



# Greater Wall Lake Association

P.O. Box 56  
Delton Michigan 49046



Volume 3 Issue 4

Nov 2007

## Welcome

Where did the summer go? Fall has suddenly arrived; most docks and boats are out of the lake. A few still need to come out. Remember that winter winds and ice will take out anything left near the shoreline and spread debris all around the lake. Please get everything well back from the waters' edge for winter. Your Board wishes everyone a very happy Holiday Season.



## Newsletter Information:

- **Many members have already chosen to accept the newsletter via email.**
  - ☺ We will gladly mail to multiple email accounts!!
    - Please send an email to: [bwiersma@kresanet.org](mailto:bwiersma@kresanet.org) if you would consider receiving this format of the newsletter instead of printed and mailed.
- **NEW** – Available now – you can download a copy of current and back issues of the newsletter from the Greater Wall Lake Association Web page at: <http://www.geocities.com/gwla2006/> then select archives and links.
- **Newsletter is Published Quarterly** in February, May, August and November.

## Wall Lake Board News

- Do you have **new neighbors**? Please put them in touch with your nearest GWLA Board member (list below), so we can get them a Welcome to Wall Lake booklet and add them to the newsletter list. These and additional information can be found on the GWLA web site. <http://www.geocities.com/gwla2006/>
- **Reminder** – The GWLA has a Post Office Box for GWLA related correspondence.
  - Please utilize "P.O. Box 56" for all GWLA correspondence – Thank-You!



## For your information: Your DUES are used for:

Printing & postage	Trash drop-off days
Riparian magazine	GWLA liability insurance
Mich. Lakes & Streams Assoc. Dues	Annual meeting expenses
Dam Survey Every third year	Newsletters and Mailings
Ballots and Nomination information	
Various Projects as decided yearly, by the Board	

## From the September GWLA Board meeting:

**Membership Numbers:** 2007 - 178

**Bylaws Committee:** Third draft was presented by the committee for review. Board discussed this draft, made minor changes and approved it. Membership vote will be held at the 2008 annual meeting.

**Membership:** Our member support has been great. If you're not a member, please join us in 2008. Dues are payable January through December. Feel free to call me, or any board member with any concerns.



## Ice

- **Safety:** Once again, the traditional warning – **STAY OFF THE ICE** until at least 4 inches have formed over the entire lake, 6 to 8 inches are needed for snow vehicles.
- **Courtesy:** please keep snow vehicles off ice skating rinks. Stay well out from shore so everyone can enjoy their favorite ice sports.
- **Common Sense:** please take docks and all equipment to shore during the winter, the spring ice will take out anything at or near the immediate shoreline. Everything depends on the unpredictable direction of the spring winds and the large ice floes that it moves. Lake levels often change up to 18" over the winter months.

**Trash Pickup:** Yearly trash pickup has been discontinued by the GWLA. Townships have recently begun to have trash drop-off days at the Barry Township fire barn several times per year. GWLA will instead contribute to these trash collections.

## Weeds

Once again Lake Management gives us a "very good" report on general lake condition, water quality and weed management.

Bill Wiersma – **President** 623-2672

Julie Vandervoort – **Secretary** 623-8540

**North / West Side Reps:** Dick Fluke 623-2504; Maury Benton 623-3890; Bob Cove 623-2041; Bob Vander Veen; 623-5009  
Jim Wiswell 623-8773; Sandi Monroe 623-4705.

**South / East Side Reps:** Ralph Krueger 623-4178 ; Tom Schaberg 623-5357; Alan Freid 623-5445;

Nancy Cotant Burroughs 623-5592; Joy Dunham 623-4688; Sandy Hubbell 623-8494.

Dan Hills - **Vice President** 623-8989

Ev Kuizema – **Treasurer** 623-5102

**WHAT IS A RIPARIAN:** A Riparian is a person who owns a parcel of land which borders a natural body of water within the boundaries of the State of Michigan

#### **WHAT RIGHTS DOES A RIPARIAN HAVE:**

Riparian rights are property rights which run with the land. Those rights include:

- Access to navigable waters
- Dockage to boating waters
- Use of the water for general purposes, such as bathing and domestic use
- Title to natural accretions
- Ownership of the bottomland to the middle thread of the lake \*

#### **A RIPARIAN PROPERTY OWNER REQUIRES A STATE PERMIT FOR:**

- Any actions which would deny other riparian and members of the public the full use of the lake surface for navigational purposes
- Dredging or filling bottomland
- Constructing, enlarging, extending, removing, or placing a structure on bottom land
- Erecting, maintaining or operating a marina
- Creating, enlarging or diminishing an inland lake or stream
- Structurally interfering with the natural flow of an inland lake or stream
- Filling or dredging a wetland contiguous to a lake
- Connecting any natural or artificial waterway to an inland lake or stream.

#### **WHAT A RIPARIAN CAN NOT DO:**

- Permanently anchor a raft or moor a boat on bottomland that belongs to another riparian
- Install a pier / dock an unreasonable length out into the lake
- Transfer his riparian rights to another person
- Unreasonably restrict the use of the surface of the lake by members of the public
- Back lot owners cannot permanently anchor their boats nor construct docks or other permanent anchorage in front of other land.
- Easements do not grant back lot owners the right to construct a dock or permanently anchor boats off an easement

#### **On / Near the Lake**

- Obey the Leash Law, keep dogs in your yards or on a leash. Clean up your dog waste, especially when on nearby properties or when walking.
- Obey speed limits, many walkers, joggers and children use roads and shoulders!!

#### **Web Site of Interest**



<http://www.geocities.com/gwla2006/>

#### **Fall Cleanup Information**

**Leaf burning** is not good for the lake.

Consider using a mulching mower and put all of the great nutrients back into your lawn instead. It is much better natural fertilizer than they can bring you in a bag or tank truck!!

**And much better for the lake.**

Do Not rake leaves into the lake, do not burn leaves where the smoke or debris will go out over the water resulting in pollution of the lake.



#### **Information from Hope Township**

**Phone (269) 948-2464 Fax 9269) 948-4646**

**Office Hours:**

Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer – Wednesday 9:00 a.m. – Noon, 1:15 p.m. – 3:00

Zoning – Mon. 4:00 – 6:00, Wed 1:00 – 3:00, Thur. 8:00 – 10:00

Building - Mon. 4:00 – 6:00, Wed 12:00 – 2:00, Thur. 8:00 – 10:00

**Transfer Station** Hours: November – April – Saturdays 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

#### **Greater Wall Lake Web Site:**

The GWLA Web site is updated and running. We are planning to keep it that way and request input from our members on what you wish to see.

<http://www.geocities.com/gwla2006/> - Main page

Currently we have included the following items:

[General Information](#) – about community, area map and welcome booklet

[Lake Social Groups / Activities](#) – groups and activity around the lake where you can meet new friends.

[GWLA Board Information](#) – downloads of meeting minutes, current newsletter, general board related information.

[Archives and Links](#) – previous newsletters, Links to other web sites

[Safety](#) - items related to lake safety and Michigan law

[Environmental Issues](#) – items related to keeping our lake healthy, beautiful and more.

#### **Fish Stories**

In our last few issues, we invited riparian's to provide stories about their time at the lake. If you have a story that you are willing to share, recent, historical, hysterical, please send it to me at [bwiersma@kresanet.org](mailto:bwiersma@kresanet.org) or postal mail to GWLA PO Box 56 Delton MI 49046.

I will gladly put it into final form or edit if needed. Stories should be approximately 500 words, more or less is fine.



**Wishing everyone a great  
Holiday Season !!**

Your Board

