4 to 6 hours to successfully complete, following which, you get to print out your very own boating safety certificate. You can also download the Handbook of Michigan Boating Laws which provides excellent information to help you keep your time (and the time of your loved ones) on the lake safe. ***Just go online to Michigan.gov and search for Boating Safety.***

Pictures above show the playful new creatures seen on our lakes. Some believe they have magical powers…

SPECIAL NOTE ON BOAT PARADES

The July 4th Boat Parades have become an annual trademark of our lakes. Decorating our boats and dressing up in the colors of Old Glory combine our love of lake living and living in the land of the free. Everyone is to be reminded that **fireworks or any other types of projectiles are strictly forbidden, including launching them from any vessel or from the shoreline in the direction of a vessel.**

GYPSY MOTH UPDATE

Montmorency County is preparing to treat surrounding areas for the gypsy moth infestation which reared its ugly head in many areas in and around Lewiston. The county website lists the required legal notice which states treatment is planned between May 10 and May 25, 2021, when caterpillars are feeding and leaves are present on oak trees. It indicates that the method to be used will be a bright yellow airplane which will fly over designated wooded areas.

The product to be used is named Forey 48B. This is labelled a forest health product that contains the soil Bacillus Thuringiensis Kustaki (BT). It is certified as organic and is sprayed at a rate of one-half-gallon per acre. It has no known impact on humans, pets, birds, fish and other insects.

THE GOOD BONFIRE REVISITED

Most of northern Michigan is fighting its way through a moderate drought this year. Extra care should be taken before you light up. Here are some commonsense things you should make sure your family and guests are aware of:

- Always have a rake and a shovel nearby before starting any fire outside.
- Build your bonfire by starting with small sticks or kindling on the bottom. Newspaper can be placed near the bottom of the pile.
- **NEVER USE GASOLINE** to start a fire.
- Put someone in charge to manage the fire, put additional logs on, etc. They're in charge and should oversee everything regarding the bonfire.
- Never leave a fire unattended, including leaving small children unattended near a fire.
- Surround your bonfire with rocks or a fire ring and make sure surrounding area is clear of leaves and needles on the ground. If very dry, water the ground around the fire pit.
- Make sure the area above the fire is free of branches that can catch fire.
- **If it's windy, DON'T HAVE A FIRE!**
- ***LASTLY, PUT THE FIRE OUT!*** When finished, do so by drowning the fire with water and stirring remains. Continue to put more water on the remains until you're certain the fire cannot re-ignite.

BACK IN THE DAY

TLPOA Board member Karen Wilding allowed us the chance to go through her collection of historic postcards from northern Michigan. Below are just a few that take some of us older folks to a time when life was a tad slower.

Several of our members have expressed interest in wanting more photos in our newsletter and we love sharing cool pictures. They tell a story without having to print any words. If you have some photos you'd like to share in the newsletter, email them to us at: **LewistonLakeLiving@gmail.com.**

>>> 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

	Membership Dues or Suggested Contribution Amounts	*My Lake Contribution*
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

A SPECIAL REQUEST TO ALL

Lake living is something special for sure. Yet, there's no denying that there are potential dangers in all that we love to do in an around the lake, especially for someone who may not know what those dangers are. We can all minimize risk by taking a leadership role and making the following pledge.

Let's all pledge to make 2021 a safe and healthy year on our lakes. As so many of us begin to welcome back loved ones and friends to spend time with us on the lake, think of those things they need to know, or maybe just be reminded of.

- Set an example for others to follow.
- Be a teacher!
- Share your knowledge and create a mutual understanding of what it means to keep the health and safety of everyone as the number one priority.

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 FOR 2021?
PLEASE HELP KEEP OUR LAKES HEALTHY!