



President's Letter

Hello All ALA Members:

As we welcome Autumn, and the beautiful colors of the trees that surround the water around Arbutus Lake, it comes to mind that the protection of our water quality, our wildlife and our fishery is largely governed by what happens in the soil/water interface. Maintaining the natural character of this soil/water interface is what gives Arbutus Lake its personality.

Every body of water has its own personality. Some lakes are ideal for speed boating, parasailing, diving or other watersports, while other lakes welcome kayakers, paddleboarders, canoeists, and rowboat fishing. Arbutus Lake offers a bit of the former, and a lot of the latter, due to its narrow channels, its shallows, its estuarial coves and also some good deep fishing holes.

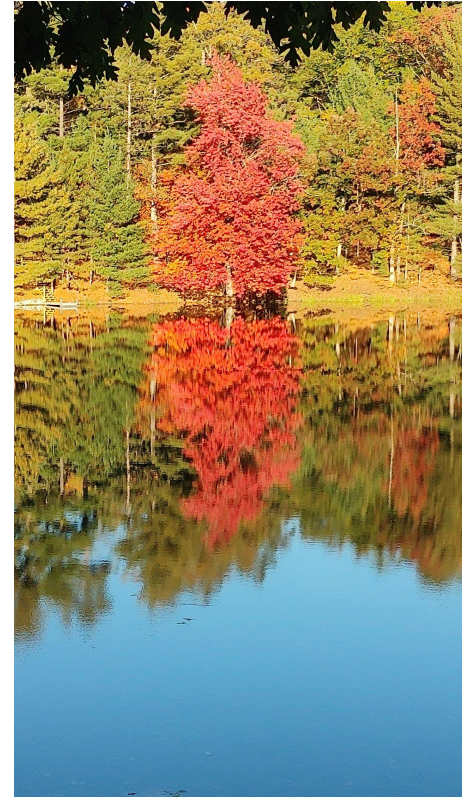
We've read articles about kids growing up in urban cities who rarely ever see a tree, much less ever climb one. So when a big city dweller moves onto a lake like ours, it should not surprise us that they don't immediately recognize the value of the exchanges that need to take place in the soil/water interface. It takes an understanding of this miraculous interdependence between water, soil, trees, waterfowl, turtles, fish, wildlife etc. that the health of this soil/water interface supports.

I am grateful to all ALA members who have made it a point to reach out to new buyers on Arbutus Lake, taken steps to welcome them to their new community, helped them

understand the special “personality” of Arbutus Lake as well as what it will take to keep that interface between the land and the water healthy, so that their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren will still have a clear, clean and enjoyable getaway from the hustle and bustle of city life well into the future. Looking forward to continuing the good work of the ALA in the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

With that said, the boating season will soon close, and I wish all of you a colorful Autumn, and a Holiday Season filled with joy and love.

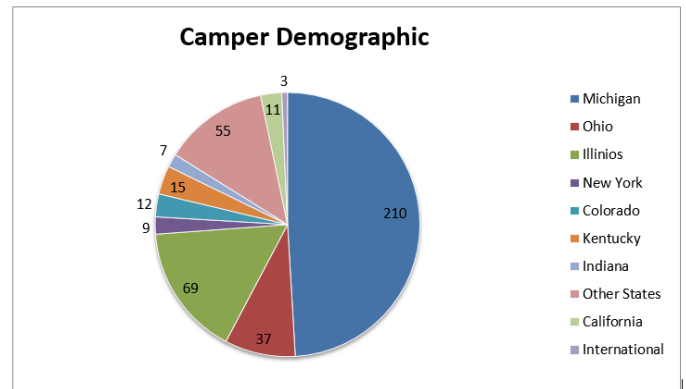
Sincerely,
Sue Foster



Camp Hayo-Went-Ha News

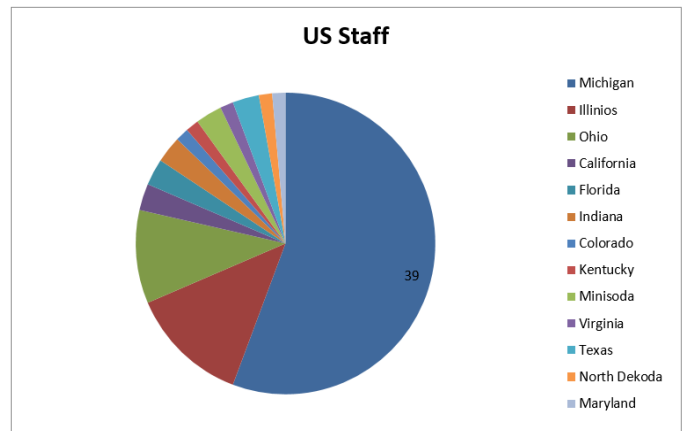
Where do all our participants come from?

Every year we see campers join us here at YMCA Camp Arbutus Hayo-Went-Ha from around the country and around the world. It creates a very unique and diverse community. This summer we had 426 campers from across the United States. They ventured from 29 states and 2 countries to join us here in beautiful Northern Michigan.

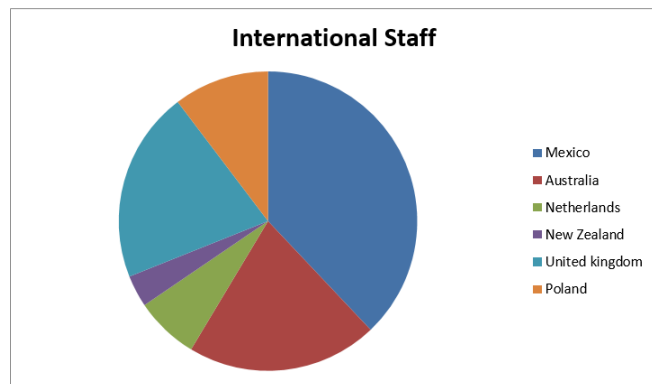


What about the staff?

We hire staff through organizations like Camp America and this year we had 98 staff from 13 states represented and 6 countries.



We have had international staff working at Camp since 1969 when the concept was started and Mac was one of the first Camp Directors to participate. It has been a great tradition and I feel a wonderful way to bring the world to our campers!



ALA Annual August Potluck!

By Jodi Derylo

I want to thank everyone that came to this year's August Breakfast Potluck. We had a total of 71 people at our breakfast this year, that makes this the largest group we have ever had at one of our Potlucks. I need to make sure that I thank people who were a large part of making this happen. Larry and Kathi Mudd for helping me in the kitchen preparing the Eggs, French Toast and



Pancakes. Harry Knol for all the help setting up and making sure we were ready for everyone to come through the doors. Georgine and Tom Grapes for graciously providing all the juices and drinks for the morning once again this year. The ALA board members that arranged our speaker, and helped in the planning and cleanup of this event. A special thank you goes out to Amanda Macaluso and the YMCA Camp for once again letting us use their facility and being so accommodating in letting us be there the day after camp gets out!



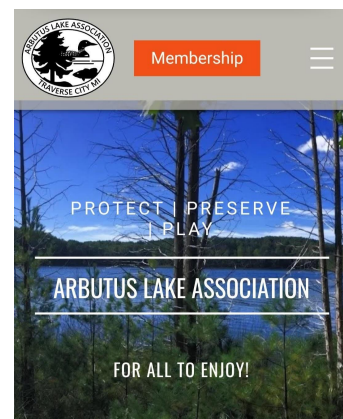
Next year's Breakfast Potluck already has a date on the Calendar. It will be on **August 11, 2024**. Please mark your calendars, if you have kids, family or company bring them along we always have plenty of food and it really is special to meet your neighbors on the lake.



Most Valuable Player Award for helping complete the Turtle Cove Project went to Casey and Dana Cowell

**If you haven't visited the Website lately
Check it out!**

Arbutuslakeassociation.org



Loon Report

By David Endicott and Linda Gruber

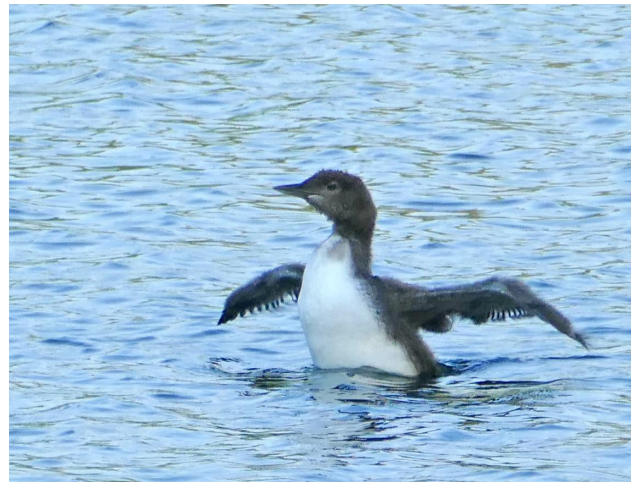
There have been many loon happenings since the last report that appeared in the July newsletter. To everyone's joy, 2 chicks were hatched on July 5 and 6. Unfortunately, one of the chicks succumbed early on, probably to a predator. However, the surviving chick thrived, with many happy sightings of the baby and its parents over the next several weeks.

Riparian owners have been able to watch the baby's feather coloring mature while growing to adult size and energetically diving and catching its own fish.

We believe one of the adults migrated sometime in mid-September, as more recent sightings have been of only one parent and the baby. The last known sighting of the remaining adult and chick was on September 28. The baby would have been about 12 weeks old at that time and most likely have matured enough to be able to migrate successfully. We assume (and hope) that the remaining adult and baby have migrated (leaving separately) to warmer waters in the Gulf of Mexico or the southern shore of the Atlantic.

The adults will hopefully return to Arbutus early in the spring, looking for a nest to claim in which to lay eggs. In order to attract them, David and Brandon will be installing the loon nest and buoys in the same general location as this year as soon as ice-off. A third buoy has been purchased and will be placed where kayakers and people on SUP's coming from Lake 5 Park will be able to see it before approaching the nest area. The baby will hopefully return to Arbutus or nearby lakes in 2-4 years, find a mate, and establish a nesting territory in 4-7 years.





FYI...

Thank you! - We would like to send out a huge thank you to Jared and Jenny Knol, Lake 3. They graciously donated a pontoon boat to the ALA to use as our treatment barge. The difference with this pontoon compared to the old one is the size of the pontoons. Having the larger pontoon keeps us above water as we load the hoppers, chemicals and people on the boat in the spring. We deeply appreciate this gift. It will make treating invasive species so much easier on the crew.

Hello Neighbors! - At YMCA Camp Arbutus Hayo-Went-Ha, we have regular deliveries of wood chips from an area tree service company. We use them along pathways and around program areas. We currently have plenty to spare, so I wanted to see if anyone would like some free wood chips. All you will need to do is come and pick them up.

We also have plenty of wood from downed trees for indoor or outdoor fires. If you are interested, please call Amanda at **(231) 883-5076** to arrange a pick-up time.

A Quick Reminder - We would just like to remind all ALA members that there are State of Michigan ordinances on the books that prevent blowing leaves into the lake waters. One complaint filed with EGLE (Formerly the Department of Environmental Quality) can cost you a citation and fine, particularly if backed by photographic evidence. There is a citation and fine on record from a couple of years ago, including a cease and desist order on an Arbutus Lake Resident. If you see a neighbor blowing or dumping their leaves into the lake, please gently educate them on the possible consequences.

Lake 5 Park Construction Update - After a slow start this summer work has been progressing on the Arbutus Lake 5 Park. The Fishing Pier is almost completed, the rock along the shoreline (to stabilize the shore) is in place. Additionally, the bathroom structure is up with rough plumbing and electrical and a new bridge across the creek is in place. The work is scheduled to be completed by the end of November which includes a kayak launch, new parking lot with two additional spaces and other improvements. This is a well used and loved park, and it will be a wonderful enhancement to those who use the Park and Lake.



Arbutus Lake Level Report

by Brandon Falenski

On September 24, 2023, the Arbutus Lake level measured 804.66 feet above sea level (ASL), which is a decrease of only 4.08 inches since the first measurement of this year (April 11, 2023). This level is 5.04 inches higher than it was last year on this date. It is only 6.72 inches lower than the highest level on recent record, 805.22' ASL (measured October 23, 2020). It is 32.76 inches higher than the lowest level on record, 801.93' ASL (measured September 18, 2011).

If you visit our Website at Arbutuslakeassociation.org you will find a running tally of the lake level (at the bottom of the Association page) as it is measured each month.

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



Northern Lights Over Lake Michigan, September 18, 2023

2023 Arbutus Lake Association Meetings Schedule:

April 27 (9:00 am)

May 18 (9:00 am)

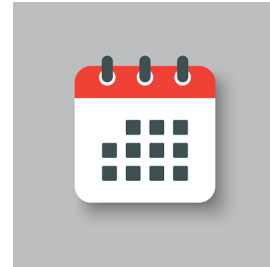
June 15 – **General Membership Meeting** (10:00 AM)

July 20 (9:00 am)

August 11 Breakfast Potluck (10:00 AM)

At Camp Arbutus Hayo-Went-Ha

September 21 (9:00 am)



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



General Membership Meeting Minutes

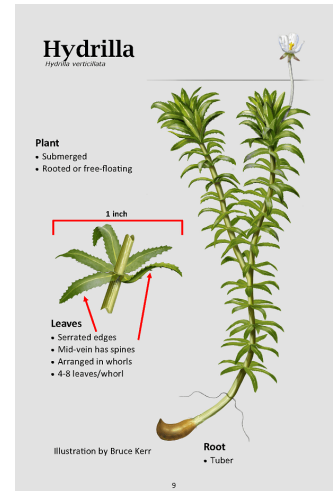
Can be found on our Website at the bottom of Our Association
page

Arbutuslakeassociation.org

Milfoil Treatment

by Harry Knol

As of this writing the Lake Association is in process of renewing our three year permit to apply treatment for the Eurasian Milfoil. Some of you newer folks to the lake may receive a request to submit permission to treat in front of your property as the last round was completed three years ago. When the association submits a report to the State, we are required to have on hand written permission to treat the waters in front of your property. If we do not reach out to you the form is available on the Association Website (on the bottom of the Association page) at: <https://www.arbutuslakeassociation.org>. The association has worked hard to control the spread of Eurasian Milfoil and Phragmites and we trust you see positive results. If you are interested, here is a link to the state website on invasive species including information on a new threat showing up in Michigan (not Arbutus Lake) which is Hydrilla: <https://www.michigan.gov/invasives>



REMINDER! Have you paid your dues?

Your Annual Dues of - \$50 for Riparian Owners

Any and All donations are welcome to help keep our lake beautiful!

Due August 31, 2023.

Dues are payable to:

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



QR Code Spotted!

If you happen to be at the Boat Launch this Fall pulling your boat for the winter checkout the QR Code we have placed on the information board. This will bring any visitors coming to our lake to our ALA Website. On the Website they can access a map of the lake with the hours of high speed boating, directional arrows to help them go the “correct” direction around the lake and so much more. This is another layer of information to help make everyone's day on the lake safe and enjoyable!







Looking from Lake 1 through the channel to Lake 2

Thank You for your Photos!

I would like to thank Tim Cook; Cyndi Swift; Lee McAllister; Harry Knol; Brandon Falenski; David Enicott, and Linda Gruber for sending me the Beautiful Photos that I have used in this issue of the Newsletter. If you have a beautiful photo of the lake or nature that you would like to share in the Newsletter please email them to:

jodiderylo.ala@gmail.com

