

SHORELINES

THE NEWSLETTER OF LONG LAKE CLOVERDALE ASSOCIATION

November 2018

Presidents Corner



David Jackson

What the heck is going on here? It's seems like just a few short days ago we were looking for mosquito spray and sunscreen, packing coolers, splashing at the sandbar, taking another lap on the lake, sitting by the campfire and watching the last rays of daylight disappear into a beautiful starlit sky.

Now the leaves are gone, the furnace is running, there is snow in the forecast and why the heck is it dark at 6:00 pm? Who invented this thing called daylight savings time? Baa-Humbug!

I'm a bit over-reflective, maybe somber but not sad. It was another fantastic summer living on Long Lake. We just didn't have the fall weather we all appreciate to ease us into the cold months. With the exception of early October, most of our boats remained tethered to the dock absorbing more wind and rain, with most of us just giving up and opting for winterizing by months end. I continue to tell myself how much I enjoy the change of seasons, but with each passing year I get a little more envious of our Long Lake friends & neighbors who relocate in the south and skip the six months where frost & snow are a possibility. Snowball fights are a bit over rated after 50. Slipping on the ice can mean slipping a disc.

So what is a Long Laker to do in the dry months (dry = no boat in the water & you haven't seen your favorite cooler in weeks). Netflix only takes you so far. A few suggestions: 1.) If you are new to Long Lake and not yet a member of your lake association, I would love to meet you and welcome you! Sun or Snow – we are here for you. It's painless, its \$25.00 / year, and it connects you to all things Long Lake. (2) We thrive as a summer community, but over 50% of Long Lake is now year round, so reach out and let's play some cards, do movie night or meet up and watch the game. (3) Many of your fellow Long Lakers are members of the Delton Moose Lodge just down the road. They feature many family friendly events, holiday and game day parties, euchre & poker, great food and an inexpensive place to have one of your favorite beverages. It's a warm and welcoming place close by.

Apparel Store is Open!

Visit us at www.long-lake.org/long-lake-wear.html for all of your Christmas shopping needs. All orders will be shipped via USPS with shipping calculated at checkout on a per item range.



Do We Really Have to take our Dock Out?

Well that question rises every year about this time. So first why do we take them out? It is in the water all Summer long and it isn't damaged! The main reason is that in the Spring when the ice "goes out" there is a risk that the wind could push the ice up toward shore and if there is anything in its way it could cause damage. If your dock is still in the water the ice could push against it and move it along and possibly break part of it. The wind normally comes from the west so if you live on the South side of the lake the odds are the ice will be pushed to the other side of the lake. And if you live at the South end of the lake the odds are the ice will be pushed away from your location. So, you need to decide if you can afford the possible damage if you leave it in the water. What are the odds that your dock will survive "ice out"? And is the time spent taking out and putting the dock that big a problem? I for one need to repair parts of my dock almost every year. And the cost of building new sections is more than I am willing to risk. So out comes the dock which takes all of a couple of hours at the most and it will take another couple of hours to put it back in in the Spring!

Presidents Corner Continued...

Fret not – The spring Ice Breaker event will be here soon enough – approximately 130 days ☺
Your lake association board is thinking about summer 2019 and the many conservation efforts, water improvement & protections, and social events that continue to highlight Long Lake as a premiere living & recreation destination. Please join your association and we wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas and a warm and fast “dry” season. Until we meet again on the water my friends!

David Jackson, President
Long Lake Cloverdale Association
dwjackson942@hotmail.com
616-437-0296

Daylight Savings?

Just so you get a little smarter this fall: The idea of daylight saving was first conceived by Benjamin Franklin during his sojourn as an American delegate in Paris in 1784. The German Empire and Austria-Hungary organized the first nationwide implementation, starting on April 30, 1916. Many countries have used it at various times since then, particularly since the energy crisis of the 1970s. I still don't approve of day light savings time.

Holiday Charity Fundraiser!

The **Shack** is located at 210 Grove Street in Delton. A place where anyone can shop for donated clean clothing and everything is FREE! The Shack is run completely by volunteers and they take clean seasonal clothing donations during limited hours. They do not have any income or residency requirements. They are located in a rent free building courtesy of MEI and the Barry County Telephone company.

The LLCA has chosen the Shack to receive their annual community donation. We will be donating \$500 to the Shack to help with utility and other operating expenses. For more information about the Shack like them on Facebook. If you would like to donate to the Shack there are 3 ways to donate:

1. Leave a check or cash off at The Shack during its open hours. Checks payable to Barry Community Foundation or Delton ROCKS #159. You can place it in the brown wooden box on the back wall inside the front store area.
2. Send a donation to: Delton Rocks #159, c/o Barry Community Foundation, 231 S Broadway, Hastings, MI 49058
3. Go to www.barrycf.org/funds/delton-rocks/

Weed Management Program, 2018/2019

Well, another year has come and gone on Long Lake. Where did the summer go so fast?

We'll do a short review of this year's treatment and then look at what is coming for next year's program.



This year saw the continued spread of Cabomba and Starry Stonewart in our lake. We have a colony of Cabomba in the Cloverdale corner of the lake which expanded greatly this year to the point that we are going to begin treatment to this area next year along with a new area in the north end also. We are also seeing areas of expansion in regards to Starry Stonewart. These areas will be addressed next year also. Pondweed also expanded this year a lot and we think this is in part to the higher than normal water levels that we experienced this year. Eurasian Milfoil has also expanded which was somewhat expected and will be covered in our expected treatments next year.

Next year's treatment will be quite different than this year's if approved by the DEQ. We expect to do a lake wide Sonar treatment which will address the expanding Eurasian Milfoil and to a lesser degree Big Leaf Pondweed and Illinois Pondweed. We will be expanding the Cabomba and Starry Stonewart treatment areas to cover the new areas identified. All this should put us in better shape by the end of next season. This will be a much more expensive year but that has been planned for in the five year plan we are currently under. DEQ only allows this type of treatment every five to six years and next year should be approved.

We will more than likely have to make big changes in our plan at some point due to all the potential changes we may be facing with the drain changes that are being proposed as covered in Dave's article in this newsletter. As he explained what ever is decided it will be years away and we will be monitoring everything as to how it may affect us.

Doug Bamfield
Chairperson, Conservation and Lake Safety Committee

High Water and Crooked Lake Flooding

For nearly a year now Crooked Lake, Pleasant Lake and residents who live in proximity to the Watson drain have had record high water levels and flooding issues with some homes becoming no longer habitable. Record rain fall combined with a high ground water table and a continuing high water cycle appears to be working against any quick solutions. Why then is this a concern worthy of the Long Lake Newsletter? One of the solutions being discussed is using Long Lake and the Cloverdale drain to alleviate the high-water issues of the Watson drain (Crooked Lake).

There are several ideas being considered for the long-term solution to Crooked Lake's high-water issues (currently a lake without an outlet). The DEQ would prefer the water to go south toward the Kalamazoo water shed because that is the natural topographical flow of water in this area. There are other ideas that put the water into local basins that may involve Wall Lake. However, because of Crooked Lake's proximity to the Delton drain, which feeds into Mud, Jones, Wilkinson & Cloverdale Lakes and Long Lake via the Cloverdale drain, it is this idea that appears to be one of the more cost-effective solutions. At this point, all ideas are **only** ideas and several new solutions continue to pop up for consideration. All ideas need to be vetted by the DEQ.

Projects of this magnitude are not quickly completed. The planning and engineering work can take 2-3 years and the process of completing a drain extension is typically takes 5 years or more. If the Cloverdale drain becomes more than a potential solution, the engineering would require a rebuild of the Long Lake outlet on the north end, the culvert under M-43, evaluation of water issues downstream beyond M-43, and a rebuild to a larger drain coming from Cloverdale Lake into Long Lake. This would all have to be completed before water could flow from Crooked Lake into our lake. This would also require proper permits, easements, public hearings, cost assessments and lastly the blessing from the DEQ.

For my twenty-five plus years of living on Long Lake, we have been blessed to have an outlet that functions almost flawlessly and maintains consistent water levels. Many of you voiced concerns with the higher than normal water levels in August when the outlet became plugged with debris. A small team has since then been monitoring and maintaining the outlet to insure it remains open.

Your Long Lake Cloverdale Association board is keeping close tabs on all the conversations surrounding these water problems.



Long Lake-Cloverdale Association - PO Box 133 - Cloverdale, MI 49035

The Long Lake-Cloverdale Association is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization - All Rights Reserved

www.long-lake.org - llca.communicationsteam@gmail.com

[Long Lake Facebook](#) - [Long Lake Members Only FB](#)