



Lake Templene Newsletter



Summer Issue 2015

In this issue:

President's Message: Update on Major Topics	1
Aquatic Plant Control	1
Annual Draw Down	2
Leash Rules	2
Luncheons	2
Board Meetings	2
Fireworks Summary	3
Paddle Sports Increase	3
Bottomland Removal	4
Boating Safety Laws	4
Proper Waste Site Use	5
Keep the Lake Clean	5
Board Members 2015	6
Volunteers	6
Sentimental Bald Eagle Sighting	6
LTPOA Apparel Sale	7

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Sandy Rote

President's Message: Update on Major Topics

Some of the major topics to date are the following:

* This year there was a flotilla on the lake in the area of the swim island to watch the fireworks that rivaled the one of last year. I personally thought that this year the show was even better than last year. This year's show cost \$15,000 which was \$1000 more than the \$14,000 of last year. The total revenue raised was \$18,000 with \$2,000 in cost, which leaves a \$1,000 start on next year's show.

* The golf tournament fundraiser was a success also. There was \$4,200 raised from hole sponsors, up from \$2,500 last year. The hole sponsors will be listed on the LTPOA website in the near future. Please consider patronizing the hole sponsors when making buying or service decisions.

* Thank you to the volunteers that gave of their time to make the fireworks and golf tournament a success! Next year we would like to have the golf tournament include a division for a Lake Templene couples champion. Thank you to everyone who donated money to the fireworks

fund and I ask that you consider the same generosity next year to continue the tradition of a great fireworks show. A special thank you to the shore captains who worked so diligently going house to house raising \$12,400 for the show!

* The lawsuit against the Lake Templene Improvement Board has come to an end as the plaintiff failed to post the security bond required to move the suit forward. However, costs incurred by the Townships and the Lake Templene Improvement Board are still somewhere in the vicinity of \$40,000, money no longer available for lake improvement!

* The pilot projects for the biometrics and aeration have been implemented. There is more detailed information in other articles of this newsletter on those subjects. The pilot areas will be monitored with great anticipation for a successful outcome.

By *Jack Rote*

Aquatic Plant Control - A Good Summer

The drawdown and hard winter have once again helped Lake Templene. Linked with early herbicide treatments, this spring and summer boating season has been good. The lake had an initial treatment on May 13 and was treated again on June 4th. On June 30th, the lake was treated for the third time and on Tuesday, July 28th, a fourth time. Lake Templene has responded well with boating and water activities at their best. There have been pockets of aquatic plants in some areas but overall they have been well managed with the herbicide treatments and they have created few problems. The water has been darker this year with all the rain and runoff. This may have reduced the sun's penetration of the lake and helped manage the Starry Stonewort this season. Whatever the reason, the Starry Stonewort has crowded out much of the other noxious plants and stayed well below the surface. As a result, we have had great boating this season to date. However, the aquatic plant problem is not gone. Starry Stonewort, Milfoils, Coontail, Celery, Lilly Pads and Pondweed, as well as other nuisance plants are still

evident in the lake and continue to require monitoring and management. We expect another aquatic survey followed by a possible treatment sometime in August.

Our first bio-augmentation treatment was completed in the test sites on June 26th. Electrical services have been installed, and by July 9th, the installation of aeration within the test sites was completed. It is the LTPOA and LTIB's expectation that we will see positive results in bottomland reduction and a positive effect on aquatic plant management.

I have had my boats out a number of times this season and so far have not had to back the weeds off my prop. I cannot remember when this last occurred. Lake Templene is currently clear and navigable.

Enjoy the lake and all the activities it provides you and your families.

By *Dennis Nemeth*

Lake Templene Annual Drawdown

Each fall, the LTPOA initiates efforts to receive approval from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) to lower the water level of Lake Templene by approximately 4 feet. A yearly drawdown is requested to help preserve and improve the lake. The process to obtain approval for a drawdown and to implement one takes considerable effort by members of the LTPOA.

First, to receive approval for a drawdown, a court order must be obtained from the St. Joseph County Circuit Court. This requires working with an attorney to complete the proper documentation and attending a hearing. Second, a permit must be obtained from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). The application for the permit is 15 pages long. In addition to the application, a variety of associated documentation must be supplied to the MDEQ, including maps/drawings, various environmental studies such as invertebrate population studies, fish population studies, fish spawning bed observations, dissolved oxygen studies and reviews of the effectiveness of drawdowns at other lakes.

There is also a \$500.00 fee required by the MDEQ.

To implement the drawdown, the dam of the Prairie River on Findley Road must be adjusted by the St. Joseph County Drain Commissioner and then monitored by the MDEQ. The drawdown begins in early October and the lake must be re-impounded by the end of March. The timing of the water adjustments is directed by MDEQ in an effort to minimize the effect on various environmental species in the lake. For example, the lake water level must be lowered prior to the time when amphibians go into winter hibernation so that they are not exposed to freezing conditions in

the soil.

The drawdown has a number of benefits for Lake Templene. It is a control measure for submerged rooted aquatic vegetation. It helps retard nutrient release, especially phosphorus, from the sediment pool, and it is a mechanism for lake deepening through sediment consolidation. In 2014, one less herbicide application was required due to the combined effect of very cold winter temperatures and the drawdown.

Currently, one main concern for Lake Templene is starry stonewort. This invasive species was first observed in the lake in 2009 and it has continued spreading significantly since then. The drawdown helps control starry stonewort and this alone is enough justification to continue annual drawdowns for Lake Templene.

In summary, the annual drawdown is one part of LTPOA's Lake Preservation Plan. Other items include the use of herbicides and harvesting to control aquatic vegetation. The newly implemented aeration combined with bio-augmentation is an effort to remove lake bottomland. Everyone can help to reduce the phosphorus loading in our lake by responsible lawn care practices and establishing natural barriers on our shorelines.

By *David Young*

Welcome Packets

Welcome to all those who are new to the lake! Shore Captains are available in each development to assist newcomers with questions and to provide general information. Shore Captains should alert me, Leslie Van Gelder, of any new homeowners so that I may provide them with welcome packets that contain a variety of information and directions that will answer many questions. The packets will be a help to those new in the community. I can be reached at (269)467-6276 or bevangelder@aol.com.

By *Leslie Van Gelder*

Should I Use a Leash?



The LTPOA Covenants clearly state, **"...no pet shall be permitted to become a nuisance or permitted to run unleashed on improved lots."**

Additionally, Michigan has defined leash laws: Section 287.262 states, "It shall be unlawful for any person or owner to allow any dog to stray unless held properly on a leash." Make sure you clean up after your dog when walking on lake properties. *Please inform your guests of these rules.*

By *Leslie Van Gelder*

Ladies of Lake Templene Luncheons

All luncheons are held the last Thursday of the month starting at 12:30 PM. Please check the LTPOA website calendar to learn about upcoming luncheons. For more information or to be put on the email list, contact Dolly at dolly61655@comcast.net or 467-4728.

Everyone is welcome. The 2015 planned schedule:

- | | | |
|-----------|----|--------------------------------------|
| August | 27 | - Boundary Waters, Sturgis |
| September | 24 | - Prairie River Tavern - Sturgis |
| October | 29 | - Fisher Lake Inn - Three Rivers |
| December | | Christmas Luncheon - To be announced |

By *Dolly Padgurskis*

LTPOA & LTIB Board Meetings

The LTPOA Board of Directors meetings are held the second Monday of every month, 6:00 PM, at Glenn Oaks Community College unless otherwise announced. The Lake Templene Improvement Board (LTIB) meetings are held the first Thursday of every month, 6:00 PM, at Nottawa Township Hall, Centreville. You can get much information about lake management, planning, finances, and all Board activities if you come to regular Board meetings. It is important for each Board to get constructive input and ideas from residents. **All LTPOA members are encouraged to attend any and all of the monthly Board meetings.**

By *LTPOA Board*

July 4th 2015 - One Dynamite Fireworks Show!



Photo by RAW

Bigger, better, and a just plain awesome finale! This year's fireworks show was all these things. The evening started in quiet anticipation as boat after boat floated into the area around the swim island and anchored at a perfect viewing spot. And, every boat had a great view of the fireworks with the location of the display. The wait seemed ever so long as the night grew darker until impatience took hold and captains started blowing the horns of their boats and people called for the show to begin! Then at 10:10 PM it began. The ooohs and aaahs followed each explosion, hardly heard as the booming reverberations echoed across the lake. When the finale came, a silent awe overtook the crowd until the last glittering ember flittered away. A few more seconds of silence, then cheers, clapping, and horn blowing erupted in full appreciation of the fabulous fireworks show everyone had just experienced. It was a perfect display, a perfect evening!

Thank you for your donations!

By *Dolly Padgurskis* & LTPOA Board



Photo by RAW

More Paddle Sports on Lake Templene - Be Aware, Be Safe

There has been an increase in paddle sport activity on Lake Templene just as the entire state of Michigan and the country is experiencing the same upsurge of interest in sports such as kayaking, canoeing, and paddle boarding. In the Michigan State University Extension article [Recreational Paddle Sports on the Rise in Michigan](#), a number of reasons are cited as contributing to the rise: the diversity and abundance of Michigan waterways; the affordability of paddling versus power boating; the ever-increasing awareness of the environment and impact of fossil fuels; the improved quality of waterways as a result of the 1972 federal Clean Water Act; and the increased focus on the health benefits of the physical activity that paddling sports provide. Paddling has also provided social and economic benefits through local paddling clubs, corporate paddling retreats, and waterway paddling rental and tour companies. In MSU words, "It seems paddle sports are healthy for Michigan's people, waterways and economy."

Many of Michigan's boating laws apply to both powered and unpowered boats, including kayaks and canoes. The law means:

***Carry a personal flotation device or life jacket for everyone in or on the kayak.** Persons 12 years or over are not required to wear one, but must have one on board. Children under 12 years must wear one.

***Follow right of way rules.** Kayaks have the right of way over power vessels. Motor boats are supposed to give kayakers 100 feet of clearance, but this will not always happen. Use common sense. Be aware of other nearby boats and try to steer clear.

***Kayaking while under the influence of alcohol or drugs is prohibited.** If your blood alcohol content is 0.10%, you are considered under the influence. If your blood alcohol is between 0.07% and 0.10%, a law enforcement officer may use that and other factors to determine if you are under the influence.

***Moor or stop in a way that does not prevent or interfere with other vessels from passing through a portion of a waterway.**

***Conduct your paddling activities in a way that does not disturb or harass wildlife.**

These are some of the key laws. For a complete list see Michigan Boating Laws on the internet or at your public library.

By *Dolly Padgurskis*



Photo by Bob Manning

Lake Templene Preservation Plan - Bottomland Removal Update

Aeration is underway at last for the three pilot areas selected. The purpose of the pilot program is to determine whether the combination of bio-augmentation enzymes and the fibrous peat eating fungal Zymacea, combined with improved air circulation through aeration, will gradually reduce the buildup of bottomland sediment. To help gauge whether the sediment is actually being removed, a new bathymetric baseline survey was completed in May by the Spicer Group for all three areas in the pilot study. In addition, water quality sampling was completed by SME to provide another baseline. From time to time, the DEQ will ask for new water sampling to be completed. Periodic reporting to the DEQ is a requirement that accompanied the aeration permit. Lake Templene may be the only lake in Michigan to be evaluating the fungal Zymacea.

As you will recall from previous communications, the original bottom of most of the lake was marshland except for the three natural lakes that existed prior to the dam being built back in 1970. In that regard, Lake Templene is different from the majority of other lakes that have received aeration permits over the past 3-5 years. That is why the pilot program with careful monitoring of results is important for Lake Templene prior to initiating lake wide implementation.

Our first bottomland sediment measurement to check progress of the aeration project will be at the end of September. If there is a drawdown, aeration will be turned off when the drawdown

begins. Otherwise, the aeration will cease for the winter in November and restart next April when the lake is returned to normal levels.

The Spicer Group has been in business since 1944. It is regarded as one of Michigan's premier firms to provide solutions for water management involving lakes, rivers, and wetlands. Spicer's team has solid experience with using the natural environment and green-engineering practices in achieving results for their clients. They continue to be a great resource for the LTIB and LTPOA.

By **Bob Ulrich**



Photo by Bruce Van Gelder

Boating Safety - Never too Many Reminders! It's Michigan Law

Michigan law designates these dangerous practices as illegal (applies to any vessel, water ski, surfboard or similar device):

Reckless Operation is defined as operation which disregards the safety or rights of others or endangers the person or property of others. Examples include:

- Weaving through congested waterway traffic or swerving at the last possible moment in order to avoid collision.
- Jumping the wake of another vessel unnecessarily close or when visibility is restricted
- Chasing, harassing, or disturbing wildlife with your vessel
- Causing damage from the wake of your vessel

Failure to Regulate Speed is operating a vessel at speeds that may cause danger to life or property of any other person or at speeds that will not permit you to bring your vessel to a safe stop.

It is illegal to operate in any of the following ways:

- In excess of 55 mph unless you are at least one mile offshore on the Great Lakes or Lake St. Clair
- At greater than "slow, no wake speed" when a person is in the bow of a vessel without proper seating
- Faster than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions (weather, vessel traffic, obstacles, etc.)

Improper Distance is not maintaining a proper distance while operating a vessel or towing a person. To maintain a proper distance when you are operating at greater than "slow, no wake speed" (except in channels that are not posted), the vessel or persons being towed must not be within 100 feet of:

- A shoreline (if operating in water less than three feet deep)
- Any moored or anchored vessel

- A dock or raft
- Any marked swimming area or person(s) in the water

Improper Direction is defined as the failure to operate in a counterclockwise direction except in areas marked by well defined channels or rivers.

Boating in Restricted Areas is defined as operating within a restricted area clearly marked by buoys, beacons, diver-down flags, etc.

Riding on the Bow is illegal if the vessel is not equipped with bow seating and the vessel is operating at greater than "slow, no wake speed". Persons are also not allowed to ride on the gunwale. While underway, persons on a vessel may not sit, stand, or walk on any portion of a vessel not designated for that purpose.

Insufficient Equipment is operating a vessel that is not carrying, storing, maintaining, and using marine safety equipment on board the vessel as required by the Department of Natural Resources.

"Slow, No Wake Speed" means slowest speed at which it is still possible to maintain steering and which does not create a wake.

Discharge of Trash or Waste - It is illegal to dump refuse, garbage, or plastics into any state or federally controlled waters. Many forms of litter can kill birds, fish, and marine mammals.

- You must store trash in a container while on board and place it in a proper receptacle after returning to shore.
- Discharge of any sewage, treated or untreated, into the fresh waters of Michigan is prohibited.

By **Dolly Padgurskis**

Taken from Michigan Boating Laws/ Rules and Regulations 2015

The LTPOA Yard Waste Site - Proper Use Required

The LTPOA Yard Waste Site is owned and maintained by the membership for the convenience and use of the membership for the disposal of lawn clippings, leaves, hedge trimmings and pruned tree branches up to one inch in diameter.

Commercial use of this site is not allowed. That includes contractors employed by members of the LTPOA. Unfortunately, some members have given their gate keys to contractors for the contractors' convenience. This practice leads to the accumulation of large piles of yard waste and restricted items such as tree stumps, whole trees, logs, dirt piles, and other construction debris that must be processed at a cost incurred by the LTPOA.

There is a designated area for grass clippings, weeds, and leaves. There is another designated area for tree trimmings and hedge clippings. Please deposit each of the specified items in the designated areas. It is time consuming and costly to separate them.

Adjacent you will find the Rules and Restrictions for use of the Yard Waste Site. Your cooperation is requested and appreciated.

By *Lamar Rodgers*

For boat launch or waste site keys or if you have trouble with or can't open either the boat launch lock or the waste site lock, call Leslie Van Gelder at (269)467-6276 or email bevangelder@aol.com

Lake Templene Property Owners Association Dredging Material & Yard Waste Site Rules And Restrictions

Following these Site Rules and Restrictions are important to ensure the usage of this facility. Violations will result in closing this site. Please adhere to the following:

1. Use of this Site is for Lake Templene Property Owners Association Members in good standing only. Commercial usage is not allowed. Violators will be prosecuted.

2. No off-road vehicles are allowed.

3. Restrictions:

- a. No plastic containers such as plastic flower pots etc.
- b. No plastic bags.
- c. No building materials
- d. No cement products
- e. No tree branches over 1" diameter.
- f. No tree stumps.
- g. No household waste.
- h. No paper products.

4. Materials Allowed: Vegetative waste:

- a. Yard waste such as grass trimmings, bush trimmings (less than 1" diameter), and leaves.
- b. Weeds from the lake.

5. Location: The Site is located on Butternut Drive. Signs will guide you to the proper location for placement of materials at the site. For example: Weeds, grass clippings, and leaves are to be placed together. Brush trimmings are to be placed in their designated location.

6. Access:

Location: Butternut Drive.

The site is available for year round usage. Entry to the site requires a key for the locked gate. The lock on the gate matches the lock-set that is currently used at the boat launch site. Therefore, the key you use at the boat ramp site is the same key to open the gate at the site. If you need a key, please contact the L.T.P.O.A. Board Secretary and one will be issued to you.

REMEMBER TO CLOSE THE GATE AND SET THE LOCK BEFORE YOU LEAVE THE SITE - REPORT SITE VIOLATIONS TO A L.T.P.O.A. BOARD MEMBER

Help Keep the Lake Clean for Those You Love - Things YOU Can Do

- *Plant a buffer strip of native plants along the water.
- *If you have a lawn, don't use fertilizers and pesticides.
- *Be sure your septic system functions properly and meets current standards.
- *Be mindful of your speed when boating. Big wakes erode shores.
- *Plant a rain garden, use a rain barrel to catch water from your roof, consider using permeable pavement in your driveway. Runoff that stays on your property will not wash contaminants into the lake.
- *If you fish, do not use lead sinkers and jigs. Use only non-toxic tackle. Loons, swans and other waterfowl are susceptible to

contracting lead poisoning from tackle they pick up off lake bottoms.

- *Don't use the lake as a bathtub or washtub. Soaps and shampoos contain nutrients and pollutants that are harmful to the lake and organisms living in it.
- *In winter, avoid using salt on your sidewalks and driveways. Petition public officials to reduce the amount of road salt applied to roads and bridges. Chloride from salt, harmful to fish, is building up in lakes that receive runoff from properties and roadways.

By *Dolly Padgurskis*



Photo by Pam Cuddy

Children
Family



Photo by Pam Cuddy

Friends
Pets



Photo by Charles Padgurskis

LTPOA Board Members 2015

The following is the 2015 list of volunteers serving in the positions listed. Phone numbers are provided for your convenience should you find a need to contact a specific board member. For any questions, concerns or problems, kindly contact Leslie Van Gelder.

LTPOA Board of Directors

Office	Member	Phone
President	Jack Rote	269-467-4499
Vice President	Bob Ulrich	269-467-4661
Secretary	Bob Ulrich	
Treasurer	Jack Rote	
Committees	Chairperson	Phone
Lake Preservation	Jack Rote	
Aquatic Plant Management	Dennis Nemeth	269-467-1869
Bottomland Removal	Bob Ulrich	
Maintenance:		
Plowing	LaMar Rodgers	269-221-0829
Mowing & Grounds	LaMar Rodgers	
Streets & Signs	LaMar Rodgers	
Building Review	Grant Boomer	810-516-6966
Lake Safety	Bill Walters	269-625-4491
By-Laws & Covenants	Leslie Van Gelder	269-467-6276
Parks	Grant Boomer	
Property Owners Concerns	Leslie Van Gelder	
DEQ Interface	Dave Young	269-319-1449
Website	Dolly Padgurskis	269-467-4728
Information Systems	Jack Rote	
Shore Captain Coordination	Bob Ulrich	
Member Communications	Dolly Padgurskis	
Newsletter	Dolly Padgurskis	
Website Organization	Jack Rote	
Administrative Assistant	Susan Leist	269-625-5500

Where Are The Volunteers?

Something becomes very apparent when one reviews the names on the list of LTPOA Board members to the left. The same names appear in numerous positions. There are some board positions that do involve the chairmanship of several committees with similar functions, but a number of officer and chairperson positions are intended to be held by different individuals. This year, only nine of the eleven board positions have been filled. Two remain vacant. Three positions have been filled only because previous board members volunteered to fill those positions for a one year term until more volunteers can be recruited for next year. It has become more and more difficult to recruit volunteers to serve on the LTPOA Board over the last few years.

It is believed that one of the reasons for the reluctance of volunteers is the workload related to board positions. The work involved with all the positions is currently being reviewed to determine ways to alleviate and consolidate some of the burden. Options to ways of distributing work to supplemental help is being reviewed as a possibility. The goal is to be able to get as much supportive work done as possible within the confines of the LTPOA budget. If it comes to hiring staff to complete work that is necessary for maintenance of the lake, the annual dues would have to be raised.

Getting volunteers from within the Lake Templene community is the best way to manage the lake. Volunteer property owners have a vested interest in helping protect their investments and homes and are passionate about ensuring things are managed well. Please consider volunteering.

By *Dolly Padgurskis*



Photo by Valerie Rich

An Eagle Sighting with an Emotional Story

A Lake Templene member, Don Fisher, passed away early January 2012. Don and his wife Glenna lived next door to Sandy and me. Don was one of the most avid fishermen I have ever known.

At the end of the funeral service for Don, the song *On the Wings of an Eagle* was played. When Sandy and I returned home immediately after the funeral, we did what we usually do upon arriving home; we looked out at the lake. Much to our amazement, there, perched on the ice about 60 feet off shore between the Fisher's and our properties, was a majestic bald eagle feeding on a fish. To us it seemed that Don had ridden those wings for a last fishing trip on Lake Templene.

By *Jack Rote*



Photo by Jack Rote

Lake Templene Apparel For Sale (Christmas is not that far away!)



Caps and t-shirts can be purchased in an assortment of colors with any of the three logo choices.



Caps and t-shirts are only two examples of items that are available to be ordered with your choice of one of the three logos. There are a number of different apparel items, everything from caps and t-shirts to polo shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants and jackets. All apparel items may be purchased in an assortment of colors with any of the three logo choices. The t-shirts and other apparel items come in male and female styles and come in toddler, youth, adult, and adult extended sizes. Some items are available in infant sizes.



To view the apparel items and styles available go to the catalog website: www.4logowearables.com
To purchase contact Susan Leist 269-625-5500

Information and instructions for making a logo apparel item purchase are also available on the Lake Templene website.

A sampling of other logo items available:



...and hand towels, beach towels, cooler totes, blankets



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Summer Issue 2015

Place address label here

We're on the Web!
www.laketemplene.org

If your address or other information changes, please use this form or use the above email address to notify the LTPOA as soon as possible.

Please mail the form to :
L.T.P.O.A.
P.O. Box 196
Nottawa, MI 49095

Attention:
Information Change

Information Change Form

Name _____

Spouse's Name _____

Old Address _____

New Address _____

City _____ State _____

Phone # _____ E-mail _____

Subdivision _____ Lot _____

