



President Message

Happy New Lake Year to all our Arbutus Lake Members:

I would personally like to thank all of our incredibly talented board members for the almost herculean efforts and exceptional leadership they have shown in the past year of service to the stewardship of Arbutus Lake. And I also want to thank all the members who have shown up and have dug deep to help.

Our Conservation Committee has guided us well on our way to securing the Turtle Cove shoreline for the foreseeable future through our generous donors, who worked tirelessly with the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy. Our long-awaited website is up and running, more beautiful and informative than I could have ever imagined. Our Governmental Relations committee has worked tirelessly to follow up with East Bay Charter Township to make sure your voice is heard at meetings where plans might be enacted that set precedents which could lead to future water quality issues. Meanwhile water quality continues to be monitored regularly, invasive plant species continue to be treated, water level trends continue to be tracked, welcome packets go out to new owners that do an ever better job of educating new neighbors on what it takes to preserve the nature of Arbutus Lake, our newsletter improves with every issue as members submit old and new photos to share your experiences, the loon nest gets launched and brought in, plant sales are planned, the documents get produced and archived, the treasurer tracks dollars to keep us in the black, signs get repaired and

replaced, etc.etc.etc. If any of these projects or tasks are of special interest to any Riparian Owner or Friend of Arbutus Lake, I am sure your participation would be well received.

What a year! If you're old enough to remember the Bartles and Jaymes wine cooler commercials, then you'll appreciate this quote: "Thank You for Your Support". All of you!!!

As we head into the Holidays, please accept my wish that you are all blessed with a season of Peace, Happiness, Love and Abundance.

Sue Foster

Camp Hayo-Went-Ha News

By Amanda Macaluso

YMCA Camp Arbutus Hayo-Went-Ha holds the preservation and protection of the camp grounds and the wilderness trip destinations in a high priority. Every year campers and staff venture to State Parks and National Parks across the state of Michigan, southern Ontario and Alaska. These trips are challenging and rewarding but also allow the campers to experience the beauty of the great outdoors. Some of our wilderness trip destinations include The Boardman River, Sleeping Bear Dunes, AuSable River, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, Porcupine Mountains, Isle Royale National Park and Killarney Provincial Park in Canada. The oldest campers venture to Alaska and hike and kayak throughout the Haines area north of Juneau.

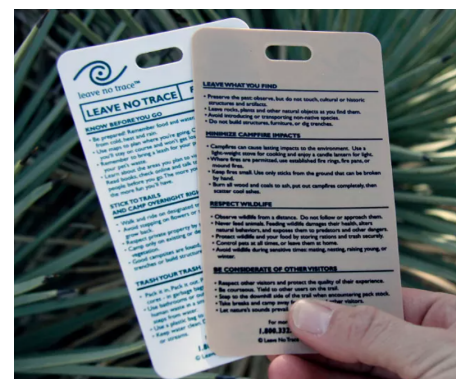
A major focus on our trip program is the understanding and implementation of the Leave No Trace principles. We simply must leave the environment in a better state than what we find it and teach the younger generation the importance of doing so. Before each cabin group ventures off canoeing, hiking or biking they complete a training session with the trip director outlining the 7 principles of Leave no Trace.

Leave No Trace Seven Principles

- Plan Ahead and Prepare. Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit. ...
- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces. ...
- Dispose of Waste Properly. ...
- Leave What You Find. ...
- Minimize Campfire Impacts. ...
- Respect Wildlife. ...
- Be Considerate of Other Visitors.

Each camper then received a card to display on their backpack or river bag for easy reference when out on the trail.

On site we also encourage recycling and proper disposal of waste and trash. We feel this is an important lesson in preserving the future and protecting the land we are experiencing. We all should be good stewards of the environment.





ALA Annual Potluck Was A Hit!

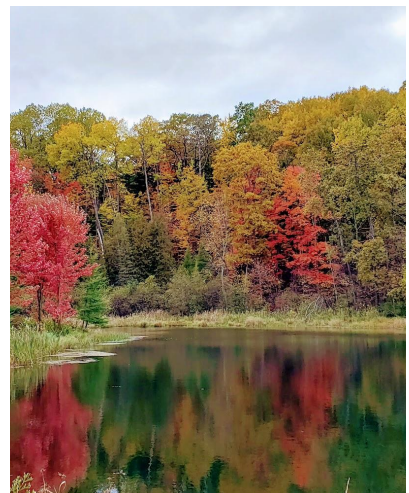
We would like to thank EVERYONE who attended this year's Breakfast Potluck. This was the largest group for the Potluck we have had in years. If you couldn't make it this year, here is your chance to put it on your calendar for next summer. The fun will be at **10am on Sunday August 13, 2023**. You just need to bring your own table service and a dish to pass, the board will provide Scrambled Eggs, French Toast, Pancakes coffee and juice. Please consider coming to the potluck and meeting your neighbors, it really is fun to get to know everyone and their history on the lake, or their history in the making.

We will have a brief meeting while you eat. We look forward to seeing you there!

2023 Arbutus Lake Association Meetings Schedule:

April 22 (9:00 am)
May 20 (9:00 AM)
June 17 – General Membership Meeting (10:00 AM)
July 15 (9:00 AM EST)
August 13 Breakfast Potluck (10:00 AM)
 At Camp Arbutus Hayo-Went-Ha
September 16 (9:00 AM)

All meeting times are Eastern Standard Time (EST) and held at East Bay Township Hall, unless otherwise noted.



Arbutus Lake Level Report - Fall 2021

The Arbutus Lake level is currently measuring 804.36 feet above sea level (ASL), which is a decrease of 7.92 inches since the first measurement of this year (April 14, 2022). This level is 3.12 inches lower than it was last year on this date. It is 10.32 inches lower than the highest level on record, 805.22' ASL (measured October 23, 2020). It is 29.16 inches higher than the lowest level on record, 801.93' ASL (measured September 18, 2011).

For additional information regarding the lake level, please feel free to contact Brandon Falenski by email at bfalenski@yahoo.com



Sunset Over Lake 5, September 3, 2022



Who remembers getting one of these when you bought your fishing license from the lake 1 Store?

2022 ALA Boat Wash (Invasive Species)

The event took place on Saturday August 20 from 8:00am-2:00pm. Emily Cook, Benzie County AISN coordinator and her two assistants set up in a perfectly unobtrusive location at the 4th lake boat launch to allow easy boat traffic flow to the lake and allowed those who wished to have their boat rinsed (max time 3-5 min depending on size of the watercraft). We had 12 "customers" as the weather prediction was for stormy weather and the traffic was light. Invasive species education was initiated by the volunteers and the ALA reps were able to distribute laminated Arbutus lake map/boating rules during that brief wash time. The vehicle passengers generally were upbeat and receptive to the topics discussed and gave kudos to our efforts to keep the lakes pristine. Small trinkets (key fobs/stickers) and literature were available from the AISN table nearby.



2022 ALA Fall Native Plant Sale

Our trial run worked well to determine if we can scale the effort to accommodate the ALA general membership. Working with Garrett Noyes owner at Birdsfoot Native Plant Nursery was a terrific experience as he is a well versed and highly knowledgeable local wholesale merchant of all plants native and specific to the Forest Lakes overlay. He has worked with the GTLC and other nonprofit orgs in the area to supply their Spring fundraising sales. We were able to run a Fall sale and frankly couldn't have been a better time to plant as the heat of the summer was waning and the water level at shoreline was receding and easier to plant. We offered 2 indigenous types of flats for Shoreline or Upland. Each flat plants a 4x10ft area. Now that we have done the trial run we are excited to bring this to the ALA general membership next year! Keep an eye out for more information in the Spring Newsletter and the ALA website. Arbutuslakeassociation.org

New Signage Around the Lake

You may have noticed two new signs out on our lake: One in lake 2 at the entrance of the tiny wetland cove on the north side and the other at the entrance to Turtle Cove. As a board one of our main missions is to preserve the quality of water in our lake. The signs were placed in an effort to inform visitors that these areas need special attention when boating here.

Wetlands in Michigan are vanishing with nearly 40 percent less today than in the early 1800s. Did you know that over 900 species call a wetland their home and some species live their entire lives in them? Research tells us how vital the wetland areas are to the preservation of our lakes with Turtle Cove essentially being the “heart” of Arbutus Lake. The plants in these areas protect our soils and water by acting as a natural filter for runoff and keep the nitrogen and phosphorus in balance. Loss of wetland plants like grasses, reeds, and lily pads cause warmer water and can result in toxic algae blooms, degradation of water clarity, and overgrowth of unwanted invasive species. Turtle Cove’s mucky bottom is one of these wetland filters as are the plants in the tiny lake 2 cove.



Please be a good steward of our waters. Look for the signs and navigate your boat at a slow-no wake speed in the fragile and shallow areas of our lake. Avoid motoring through the wetland lily pads and reeds and stirring up the bottomlands. We can all help protect these disappearing oases and the quality of our lake for years to come.



Check Out Arbutus Lake Association Website!

A big thank you to Nancy McCullick for putting together our new website. This has been in the works for a number of years and she stepped up and got it done for us and it is beautiful! Check it out Arbutuslakeassociation.org



REMINDER! Have you paid your dues?

Your Annual Dues of - \$50 for Riparian Owners
\$10 for Friends and Family of the Lake

Due August 31, 2022.

Dues are payable to:

Arbutus Lake Association, Inc,
PO Box 404
Mayfield, MI 49666



News Worthy!

Some interesting information from the DNR regarding wake boats. This is from the DNR, emailed to various Lake Associations. If you have any concerns you may contact the DNR, information is at the end of the information.

DNR Releases Wake Boat Concerns and Recommendation Report

Message from Joe Nohner, Ph.D. Inland Lakes Habitat Analyst & Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership Coordinator, Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Today DNR Fisheries Division is releasing Fisheries Report 37, "Wake boats: concerns and recommendations related to natural resource management in Michigan waters." With 3,300 miles of Great Lakes shoreline and more than 10,000 inland lakes, Michigan welcomes millions of boaters, anglers and other water-based recreationists every year. Wake boating, and towing surfers or wakeboarders behind wake boats, is an increasingly popular activity. These boats use ballast and other technologies to generate significantly larger wakes for wakeboarders to jump. Over time, though, these types of boats can potentially harm the environment.

New research compiled in the **report shows that operation of wake boats can potentially threaten lake health**. Several recent studies show that wake boats can produce waves of 1.7 to 17

times the energy of those created by other comparably sized power boats, and these generated waves take much longer to decrease in size, too – between 225 feet to 900 feet from the boat. These larger waves can damage property and cause shoreline erosion, decrease water clarity and plant abundance, and add excess nutrients that contribute to poor water quality.

Another design feature on wake boats directs water from the boat's propeller toward the lake bottom. This water can generate turbulence that can kick up bottom sediments at much greater depths, which decreases water clarity and quality. Additionally, the water ballast systems in wake boats are easy places for aquatic invasive species, such as zebra mussels, to catch a ride and spread to other locations.

We know that wake boat operators want to enjoy time spent on clean, healthy lakes, just like everyone else who visits Michigan's waters. We've learned a lot in the last few years about the detrimental effects these boats can have on the environment, and these guidelines can help wake boaters do their part to protect our lakes.

To protect the health of Michigan's waters, and the fish and plant life that rely on them, through this report DNR Fisheries recommends that wake boaters should remember these three simple steps:

- **When wakesurfing or wakeboarding, during which boat speed, wave shapers and/or ballast are used to increase wave height, operate at least 500 feet from docks or the shoreline, regardless of water depth.**
- **When wakesurfing or wakeboarding, never operate in water less than 15 feet deep.**
- **Completely drain ballast tanks before transporting a watercraft over land.**

We will also be reaching out to the boating and lakes communities to discuss potential outreach and education approaches that can encourage these voluntary best practices.

We want to emphasize that responsible boating and fun on the water aren't mutually exclusive. We aren't trying to stop people from having fun on the water with family and friends; it's actually the opposite. By voluntarily following this guidance, wake boaters can help protect lake health and ensure these waters are here and healthy for everyone to enjoy.

If you have questions you are welcome to contact Joe Nohner (517-599-6825, nohnerj@michigan.gov) and/or Jim Francis (517-242-3593, FRANCISJ@michigan.gov).

Thank You for your Photos!

I would like to thank Cyndi Swift; Allyson Tinker; Tim Cook; Brandon Falenski; Emily Derylo; Ted Lacey; and Amanda Macaluso for sending me the beautiful Photos to use in this Newsletter. If you have a beautiful Photo of the lake that or nature that you would like to share in the Newsletter please email them to:

jodiderylo.ala@gmail.com



ARBUTUS LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC.
General Membership Meeting Minutes
August 14,, 2022 – Camp Hayo Wenta

-Meeting Called to Order at 10:39 AM by President Sue Foster, after food was served. Board Members Present: (President) Sue Foster, (Vice President) Keith Day, (Treasurer) Randy Bancino, Jodi Derylo, Brandon Falenski, Edie Gibbs, Harry Knol, Nancy McCullick, Kathi Mudd, Cindy Swift, Allyson Tinker. Excused: Mike Bobrowski, Brandon Falenski, Caitlin Falenski (Secretary)

-Introductions: Sue asked all Board members to stand, then attendees at each table gave their names and lake numbers.

-Meeting Agenda: It was moved by Casey Cowell and seconded by Keith Day that we adopt an abbreviated agenda for this meeting and approve Minutes and Treasurer's Reports for July and August at the September meeting. A copy of the July Minutes and Treasurer's Report were on each table for review by members. Motion carried.

-OLD BUSINESS: The floor was opened to questions and concerns about our regular committee report topics.

-Newsletter: Jodi announced newsletters are now sent by email and are available on the website (www.arbutuslakeassociation.org) She also asked the membership to please send lake pictures to include in the next newsletter!

-Website: Nancy is updating the website regularly. Please check it out! The board and members thank Nancy for giving of her time and effort to get us such a great online presence.

-Invasive Species Status: Jodi reported for Mike that there will not be a Fall treatment for Phragmites, as there is not much growth. Spring treatment of Milfoil was successful.

-Water Quality Status: Edie reported that water quality testing has been performed according to schedule so far this season, and that the Water Quality is GREAT!

-Water Level: Harry Knol reported that although there were three events of more than 1" rainfall recently, the water level is 5.4" lower than the same time last year, and 10.7" lower than the high in 2020, but still significantly higher than the lowest levels in the past.

-Loon Nesting Status: Jodi reported that the Loons didn't sit on our nest this year, no babies. Hoping for next year!

-Welcome Packets: Kathi requested that if you have new neighbors, let us know! We will greet them and provide lake information.

-Archives Status: Keith noted we are a registered non-profit with a requirement to keep pertinent records, therefore if you have any historical or legal documents please share a copy!

-New Signs: Nancy reported that new signs are ready for Turtle Cove and Lake 2 Cove, the boat launch sign is in progress.

-Government Relations Committee: Governmental Relations Committee (Brandon): No report.

-Proposed Native Plant Sale: Allyson spoke to a possible planting of native species to help prevent invasive species from spreading, and restoring the natural shoreline affected by high water. Flats could be purchased at a bulk sale rate, then sold to members next fall. Contact Allyson if interested.

-Conservation Committee Update: Scott Tinker gave a progress report on the Turtle Cove Project with the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy. We will know on or about September 1st whether or not the Conservancy will officially commit to the project. Special thanks to the Cowells, and all donors.

-New Business

Questions, Concerns or New Topics from the Membership: Nancy reported recent bear sightings around the lakes, shared the DNR suggestions to make noise so that it won't get used to people, and take bird feeders in at night.

-Election Results: Randy recorded the vote count. All incumbents will continue. Your Officers and Board Members for 2022 - 2023 Are: Officers: President-Sue Foster. Vice President-Keith Day. Treasurer-Randy Bancino. Secretary-(to be appointed). Board Members: Newly Re-elected: Nancy McCullick, Cyndy Swift, and Allyson Tinker. Past-President Mike Bobrowski.

-Other New Business: No further new business was brought before the members.

-Adjournment: It was moved by Jodi, and seconded by Nancy, to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:56 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Swift, Acting Secretary

ARBUTUS LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC.
General Membership Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2022 – East Bay Township

Board Members: (President) Sue Foster, (Vice President) Keith Day, (Treasurer) Randy Bancino, (Secretary), (Past-President) Mike Bobrowski, Jodi Derylo, Brandon Falenski, Edie Gibbs, Harry Knol, Nancy McCullick, Kathi Mudd, Cindy Swift, Allyson Tinker

- Meeting called to order by President Sue Foster at 9:02 AM (East Bay Township Hall)
- Roll call of Board members: Mike Bobrowski, excused; all others attended in-person or by phone, including Teresa Cook, Secretary nominee.
- Approval of the Current Agenda: Moved by Keith, seconded by Nancy; motion carried. Note: Casey Cowell asked if the potential campground expansion in Northport might be added to the agenda or a subcommittee; it was assigned to the Governmental Relations committee.
- Review and approval of July 16, and August 14, 2022 meeting minutes: moved by Randy to approve minutes from both meetings, seconded by Keith; motion carried.
- Treasurer's report review and approval For July 16, and August 14, 2022: (Prior to the meeting, financial reports were emailed to the Board). Randy noted a slight increase trend over the past three years, a combination of one-time expenses and some higher expenses. He suggested that, in spring, the Board might consider if this signals a need to increase dues. Randy raised the topic of exploring the option of finding a volunteer or hiring a CPA in the future to conduct our required audits. After a brief discussion, this was tabled and moved to a Spring Board Meeting agenda.
- Appointment of New Secretary: Teresa Cook is a long-time summer resident who will be spending more time at the lake and has prior experience. She is willing to serve as the Board Secretary. This is a non-voting, appointed position as an officer of the Board, however she can vote at general meetings as a member. Allyson moved to accept, Nancy seconded; motion carried.

Old Business

- Newsletter (Jodi): Send information for the newsletter to Jodi by 10/1. She aims to send the newsletter out the first full week of October. Reports, pictures, or "extras" would be great! Sue noted that the DNR recently published guidelines on potential wakeboard restrictions; Brandon read the three main DNR points of information. Discussion concluded with a plan to share information and a link to the article; but is not taking a position at this time.
- Website New Uses, e-Commerce (Nancy): No updates. This can be tabled until spring.
- Invasive Species Status (Mike): No report. Allyson indicated that the phragmites at the boat launch were identified as native, not invasive, by the boat washing leaders.
- Water Quality and Testing (Edie Gibbs): Done! Dick Mikula recommends that the dissolved oxygen test only needs to be done every four years. Three other tests are done annually, and if any is elevated, then we will rent the meter and test the dissolved oxygen level sooner. Also, Edie's niece may be able to do the Score the Shore (drone mapping) as a university project.
- Water Level Report (Brandon): Current level is 804.3". This is 4.68" under last year, 11" below the maximum, and 28" above the minimum.
- Loon Nesting Status (Jodi): Status quo. The nesting platform is stored at Endicotts, ready to go.
- Welcome Packets Information (Kathi): One recent delivery was made.
- New Sign for Boat Launch (Brandon): The QR code will be added to the existing sign.
- Archives (Keith): (Prior to the meeting, an email was sent to Board members with guideline recommendations). Keith explained that the basic need is to maintain the documents necessary to protect the tax-free status of the organization. Board members should review the email, and send comments to Keith by the end of next week (10/24). An email poll of the Board will follow.
- Governmental Relations Committee (Brandon): The Lake 5 park improvements are behind schedule, additional funds are requested, reason unclear (Parks Commission report). On Spider Lake, a setback violation was approved for a home expansion. The Board of Trustees had a presentation on zoning. Thanks to all for the Lakes Association letter of support - powerful! Representation matters. As Casey's earlier comment indicated, proposed expansions are happening all around us, and it could happen here. The Cowells will send links to Jodi for newsletter inclusion.

- Conservation Committee Update Turtle Cove... What's Next (Nancy): Kate Pearson said it's a go! They have now raised \$1.8 million. Casey added that the GTRLC is very confident, with very professional, dedicated people.
- Boat Wash Demonstration Outcome (Allyson): (An email with pictures and notes was sent to Board members prior to the meeting). Allyson asked that dates for a 2023 boat wash and plant sale be determined; Sue said that would be an April agenda item.
- Plant Sale Report (Allyson): Profits from the plant sale may be available for some Score the Shore drone project expenses.
- Dues Increase (Tabled from previous meeting): Randy explained that what we have historically done costs more, and bigger expenses vary from year to year, but there is always something. There will be an article for the first newsletter in 2023 as notice of a vote in June, at the General Meeting, to raise the dues that will be due in August. A motion to increase the annual dues to \$75 was moved by Kathy, seconded by Edie; motion carried.

New Business

- Correspondence with Lakes Community? Brandon explained that the recent letter was from the ALA Board, not the general membership. Other groups want us to use our email lists to share information with all members. Guidance? Extensive discussion highlighted these points of consensus: never give lists out, share facts only (NOT positions), post as a newsletter item if not time sensitive.
- Meeting with Realtor about Information Prior to Sale: Sue will be meeting with Matt Dakoske to explore what can be done to provide information to buyers ahead of sales.
- Any Other New Business ?? None.

2023 Proposed Meeting Calendar:

- April 22nd, 9:00 AM, EBT Hall
- May 20th, 9:00 AM, EBT Hall
- June 17th, 10:00 AM, EBT Hall (General Meeting)
- July 15th, 9:00 AM, EBT Hall
- August Potluck and General Meeting Day and Venue Jodi arranged for the Potluck: August 13, 10:00 am, at the Y Camp, confirmed.
- September 16, 9:00 AM, EBT Hall

With no further business to come before the board, it was moved by Edie, and seconded by Keith that the meeting be adjourned at 11:15 am

Respectfully submitted.
Cynthia Swift, Acting Secretary



Arbutus Lake Association
TREASURER'S REPORT
June 30, 2022

Balance September 1, 2021		\$ 10,144.29
Income		
Dues/Contributions Current Year	\$ 6,240.00	
Interest	-	\$ 6,240.00
Expenses		
Milfoil Treatment	3,269.00	
Mailing Ballots	-	
Newsletter Production/Mailing	172.02	
Office Supplies	-	
Web Hosting	247.60	
Water Quality Testing	497.00	
Admin - PO Box	62.00	
Misc.	102.38	
Meeting Expenses	-	
Insurance	-	
Signage	103.33	
Bank Charge	-	
Refunds	-	
Michigan Annual Report Filing	-	\$ 4,453.33
Balance June 30, 2022		\$ 11,930.96
General Bank Account 6/30/22		\$ 11,930.96
Check's not yet cleared (none)		\$ -
TOTAL AVAILABLE CASH		\$ 11,930.96

Notes:

The fiscal year is September 1st through August 31st.
Dues are \$50 for members and \$10 for friends.

Memberships Statistics

Members Paid For Fiscal 2022	94
Members Paid For Fiscal 2021	15
Friends Paid For Fiscal 2022	4

***Arbutus Lake Association is a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation.
Dues and donations are tax deductible.
ALA's fiscal year runs from September 1st through August 31st.***

Submitted by: Randy Bancino