It Was a Big Summer

Lord it is time.
Lay your shadows over the sundial,
and let the winds loose on the fields.
Command the last fruits to be full;
give them two more sunny days,
urge them on to fulfillment and throw
the last sweetness into the heavy wine.

_L's Top Fall Tunez_

in no particular order

California Dreaming
Urge for Going
Autumn Leaves
Harvest Moon
Shine on Harvest Moon
September Song
As Time Goes By
Moondance

1. YOU ARE HERE
2. BOARD OF DIRECTORS |
   PRESIDENT'S LETTER | MISSION
   STATEMENT
3. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR |
   MEMBERSHIP REPORT
4. ANNUAL MEETING
5. ANNUAL MEETING
6. SWIMMERS ITCH
7. ON THE WATER FRONT
8. LEGACY CIRCLE CELEBRATION
9. "CLAY CLIFFS" | "THE WALL"
10. KIDS’ FISHING DAY
11. ICE CREAM SOCIAL
12. PARTING SHOTS

Please share your own picks on our blogs (coming soon)
President's Letter

As the new president of the Lake Leelanau Lake Association, I am pleased to introduce myself to those of you who may not already know me. My wife Sera and I have been married for 40 years and have four adult sons, one daughter-in-law and two grand children. I worked in the aerospace industry for one company for nearly forty years. Sera taught school for a number of years, took time out from teaching to raise our four sons, and finished her career as director of curriculum in a school system in western Michigan.

We vacationed in northern Michigan for over three decades. After residing in five other states for my work, we considered a number of lake locations in northern Michigan for our retirement home. We mutually agree that Lake Leelanau has the best of everything we desire!

I offer my sincere thanks to our past president, Bob Miller, for his service to the Lake Association for the past four years; two years as vice president and two years as president. During his tenure Bob set a goal with the board to significantly increase our membership in the Lake Leelanau Lake Association. Under the leadership of Sera Thompson, the membership chairperson, and the membership committee members, our total active membership has increased by over 110 families. Our total membership currently exceeds 400. One of our goals for the next two years is to retain the current members and to draw new members through open communications and activities with both riparians and non riparians.

In addition to increasing the membership in our lake association, the board of directors has established three primary projects for the coming two years:

1. Develop boater safety training via classes and printed material
2. Develop a comprehensive approach to water quality and control of invasive species
3. Upgrade our website and membership data base using current computer tools

I look forward to working with our board members and each of you who volunteers to achieve the projects that have been established. Please feel free to contact me or other board members with your questions, concerns or advice.

Enjoy our wonderful lake, the fall colors and the winter that follows.

Rick Thompson

Mission Statement

To make this body of water, Lake Leelanau, a better place to live. To establish ongoing programs to promote and protect the best interest and uses of riparian owners, boaters, fishers, bathers, and all other parties who have access to this body of water. In doing so, the Association will review and respond to all issues relating to the protection and preservation of the Lake Leelanau environment, the surrounding land and the water, including issues regarding safety, and recreational enjoyment of the lake. In addition the Association will address issues related to governmental regulation and taxation, and will review all property development proposals to determine what projects could have on the riparian owners and users of Lake Leelanau.
Letters to the Editor

Seeking Leelanau Theme Song Sheet Music

Dear Lake Association members and others with a warm spot in your heart for Lake Leelanau.

Recently a friend told me that she could not find a copy of the Leelanau Song. My last memory of seeing a copy was over ten years ago at the museum, when there were plenty. If you know of an available copy or have one yourself; would you be willing to share it for copying? I understand there could be a copyright issue and that will have to be explored. It would be a shame if they all disappeared because everyone thought there were plenty somewhere else.

Lyn Motlow

Clean Up and Green Up

Clean Up and Green Up, a Michigan Green Consortium special event, will be held Sunday, November 4, 2012 from 9 am until 3 pm at American Waste, 280 Hughes Drive, in Traverse City. The website is http://www.cleanupgreenup.com. For a full list of accepted items see http://www.cleanupgreenup.com/items.html. Items accepted include aluminum, batteries, asphalt, bicycles, books, ladders, freezers, hot water heaters, concrete, mattresses, VHS cassettes, video games & video systems, tires, etc.

Please share this information with anyone interested.

Trudy Galla, AICP
Planning Director, & Director of the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority: 231-256-9812
Recycling Hotline: 256-8444
Floodplain Maps Hotline: 256-8185

New Leland Township Zoning Ordinance

There are many rumors going around saying that the new Zoning Ordinance, among other things, will take away our property rights. The truth is quite the opposite. The new ordinance is more flexible and open minded than the 1996 ordinance. It allows guest houses in all districts. Dock size can be from 50 square feet to 220 square feet. Dimensions of lots, setbacks etc are shown on diagrams. Minimum lot sizes in the Ag.-Residential district are reduced from 3 acres to two acres.

There are copies of the ordinance that can be viewed at the Township Office and the Leland Library. The entire ordinance is on the internet at: www.leelanau.celelandtwp.asp. Click on Boards and Commissions and select Township Planning Commission.

The new Zoning Ordinance is on the November ballot.

Kathy Turner

Membership:

Heart and Soul of the LLLA

Sera Thompson

“If you’re lucky enough to live on the lake, you’re lucky enough”. You’ll find this expression scattered throughout shops on various media all over the Leelanau Peninsula. Whether you believe ownership of a dwelling on Lake Leelanau is a matter of luck or not, there can be little disagreement about the joy of living on its shoreline or in its surrounding woods and hills. Our members understand that, whether they live on the lake or in the area.

Support of the LLLA and a passion for the lake takes various forms in addition to membership. It is reflected in the many notes received on membership forms: willingness to volunteer, enthusiasm for the board’s work and accomplishments, suggestions for improvement, questions needing answers, and kudos for this newsletter. It is reflected in actions taken: participating in committee meetings, board meetings, and annual meetings; creating the newsletter; maintaining the website, volunteering at the first annual ice cream social, creating favorite dishes and setting up for the Legacy Event; addressing envelopes, assisting families at Fish Day; and braving weather and water conditions to take water samples. The list is more expansive, but you get the idea. This organization to be the best it can be on behalf of this magnificent place, it is the heart and soul of our membership that will take it there.

At the time of this printing, we have had 320 memberships initiated or renewed within the first nine months of 2012. Each of you who has made that commitment has taken a stand for this lake, no matter the level of your membership or the size of your donation. Many stepped forward to make a contribution toward the “Greening of the Wall” on North Lake Leelanau. Those donations allowed us to more than match the $5,000 we committed, for a total exceeding $10,000 to improve that landscape. The association can’t anticipate all the future needs of this lake, but we do know from past experience we need to be prepared to address issues that might arise. Sufficient financial resources enable us to do just that. Please know we appreciate each and every membership and donation you make on behalf of Lake Leelanau.
Lake Leelanau Lake Association
2012 Annual Meeting
August 3, Munnecke Room


Call to order by President Bob Miller at 5:30 p.m. President Miller asked each board member present to introduce themselves and state their office.

Secretary’s Report: The minutes of the 2011 meeting were published in the Fall 2011 Newsletter and on our website, www.lakeleelanau.org as well as copies for distribution at the meeting. John Stoller made the motion to accept, second by Wayne Wunderlich, unanimously approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer Dave Hunter reported that we have $76,168.95 in current assets. The books have been audited from 2011 through the present. This is a requirement for most grants we might apply for. About $6000. has been donated toward the vegetation project on the “GreatWall”. Tony Borden made the motion to accept, second by Jane Miller, unanimously approved.

Membership: Sera Thompson, chairperson, reported we have 376 members. Approximately 50% are basic and the remainder are part of the Legacy Membership. New stationery has been designed to expedite the membership process. Barb Kobberstad is helping with the mailings. All members are invited to an Ice Cream Social on August 17: 1-4 p.m. at the Leland Village Green.

Communications: Committee Chair, Larry Hauser, detailed ongoing preparations for the Legacy Circle Celebration at the Noble Home by the Clay Cliffs property on September 8. Live music will be provided by Lennie McNeil, guitarist/singer. An exploration hike of the Clay Cliffs property led by Leelanau Conservancy’s Director of Land Programs, Matt Heiman will take place before the event. Wayne Wunderlich congratulated Larry on the excellent newsletter he publishes three times a year for the association.

Water Quality: Hugh Farber is the new Water Quality Chairman. Wayne Wunderlich is performing the water sampling on the North Lake. Ray Malcoun will assist him and learn the procedures. On the South Lake, the sampling will be done by Jeff Sanborn (left) with the assistance of Wayne Swallow (right). Dissolved oxygen and temperature are measured at various depths in both the upper and lower lakes. Wayne Swallow reports that these measurements enable us to understand the chemical and physical characteristics of our lake, and monitor long-term trends in water quality. Swimmers itch is a project we continue to work hard on. There is a link on our website to help report and locate hot spots. This summer we are testing a product called Swimmers Itch Guard that members may purchase from Dave Hunter for $15.00. Members are encouraged to place a brick at the end of their dock to measure the current population of Zebra Mussels.

Water Safety: Jim Meyer reported that there is a change in age from 12 to 14 to operate a personal watercraft. A priority of the association is educating our youth.

Proposed Changes of By-Laws: Tony Borden explained the following proposed changes:

• Article III-Board of Directors:
  Section 1: The word “elected” appearing before township representatives is proposed to be deleted from the Section and replaced with the word “appointed” so that, upon approval, it would read: “The board of directors shall consist of the four officers of the association, the immediate past president, appointed township representatives from the following areas: Suttons Bay, Bingham, Elmwood, Solon, Centerville Townships having one representative each, and Leland Township having two representatives and elected standing committee chair persons to include communications and membership, fish, water quality and water safety.”

• Article V-Annual Meeting, Board Meeting, Quorum Section 3: The words “township representatives and committee chairpersons” are proposed to be deleted from this Section so that, upon approval, it would read: “The annual meeting shall be for the purpose of election of officers, presenting annual reports for all committees, allowing membership input on matters of interest, and amendments to the by-laws if desired. Also, the review and approval of the financial report for the past year and the budget for the coming year.”

Hugh Farber made the motion to accept the changes, Wayne Wunderlich (right) second. The motion was approved.
Election of President and Vice President: Bob Miller recognized Richard Thompson as the candidate for President and Tony Borden as Vice President. David Hunter made the motion to elect; Larry Hauser second; unanimously approved. Bob Miller shared that he had enjoyed being President and is thankful for the support from everyone. He feels very positive about our new President and Vice President. Thompson outlined that his goals are to continue the membership drive; continued support for Kid’s Fish Day; pursuing a solution for swimmers itch, boaters safety classes to educate about new laws, etc; continuation of our comprehensive approach to water quality; the upgrade of our web site, and our database regarding properties on the lake; and monitoring the FEMA flood plan.

Keynote Address: Invited speaker, Heather Hettinger, Fisheries Management Biologist with the DNR, shared a handout that discussed ways to keep our lake healthy. The four main topics of her talk were environmentally safe soaps, septic systems, fish stocking, and fish shelters.

It’s always better to wash on the lawn so that the soil has the ability to filter the wash water before it hits the lake, but if you need to wash in the water using biodegradable soaps is essential! Dawn Dishwashing detergent is recommended.

Septic systems that are faulty can contribute unwanted nutrients to the lake and result in decreased water quality. Maintaining your existing system is important for the health of the lake.

Currently there is no active fish stocking prescription for South Lake Leelanau. The current prescription for North Lake Leelanau calls for 20,000 (6.8/acre) yearling lake trout to be stocked annually. They stopped stocking brown trout because very few were being collected in the DNR netting surveys.

The installation of any type of fish shelter requires a permit from the DEQ. The application fee is $50 and requires a written letter of support from your local DNR Fisheries Biologist. The Fisheries Division generally does not support the installation of fish shelters in lakes.

Hettinger emphasized personal fishing reports from members like you are very important to research and supporting projects for our lake. Following her talk, she fielded many questions from members in attendance.

Heather Hettinger
Fisheries Management Biologist
231-922-5280 ext. 6870
231-775-9727 ext. 6074
hettingerh@michigan.gov

Adjournment: 7:08 p.m. Moved by Bob Miller; second by Jane Miller; unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Moose
LLLA Secretary

Here's hoping to see you next year!

Visit our website
www.lakeleelanau.org
Swimmers Itch
by Wayne Swallow

Thanks to those who made swimmers itch reports on our webpage: www.lakeleelanau.org, LLLA was able to develop a baseline of swimmers itch occurrence on Lake Leelanau. You can view results and location of the swimmers itch incidents on our website.

A total of 243 individuals accessed the report tool. Thirty-three (33) completed the report form. We are unsure why only 13.6% of those that visited the report form completed a report. We would like to receive information from some of the 243 folks who did not complete reports, as to why reports were not completed. Our assumption was that they were just checking out the report form in the event they had to use it. Respondents took only two minutes on average to complete the report, so one should not be worried making a report will take a lot of time. Please send any comments to wayneswallow@att.net.

South Lake had eight reports of swimmers itch, with over 13 individuals infected. Moderate infection rate (11-99 pustules) was the maximum severity. Folks who contacted the itch used sun screen, towelled off after swimming, and showering after swimming as precautions to avoid becoming infected. However, all still became infected. One individual used Swimmers Itch Guard subsequent to getting the itch and reported “good results”.

North Lake had 19 reports of swimmers itch. Forty-four (44) individuals were infected. There were three cases of severe infections (<100 pustules), such as the case pictured. The same precautions used in South Lake were used along with avoiding shallow areas. Again, none of these precautions worked to prevent swimmers itch.

We have had anecdotal reports that Swimmers Itch Guard was fairly effective in preventing swimmers itch. The author used the product, and did not contact swimmers itch. Swimmers Itch Guard is available at Thompson’s Pharmacy in Traverse City for about $20 per bottle. Several LLLA board members also provided members with the product for $15 per bottle. Our intent is to continue this practice in 2013.

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*Michigan Riparian* is a quarterly magazine published in February, May, August, & November and devoted to the management and wise use of Michigan’s lakes and streams. The cost of an individual subscription is $10.00. To subscribe, mail your contact information (mailing address & phone) along with a check for $10 to Or complete & mail the downloadable form from their website: http://www.mi-riparian.org/.
On the Water Front
by Hugh Farber

As the newly appointed chair of the Water Quality Committee I'd like to assure members that the well functioning team of water samplers, headed by Wayne Swallow are in place: Jeff Sanborn is on the South Lake, with Wayne Wunderlich and Ray Malcoun on the North Lake. Wayne Swallow continues to orient and oversee water quality technical/scientific issues for us, and will continue to help guide sampling needs.

Among the issues we monitor/address are invasive species, e.g., zebra mussels, and aquatic and shoreline invasive vegetation, e.g., Eurasion milfoil, and phragmites. This is an area where all members can be important contributors by noting any changes in shoreline weed growth, which in turn could be indicative of a nutrient issue or the presence of invasive species.

We still continue to encourage septic system attention by all waterfront owners, as the nutrient load from poorly functioning systems has been shown to cause localized and general degradation of water quality.

Swimmers itch continues to create localized and sporadic concerns for shoreline waders and swimmers. This is an almost universal problem in larger lakes and the cause and life cycle is well known. There is no known way to prevent all cases, but there continue to be efforts to find ways to mitigate the impact of exposure. We follow these closely and advise on how to reduce the occurrence or intensity.

A new issue for this area is termed "fracking" about which most recipients of this message have no doubt heard. This process involves increasing the flow of gas/hydrocarbons from shale deposits by injecting under high pressure water containing added chemicals. Since much of our lake's surface water input comes from Solon township streams, the fracking proposed for future development in Solon wells is of concern and bears watching. Like most similar activities, care must be taken to preclude potential accidental loss of liquids.

The LLLA is also represented on Leelanau Clean Water, a county wide consortium of most organizations concerned with maintaining or improving the quality of water in the county. Indeed, this organization was proposed, and organized by the Glen Lake Association, the LLLA, and County Commissioner Hawley, with an original emphasis on inappropriate nutrient release.

Please be aware of potential water quality changes, and do your parts to prevent degradation!!

Leland Parade: Our Float
by Colleen Moose

The Fourth of July float was a crowd pleaser with our three fishing sisters, Marieo, Alena and Brianna Manzor, who reside during the summer with their parents on The Narrows, having a winning catch. The float was designed and built by Sharon, Linda, Gordy, and Dennis Zimmer, who summer on Sunset Shores. They were assisted by their neighbor, Preston Moose. Many thanks to our volunteers for their enthusiasm and hard work in making our float.

The 2013 Leelanau BirdFest is under development. Pages will be posted as schedules are confirmed. Registration for 2013 BirdFest starts in January 2013. Watch for our updates and expanded web-site.

Despite the weather, a final tally of species reported from our various field trips in 2012 was 106. Brian Allen, guiding at Otter Creek, made that our top single trip with 75 species identified on a cold, rainy Saturday morning. Come join us for Leelanau BirdFest 2013, scheduled for May 29th through June 2, 2013. See you then.

http://mibirdfest.com/newsblog/?p=124
The Legacy Circle Celebration  
by Susan Green

Sometimes many good things come in one package. This was never more true than on September 8, 2012, when the wind was blowing, a rare summer rain event was threatening, and 100 guests were due to arrive at the 5:30pm Legacy Party. Around 4pm the wind died, the sun came out, the tent was up, the tables were covered in cloths and flowers, the wine was icing (or not), the grill was ready, and life and party-giving on the North lake was good.

The grill was loaded with burgers and brats and many generous Lake Association members contributed salads, hors d’oeuvres, condiments, and desserts to die for, for all the partygoers, Scott and Kris Noble, owners and builders of Noble House agreed to be our hosts. Their prairie style home, built in 2007 on 2½ acres, adjoins the proposed Clay Cliffs Natural Area, which will be purchased with donations from caring community members and foundations; owned by Leland Township; and managed by the Leelanau Conservancy. It seemed a slam dunk to offer interested Legacy Circle members the chance to tour both properties.

Forty five hikers said yes to Clay Cliffs. Matt Heiman, Director of Land Programs for the Leelanau Conservancy led the tour through hidden valleys, meadows, woods unlogged for 80 years, past coyote dens, and across hill and dale. It was awe inspiring to stand near the edge of the 200 foot high Clay Cliffs bluff and see Lake Michigan below.

Fortunately, a generous gift from an anonymous donor will match 1:1 up to $200,000 any gift given between September 1st and December 31st, 2012. With that deadline looming and $250,000 left to raise, the challenge is an important incentive. Call the Conservancy if you feel moved to help. They’ll be grateful, and so will I.

Noble House also received many visitors. Scott Noble led tours of its living room, dining room, kitchen, den and three large bedrooms. The downstairs floors are Brazilian cherry, the countertops are granite, the living room fireplace is surrounded by squares of polished onyx, and the exercise pool has windows viewing the lake. The house manages to be both comfortable and impressive with great light and something worth seeing out every window. Like Clay Cliffs it was a joy to experience.

Meanwhile Legacy Circle members drank wine contributed by Black Star Farms, Boskydel Vineyard, Ciccone Vineyard and Winery, Leelanau Wine Cellars, Raftshol Vineyard, and Willow Vineyard. Remember their generosity the next time you go shopping. No one went hungry or unhappy. Lenny McNeil on guitar and Larry Hauser on harmonica provided music to fill the evening skies.

Every year we think we’ve given the best party ever. This one may have been it. Come next year on September 7, 2013, and see if we can top ourselves.
Dear Friends,

Great news for the spectacular Clay Cliffs Natural Area project! A generous family, who wishes to remain anonymous, has pledged to match all donations to the Clay Cliffs project from now until the end of the year – up to $200,000.

“We’re very excited about this incredible opportunity,” says Conservancy Director Brian Price. “Maximizing this match would really help us to near the finish line.”

“We can’t wait to be able to welcome the public onto this beautiful land with amazing views,” continues Price. “If we can finish with the fundraising this year, we would hope to open it up to visitors some time in 2013.” Read more about the grant here. To make a donation--which will be doubled by the grant--click on this link. Easy!

To date the entire project has cost just under $20,000. So far the Lake Leelanau Lake Association and its members have covered $11,125 of this cost and we are making additional installments as donations specifically earmarked by donors to this project are received. If you would like to contribute to the success of this effort please send your check to LLLA at P.O. Box 123 – Leland, MI 49654 and say, “donation to green the wall.”

Greening “The Wall” by David Hunter

The late summer sun and rains have brought some real progress to the attempt to establish a stand of environmentally friendly grasses to green up “The Wall”. Some hand-sown seed in July and then another hydro-seeding application in September supplemented the early summer plantings. Grass is now growing up between the rocks all over the wall and there is reason to hope that next spring that new grass will grow high enough to screen the rocks. A big thank-you to Barbara Wilson for providing the electricity to keep the pumps running!

Amazing View: North Lake Leelanau

Legacy Celebratory Hikers Head Back
Kids Fishing Day 2012
Another Success
by Pete Taylor

In spite of the threat of rain, Kids Fishing Day, held on June 24 this year was again a huge success. Over 500 kids and their families enjoy some fantastic fishing and were entertained by raptors from Wings of Wonder, learned some new fishing techniques from fly fishing expert D. J. Schmidt, and were thrilled by Jim Kacin’s popular display of native frogs, snakes, turtles, and other amphibians. All this, along with free hot dogs, pop, and chips, made for a great summer outing at beautiful Veronica Valley Park.

A big thanks to our sponsors and supporters:

Lake Leelanau Lake Association
Leelanau Enterprise
Michigan DNR
Leelanau County Parks and Recreation
Leelanau Conservation District
Camelot Construction
Cedar Rod and Gun Club
Hansen Foods
The Fish Hooked
Montrey’s Tents
Floor Covering Brokers
Mid State Security
Lake Leelanau Community Association
Grand Traverse Band
Grand Traverse Children’s Museum
Fountain Point Resort
Suttons Bay EMS
Cherryland Electric
PATH
Ice Cream Social A Hit!
by Sera Thompson

Ice Cream, chocolate sauce, sprinkles galore, cherry sauce, chopped peanuts, face painting, music, dancing: What more could you want on a beautiful sunny day on Leland’s Village Green during Sidewalk Sales? All of these, and enthusiastic volunteers, were the satisfying ingredients that comprised the recipe for a successful first-time LLLA ANNUAL Ice Cream Social.

The association offered this special afternoon treat as a thank-you for the support of all of its members, and of local businesses. There were a total of 122 cups of ice cream served to the public, and to members who received a “Thank you!” post card “ticket” in the mail.

Ice cream was not the only feature of the afternoon. Children eagerly lined up for their turn to have their faces transformed into a work of art by The Painted Lady of Traverse City, Lori Thompson. Lennie McNeil and Larry Hauser provided musical entertainment with Lennie’s guitar and vocals, accompanied by Larry on the harmonica. The music was contagious, with adults and children breaking into dance on the sidewalks of the Green.

There was an educational component, as well, with information provided by the DNR on environmentally safe soaps, septic systems, fish stocking, fish shelters, and shoreline protection and restoration. Heather Hettinger had provided extensive resources at the LLLA annual meeting in July, and her materials were shared at this event. Also available was information available from the Michigan State University Extension pertaining to the health of Lake Leelanau.

Mention must be made of Bret Crimmins and his wife Molly, owners of Hullabaloo of Leland, Leland Toy Company, and Blue Moon Ice Cream Shop in Cedar. Bret and Molly were more than gracious in making it easy for the volunteers to zip over to Hullabaloo to restock supplies for a reasonable price. Dave Monstrey of Monstrey, Inc., made the process of acquiring and setting up a tent for the event a breeze.

With the success of this first-time event, you can be assured it will be a feature of the Sidewalk Sales of Leland next year. We hope you will join us for a good time for the entire family!
www.lakeleelanau.org

I'd like to call back Summertime,
and have her stay for just another … month, or so …