

# BARLOW LAKE



Michigan

*Where proper attire is required*



NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2020

## Unusual Times, Unusual Start to Another Summer on Barlow Lake.

Not sure how I ever adopted having an opening statement on the newsletters and not sure if any words ever written resonate. But I will attempt to address the current world as we know it now and learn to embrace the changes we face as we look forward to a "summer" on Barlow.

This year truly presents all of us with many new challenges and changes in our lives. For those of us a bit older, perhaps the current conditions aren't near as concerning considering the many similar challenges faced in our pasts.

But I sit back and think of all those entering the next chapter of their lives and neglected of the "normal" right of passage. The seniors graduating high school, the senior athletes hoping to compete that one last time, the senior athletes hoping to make that final statement for a scholarship to continue their dreams, prom missed, commencements earned and open houses to see their friends one last time as they move on the next part of their young lives.

Truly a challenging time.

But it doesn't mean we all can't still join in and help give them the honor they deserve.

Barlow can still provide so many senior memories and I think we should think of our graduating class, the athletes not able to finish all those years of hard work and help them enjoy and be "normal" one last time as they move on.

If you have a graduating senior - lets recognize them this summer and let's help them have a memorable summer to overshadow what has been taken from them. These young adults deserve that.

**Encourage this:**  
*"perseverance is stubbornness with a purpose".*

*Luke*

## ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President  
Luke Miller

Vice President  
Mike Cunningham

Secretary  
Barb Cunningham

Treasurer  
Don Visser

## AREA CAPTAINS

Area 1  
Jim and Mary Lou Johnson  
Luke Miller

Area 2  
Greg Oatley

Area 3  
Ron Dressander  
Terri & Todd Ritter

Area 4  
Bob & Wanda Hunt  
Mike & Marilyn Wagner

Area 5  
Terri Duff  
Fred Ainsworth  
Dan Holtrop  
Deb Offringa

Area 6  
Sue O'Brien

Area captains are representatives for their area along with helping to pass out annual newsletters.

*Covid-19 situation could impact our planned activities and that we will let people know of any changes as soon as possible.*

**Join Us!**

**Association  
Spring Meeting  
Saturday, June 6  
9:00am**

*Remember Social Distancing and Masks*  
Yankee Springs Township Hall  
284 N Briggs Rd

**4<sup>th</sup>  
of  
July**

**Fireworks  
Saturday, July 4  
10:15pm**



**Boat  
Parade**

**Saturday, July 4  
2:00pm Start**

*Turtle Bay  
THEME:  
Disney and/or  
Super Hero's  
and/or Patriotic*

**Tentative**



**LAKE ASSOCIATION PICNIC**

**Saturday, August 1  
4:00pm - 7:00pm**

*~ NEW (tentative) ~*

**Grand City Skiers Ski Show  
3:00 PM YMCA waterfront!**

*Food served at 6:00pm  
Activities include climbing wall, archery & more!*

*Hosted by YMCA Camp and open to all  
Barlow Lake Residents and family members!*

**Association  
Summer Meeting  
Saturday, August 15  
9:00am**

*Join us for Coffee and Donuts*  
Yankee Springs Township Hall  
284 N Briggs Rd

*Check our website @ [barlowlakemi.com](http://barlowlakemi.com)  
for additional information and updates!*

4<sup>th</sup>  
of  
July



2020 BARLOW LAKE

# Boat Parade

**SATURDAY, JULY 4 • 2:00 PM START • TURTLE BAY**

**THEME: PATRIOTIC-SUPER HEROES-DISNEY**

## Decorate your Boat and Let's Have Fun!

Please plan to be ready at the Turtle Bay shortly before 2:00pm so we may begin on time and distribute goodie bags.

Goodie bags will be provided to each boat for the children in attendance. Please contact either **Paula Bruinsslot** at [rbruinsslot2@charter.net](mailto:rbruinsslot2@charter.net), by phone at **269-795-8766** or **Terri Woodward** via email at [terri@watermarkeb.com](mailto:terri@watermarkeb.com) with an approximate number of children participating (*goodie bags fitting for age of 12ish and under*).

By responding to either of us by July 3, we can better plan the approximate number of children joining in the fun. We will have more than enough goodie bags filled for those unexpected guests that arrive.

***Should you decide to participate at the last minute - or forget to call - PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE join in. We will have enough goodie bags!***

And a request, please do not throw water balloons. We know it is fun, but it does pollute the water and causes debris to be left in the water. Thanks for understanding.

***Any questions, please reach out to Paula Bruinsslot or Terri Woodward at the contact info above.***

***Looking forward to a fabulous boat parade, warm and sunny day, good times with family and friends and a very safe holiday week.***



**PENDING**

# Ski Show



At last Augusts Lake Association Meeting we discussed looking into having a ski show on the lake associated with the YMCA/Lake Association Picnic. Joan Lutke contacted Grand City Show Skiers and they proposed a ski show that looks promising. We have put down a deposit for a ski show to be held 1 hour (show will start at 3PM) before the August 1, Association/YMCA camp picnic. We plan to formally approve this event at the June 6 meeting. The cost of the show is about \$1,500. If the show happens, we will consider whether or not to continue it in future years at the August 15th meeting.

Please attend the June meeting or contact the association to express your thoughts on whether or not we should try this show. Visit <http://grandcityskiers.org/> for more information.

## Be Courteous Please!



**1** **Water levels are very high** and we should all be as respectful/mindful of the additional shoreline and other damage that occurs from boat wakes when the water is high.



**2** **Be respectful of property owners adjacent to boat launches** by being as quick and as quiet etc. as possible when launching boats. Consider how many launchings they are exposed to each year.

# BARLOW LAKE

## 2019 Fishing Contest Final Results

Contest Runs  
Memorial Day  
through Labor Day

Species	Size	Name	Date
Largemouth Bass	20¼"	Mitchell Horgan	7/31/2019
Sunfish	9½"	Hunter Pitsch	6/3/2019
Crappie	13"	Jared Oatley	7/14/2019
Perch	9"	Hunter Pitsch	5/27/2019
Smallmouth Bass	20 ¾"	River Smith	7/7/2019
Gar Pike	None		
Rock Bass	9"	Hunter Pitsch	
Bullhead	14"	Kristi Lynch	9/1/2019
Walleye	24"	Mitchell Horgan	7/18/2019
Northern Pike	34"	Mike Roon	6/16/2019



Please send your catch information to Jordan Huizinga at [jordanh@vanmanen.com](mailto:jordanh@vanmanen.com) or 616-915-3672  
**REMEMBER TO SEND JORDAN YOUR PICTURES!**

Your catch information should include length (measured with mouth closed & with a tape measure), species, date caught & fisherman's name (with lake address & relationship to lake resident). Please send a picture as well if possible!

**Rules change:** For 2019 all bluegills & Sunfish will be combined into one category named Sunfish due to hybridization & all of them starting to look alike.



### Lake Water Testing

We have worked with the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP) for a number of years to sample and test the quality of Barlow Lake water. The 2019 Barlow Lake Water Report can be found on the lake association website. The 2019 report continued to show the lake is in good health.

State budget missteps resulted in no funding for the CLMP for 2020 so we will only be doing water clarity testing (Secchi Disc) in 2020. We have been told that there will be funding for all testing again in 2021

# Minutes of the August 17, 2019 Barlow Lake Association Meeting

The August 2019 Barlow Lake Association meeting was called to order by Luke Miller with 20 homeowners and 4 officers present.

Current Officers were introduced. The meeting protocol was explained by Mike. During the meetings, members are involved in discussion and are frequently surveyed for their thoughts and opinions so that the board can be better informed. These surveys, which are often in a vote form, are informal. The Board alone is responsible for making the decisions on matters.

Area Captains, event coordinators and volunteers present were recognized and thanked for their service.

## Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the June 1, 2019 Lake Association meeting were provided to those in attendance.

## Treasurer's Report

Don Visser gave the Financial Report noting that to date, income is a bit ahead of last year and our expenses are a tiny bit less than last year. Many thanks to the homeowners who donate above the base \$40 membership. Their generosity is very much appreciated.

## Fireworks

Friday, July 3rd is the tentative date for the 2020 fireworks. \$7500 is the budgeted amount. Comments regarding last July's fireworks show and the start time were both favorable.

## Boat Parade

Paula Bruinsslot reported that 29 boats and 119 kids participated in the parade this year. Also, after the parade, extra candy was delivered to children who were on the docks watching the parade. This year's theme was Patriotic and Super Heroes. The parade and participation numbers are growing thanks to the efforts of Paula and her helpers. Next year's parade date is Saturday, July 4th at 2PM.

## YMCA/Association 2019 Picnic

The picnic was held on August 3rd from 4 to 7 PM, with food at 6 PM. 140 people (79 adults and 61 kids) attended and had a great time and enjoyed the beautiful weather and fun activities. Thanks to the Y Camp Manitou-Lin who make this fun day possible. As in past years, a donation from the Lake Association will be given to the Y Camp in appreciation. It was noted that children wishing to climb the rock wall or ride the zip line must not wear sandals. Providing additional activities and having a crossing guard on Briggs Road

were discussed. It was noted that the Y Camp is the oldest resident on the lake, having been on Barlow Lake for 106 years.

## Fish Program

Jordan Huizinga reported there is an increase in participation in the fishing contest. The fishing contest continues until the end of Labor Day weekend. Jordan asked to be able to increase the trophy size and this was agreed upon. Jordan reported that the paperwork is in order and planting Walleye will occur this fall. As there were no entries in last year's ice fishing contest it was decided to discontinue the contest.

## Newsletter

Articles and pictures are always needed and Karen Hale encouraged homeowners to provide them. The area captains were thanked for their help in distributing the newsletters. This is a large job made much easier by the help of the area captains.

## Weed Control/Milfoil Update

The treatment area for Eurasian Milfoil has decreased from 17 acres at the start of the program to now 5 acres. Starry Stonewort is an additional problem and the weed control program is treating for this also. The public hearing for continued funding for the weed control program for the next 5 years will take place on Tuesday, September 12th.

## Old Business

Copies of the Boater Safety Poster are still available if anyone did not receive their copy.

## New Business/Member Comments

Mike Keyes was thanked for his help in replacing the old sign board near the Y Camp. There was good discussion on having a ski show and a water safety education program on the lake. Bill Hinton from the Y Camp offered the Y camp meeting room and the shoreline for these programs.

Bill Hinton provided dates to be aware of – the triathlon will be held next year on July 19 and a special camp will be held at the Y next week. It was suggested that Bill provide an article about the Y history and activities for a future newsletter.

Increasing the boat parade budget and the donation amount for the Y Camp picnic was suggested and there was a discussion on raising the membership dues.

Officer elections were held and the current officers were re-elected for an additional 2 years.

Following the election and group discussion, the meeting was closed at 10:00 AM.

# Barlow Lake Aquatic Plant Control Program Update



The special assessment for weed control was approved again last fall to continue inspecting and treating for Eurasian Milfoil and other invasive species. The treatment annual costs will remain the same as in the past at \$60/Lakefront lot and \$30/back lot. The first assessment for this program should have shown up on your December 2019 tax bill. The program will run for five years.



Lake residents Deb Mousseau (2nd from left) and Mike Cunningham (4th from left) are running with Team Yankee Springs [www.teamyankeesprings.com](http://www.teamyankeesprings.com) for Township office in the August 4th 2020 primary election. Please vote in this election, either in-person or by absentee ballot. Deb is running for the position of Treasurer and Mike is running for the position of Clerk. All of the Team Yankee Springs candidates are residents of township lakes.

## 2020 A SUMMER TO REMEMBER

This summer is different.

Instead of  
hearing great music and inspiring messages  
seeing people chatting on the lawn  
at the Bowen Mills Chapel  
this will be a summer of silence at the Chapel.

The Chapel Board decided in the interest of social distancing,  
to promote the health of all who attend and the communities of which they are part,  
that it would cancel the Chapel's summer worship services.

We are confident whether this summer or any summer  
singing or silent  
that Jesus words are true.

"And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age" Matt. 28:20

### Bowen Mills Chapel

[www.bowenmillschapel.org/](http://www.bowenmillschapel.org/)  
[bowenmillschapel@gmail.com](mailto:bowenmillschapel@gmail.com)

