

Lewiston Lake Living

Twin Lakes Property Owners Association

“making a difference in the life of our lakes and our community”

November, 2019

President's Letter

If you have taken the time to open the pesky mailing seals on this newsletter, and read this sentence, odds are you have a keen interest in the health of East and West Twin Lakes.

If that is so, please take the time to read through the rest of this newsletter, as it is intended to provide some important information on several key issues affecting the health and safety of our lakes.

This issue will include:

- 2020 membership dues structure.
- an overview of the financial review conducted in October.
- an update on our treatments of Eurasian Watermilfoil on West Twin.
- An overview the recent upgrades to the aeration system on East Twin.
- an update on a proposal to adopt a septic tank ordinance in Albert Township.
- plans regarding the retention pond in Lewiston.
- recommended changes to the TLPOA by-laws.

Please take the necessary time to get updated on these issues.

We are already looking forward to summer in the year ahead. Many thanks to Karen Wilding who has agreed to coordinate our Beach Party for 2020. Look for more information as the new year rolls in.

I wanted to thank all of those who so generously supported the TLPOA this past year through their memberships (especially our Lake Stewards) and contributions to our special funds. Our financial position continues to be a strength our association has that is not often seen in other organizations!

We also value any and all suggestions we receive. Feel free to call or contact us via mail or our web-site.

Finally, on behalf of the Board of Directors, we would like to wish you and your families a Happy Holiday.

Dominic Manzi

TWIN LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President

Dominic Manzi
(248) 444-9973 (cell)

Vice President

OPEN

Treasurer

Pat Kish

Secretary

Tom Conquest

Board Members

John Jackson
Tim Manganello
Bill Siegrist
Judd Wellard
Karen Wilding

Consultants

Bonnie Page
Greg Bator

Website

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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.

**Twin Lakes Property Owners Association
Statement of Activities
January 1 to September 30, 2019**

	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	12,000	6,250	12,000	6,250				
Family Memberships	4,500	3,075	4,500	3,075				
Interest	950	983	950	983				
Other	-	190		190				
Aeration	5,000	3,540			5,000	3,540		
Eurasian Watermilfoil	20,000	11,210					20,000	11,210
Total Revenue	42,450	25,248	17,450	10,498	5,000	3,540	20,000	11,210
EXPENSES								
Education	1,000	-	1,000	-				
Memberships and Communication	1,500	1,509	1,500	1,509				
Insurance	1,200	959	1,200	959				
Advertising and Public Relations	500	-	500	-				
Postal Expense	1,500	721	1,500	721				
Membership Events	1,000	95	1,000	95				
Lake Monitoring	5,000	223	5,000	223				
Contingency	100	-	100	-				
Organizational	2,000	647	2,000	647				
Community Donations	1,400	1,190	1,400	1,190				
Beach Party	3,000	1,513	3,000	1,513				
Aeration	9,000	1,982			9,000	1,982		
Eurasian Watermilfoil	12,000	7,067					12,000	7,067
Total Expenses	39,200	15,904	18,200	6,855	9,000	1,982	12,000	7,067
Total Net Income / (Deficit)	3,250	9,344	(750)	3,643	(4,000)	1,558	8,000	4,143
2019 Beginning Balance Cash and CD		149,576		18,604		24,763		106,210
Balance Cash and CD at September 30, 2019		158,921		22,247		26,321		110,353

2020 Membership Dues – some important changes

Please take a moment to review the Statement of Activities for the third quarter shown above. As you can see, the EWM restricted fund has over \$110k while annual expenses have been below \$10-15k. We are therefore not asking for donations to the EWM fund in 2020.

Lake Steward contribution amount was raised \$25 from \$125 to \$150 to help shore up our General Fund. This fund pays for special projects to study and maintain a healthy lake ecology and benefit the lake community. Regular membership remains at \$35.

The TLPOA is a 501(c)3 public charity, so your membership dues, as well as any contributions you make to the Aeration Fund or the Eurasian Watermilfoil Fund, may be **tax deductible** if you itemize your deductions on your tax return. Please be sure to consult your tax advisor.

Your membership and donations make it all possible!

Thank you for your support!

2019 EWM MANAGEMENT by Tom Conquest

West Twin Lake management of the Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) invasive species in 2019 consisted of three herbicide treatments by PLM Lake & Land Management, our EWM contractor. Treatment dates were June 10, July 24, and August 27, with treatments consisting of the following herbicides which are all cleared for use by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ):

1. Renovate OTF more commonly referred to as Triclopyr
2. Sculpin G more commonly referred to as 2,4-D

With the exception of one canal area, no new EWM locations out in the lake were identified this season on West Twin. But even with herbicide treatments which significantly knock EWM down well below the lake surface, EWM still is able to survive well below the lake surface and continue to grow during the next summer season. As such, we expect to continue treating West Twin for the foreseeable future.

Treatment costs this year totaled \$6,466, well below our 2019 budget of \$12,000. But it should be noted that our budget this year assumed EWM treatments would also be needed on East Twin Lake. This was based on the 2018 R.L.S. Water Clarity Study which reported suspected East Twin EWM locations. But the good news is that PLM was not able to confirm any EWM growth on East Twin after several surveys.

Based on a healthy EWM restricted fund balance and stabilizing costs for West Twin treatments in the \$7,000 per year range plus no EWM treatments yet foreseen on East Twin, your TLPOA Board is not requesting any new EWM donations for at least the next year. Your Board would like to thank you for all your generous donations to this point which have allowed us to aggressively treat this troublesome invasive species which has spread to many of our Michigan inland lakes.

To further protect our EWM restricted fund balance, the TLPOA was one of 13 lake associations in Michigan to successfully apply for and receive a grant through the Michigan Environment, Great Lakes & Energy (EGLE) department to fully reimburse our DEQ permit fees which totaled \$600 for both East and West Twin.

As always, please contact Tom Conquest at boiler15@att.net if you believe there are any EWM locations that may not have been treated or if you suspect any new possible EWM locations on either East or West Twin. Maintaining an accurate log of all known EWM locations will help us better manage the issue.

EDITOR'S SIDE NOTE REGARDING EWM FUNDING:

On October 23, the Montmorency County Board of Commissioners approved a \$2,000 grant to assist TLPOA in covering expenses involved with treating West Twin for EWM. This is the third year in a row we have received a grant from the county for this purpose, totaling \$8,000 in grant monies.

FINANCIAL REVIEW CONDUCTED

This past month, Ron Johnson, fellow TLPOA Member met with Treasurer Pat Kish to conduct a thorough review of TLPOA's accounts. With over \$150,000 in assets, it's wise to have an independent set of experienced eyes look over how the association's dollars are being managed and to see if any recommendations are in order. Ron, an experienced CFO, agreed to help us out at no charge. The review concluded things were in very good order and Ron had a couple of suggestions which the Board will put into place. Thank you to Pat Kish and Ron Johnson for spending the better part of a beautiful afternoon going through this important exercise!

UPDATED TLPOA BY-LAWS by Tom Conquest

Your TLPOA Board has made some minor changes to our TLPOA By-Laws that reflect the current operation of your Board. Per requirements of our by-laws, any amendments must be posted at least 60 days prior to a vote by the TLPOA membership at our next general membership meeting scheduled for May 23, 2020.

You can review these changes at our new TLPOA website at:

<https://www.tlpoalewistonmi.com/>

Simply navigate to the 'About Us' page and then the 'By-laws' sub-page. Links to the updated By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation can then be easily accessed for viewing the documents.

SEPTIC TANK ORDINANCE

Albert Township Supervisor Mike Dombrowski has been working with the County Health Department to review an existing ordinance in place in Hillman Township to determine what might sense for us. Although hard to believe, Michigan is the only state without a state-wide ordinance on septic systems.

AERATION PROGRAM UPDATE

This past month, Clean-Flo installed 19 new diffusers (bubblers) and a brand-new compressor located at the marina.

The new diffusers will be substantially easier to maintain, run far more efficiently, and have approximately 50% more output pressure. We are still reviewing alternatives on conducting measurements on muck levels and hope to have a process in place by next spring.

These improvements cost \$12,400 and the expense did not hit our books for the third quarter, so our balance in the Aeration Fund which shows \$26,321, will be reduced by the \$12,400 in the fourth quarter.

Future plans are to replace the remaining three old compressors at a cost of \$5,000 each.

Special thanks to Bob Walters at Twin Lakes Marina who allowed us to borrow a pontoon boat!

RETENTION POND

Last spring, John Jackson coordinated the testing of water being released into East Twin from the retention pond. Tests revealed that the nutrient levels were extremely high and are likely contributing to the declining water clarity issue on East Twin. John has been working with Huron Pines to explore a viable option which involves installation of rain gardens. Rain gardens have been used successfully in other lake communities as a means of taking in water and allowing nature (plants and soil) to absorb nutrients prior to entering a retention pond or body of water. In addition, Todd Behring, County Road Commissioner, is working with Albert Township and the TLPOA to determine the costs on conducting a study of the retention pond located near the Post Office. The purpose of the study would be to determine a feasible solution to improve the retention's pond ability to reduce the amount of nutrients entering East Twin. Behring indicated the county would contribute matching funds for an engineering study. The TLPOA Board of Directors did approve up to \$3,000 from the General Fund to help in this effort.

FROM YOUR TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

This was one of the most fun and entertaining summers in Albert Township/Lewiston that I can remember.

- **Music in the Park** had six concerts put on by the township Parks & Recreation Committee for the community to enjoy. Without local donations this would not have been possible.
- The Lewiston Area Chamber of Commerce held a **Welcome Ribbon Cutting** for the new "Smith Realty Office" on Kneeland Street in September.
- It is hard to find a weekend night when there isn't something going on around town. The **October Fest** is a prime example. The downtown area was full of people, many of which may have been actual witches. Those witches took over Kneeland Street both days with some very entertaining dancing. There were wagon rides, business promotions, drawings, tasty appetizers, palm reading, free pumpkin hunting for the kids, and an animal petting zoo. On Halloween, Kneeland Street was closed for part of the evening for the Trunk & Treat activities.

Between now and next spring some beach park improvements will be going on at the officially named "**Tom May Memorial Park**". Many pine trees will be cut down and replaced with hardwood trees in the picnic area. This will provide much more shade and will be much easier when walking with bare feet. Grills will be replaced, the area will be seeded for grass, and an irrigation system will be installed. Other improvements will also be taking place as well.

The work on Fleming Road from County Road 612 to Cobb Road is complete. The road has been resurfaced with asphalt, widened and restriped with a walking/bike path on the east side. The Township and Road Commission combined resources for this improvement. The Township has limited funding through a local 0.5 millage to make such improvements. The millage will be up for renewal in the spring of 2020.

Thank you all for your support for our lakes and community!

Mike Dombrowski, Albert Township Supervisor

TLPOA WINE & CHEESE PARTY

Jerry & Sue Beattie graciously opened their lovely home on West Twin Lake to host the 2019 Wine & Cheese Party. This function has been held annually for the last several years and has proven to be an outstanding time for all in attendance.



Photos provided by Tom Conquest

Jerry & Sue's dog, Joe (pictured left) assisted in event planning and administration. He was also instrumental in tallying the voting results and did so without prejudice. **Upper Right:** Brian & Cathy Grachal were awarded "BEST WHITE WINE," a Mascato by Winking Owl. **Lower Right:** Pete & Susan Stephens were awarded "BEST OVERALL WINE," a Cabernet by Federalist.

THANKS JERRY, SUE & JOE! It was a great evening for all.

OUR 2019 LAKE STEWARDS

The TLPOA Board would like to recognize and extend our gratitude to those listed below who decided to be Lake Stewards in 2019. These contributions are above and beyond donations to the Aeration or Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) Funds. Collections from Lake Stewardships and Basic Family Membership dues provide for General Fund TLPOA activities such as lake surveys and monitoring, the TLPOA Beach Party, the Wine and Cheese Party, and administrative expenses, including printing and mailing this newsletter.

If you are currently a Lake Steward, we hope you will continue to support our efforts to maintain a healthy lake ecology and support our lake community. Please be sure to renew your TLPOA membership soon.

Peter & Mary Albertson	Janet Huston	Erma & Michael Rhadigan
Wes & Jennifer Alfonsi	Shawn & Wendy Huston	Shawn & Tracy Richards
John & Molly Anderson	Tony Jerome	Teresa Collins & Mike Rinke
Mary Ellen Aria	John & Kimberly Jetts	James & Andrea Risk
The Ash Family	Ron Johnson & Joni Elward	John Roose
Gwen & Harry Ashbaugh	David Kator & Mary Ellen Charnley	Kevin & Rosann Roose
Pat Bacheller	Lawrence & Tamara Kebbe	Deborah Rubenstein
Gregory & Cecilia Bator	Alan & Marilynne Kiriluk	Judy Ryan
Jerry & Sue Beattie	The Kirkendall Family	Michael & Diane Saunders
Delmer Beaupre	Ken & Pat Kish	Dick & Carole Schmidt
Paul & Mary Berry	Virgil & Ellen Klein	Robert & Shirley Schmitz
Gary Bopp & Rik Cryderman	Shirley Kohler	Greg & June Schurig
Richard & Marie Bracci	Jim & Marilyn Lane	Sylvia Schuster
Teresa Brennan	Dale LaPointe	Ted & Anna Schuster
Rob & Terri Chapman- Redwood Steakhouse	Tim & Shannon LaPointe- Lewiston Lodge	Daniel & Beth Sherbert
Jane & Dave Chapoton	The Leinweber/Rabaut Family	Jeff & Lori Smith
Mary E. Clark	The Lunden Family	Anthony & Ellaina Snarski
Tom & Carol Clippard	Michael & Donna Maddin	Pete & Susan Stephens
Tom & Pam Conquest	Timothy & Elizabeth Manganello	Frank & Nancy Stoneking
Nate & Amy Cook	Dominic & Martha Manzi	Nicholas Tepe
John & Mary Craig	Steve & Charlotte Maranowski	Mary Lou Thornton
Daniel & Anne Danosky	Joseph & Emily McGraw	Sam & Alice Tocco
Daniel & Kandy Dennis	Jim & Kim Menzie	The Tosch Family
Michael & Darcy Dombrowski	Eugene Miller	Pete & Diane Tsaprazis
Bob & Krista Dunigan	Martha M Neumann	Al & Sue Vergilio
Ken & Lisa Finlay	The Owczarek Family	Glen & Jan Vogelsang
Neil & Cindy Gallaway	Chris Paffi	Dave & Diane Wagner
Sylvia Ghainer	Tom & Bonnie Page	Mary Webb
Ray & Lisa Gunn	CaraLynn Pender	Judd & Mary Ann Wellard
John & Wilma Harrison	Don & Sis Pierce	Karen Wilding & Graham Rennie
The Dean Hehn Family	Pine Beach Association	Rod & Ruth Wiley
Holiday Park Association	Stan & Shawntae Podulka	The Wilson Family
Johnson Subdivision	Elizabeth Gauthier Rabaut	James & Barbara Yarema
Larry & Katherine Howell	Frank & Sharron Radtke	

Note: Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy. While the list above reflects the records kept by those who volunteer to sit on the Executive Board, we recognize someone may have been left out in error. If you think that is the case, please feel free to email us at LewistonLakeLiving@gmail.com.

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

2020 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

2020 MEMBERSHIP DUES AND DONATIONS		
	<i>Membership Dues or Suggested Contribution Amounts</i>	<i>My Lake Contribution</i>
Membership Dues All membership dues provide 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 2020. 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

ICE FISHING SAFETY TIPS & REMINDERS

It won't be long and our lakes will be frozen over and covered with snow. Please! Be careful! And make certain friends or family do the same. Here are some tips you might want to review. They could save someone's life!



- ❖ Leave your car or truck on shore.
- ❖ Leave Information about your plans with someone regarding where you intend to fish and when you will return.
- ❖ Wear a personal flotation device and never fish alone.
- ❖ Ice thickness and conditions vary. Always carry a spud or chisel and check as you proceed. Be extra cautious near land, river/creek mouths as ice is usually thinner there.
- ❖ Bring a fully charged cell phone.
- ❖ Carry a safety line that can be thrown to someone who has gone through the ice.
- ❖ If you are in a heated shanty, make sure you have good ventilation to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.

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 TO SEE IF YOU NEED TO RENEW YOUR TLPOA MEMBERSHIP!