

Lake Somerset Property Owner's Association

Annual Meeting

1:00 p.m.
Sunday October 2, 2005

Dues Increase Ballot & Information Inside

Board Of Directors

Tony Harsch (*President*)688-9767
 Jim Weber
 (*Vice-President*)419-885-8338
 Marion Clapham (*Treasurer*)688-4518

Larry Wright (*Water Quality*)734-485-3695
 John Lichtle (*Secretary*)688-3400
 Colleen McNeal (*Bldg. Committee*) 688-4091
 Guy Vahoski (*Security*)688-3725
 Chris Scheithauer (*Parks*)688-4737
 Ken Kiraly (*Roads*)688-4356

Building Committee

Colleen McNeal (*Chairperson*) 14607 Brookhurst, Cement City 49233688-4091
 Charlie Hummell – 14303 Blarney Cr., Box 22, Somerset 49281688-4236
 Doug Dollar – 14695 Bunratty, Somerset 49281734-260-5814

Meeting Times

Monthly Meetings

Every 3rd Saturday of the month (except in December), the Board of Directors meet in the Somerset Township Hall for the purposes of conducting the Association business. The meetings start at 10:00 a.m. and are open to the public. If the meeting time or place is changed, every effort will be made to notify the membership.

Annual Meeting

Each year on the first Sunday of October, we conduct our annual membership meeting. All members are invited to attend. Time and place is sent to all members annually prior to the meeting.

Membership

(a) Membership is subject to payment of annual and special assessments and to a member complying with published regulations and restrictions of the Association. The right to membership shall be automatically suspended for nonpayment of dues or assessments by May 1st of each year. Where membership has been suspended for nonpayment of said dues or assessments, the membership shall be reinstated upon payment of said dues or assessments, penalties and reasonable expenses of collection, subject however, to Article VII, Section 11.

(b) The right to membership may also be suspended by action of the Board of Directors for infraction of the published rules and regulations of the Association for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days.

(c) Any dues or assessments not paid on the due date, which is May 1st, are delinquent and shall, together with penalties and reasonable expenses of collection, become

a continuing lien on the property which shall bind such property in the hands of the owner, his heirs, his devisees, personal representatives and assignees. If the dues or assessments are not paid after a thirty (30) day grace period from and after May 1st, a penalty of One (1%) percent per month on the unpaid balance may be added to the amount owed for dues and assessments. In addition any reasonable expenses of collection, as are authorized by these By-Laws or by action of the Board of Directors, shall be added to the delinquent balance, and the Association may bring an action at law against the owner personally obligated to pay the same and/or to foreclose the lien against the property. In any such action, there shall be added to such dues and assessment, authorized penalties and reasonable expenses of collection, the cost of preparing and filing the complaint in such action, and in the event that judgment is obtained, such judgment shall include penalties, interest as allowed by the law, reasonable costs of collection, and reasonable attorney fees.

Boat Launch Keys

There is a locked gate across the entrance to the boat launch at Schmidtke Park. The following members have keys to the lock and can be contacted during times that guards are not in attendance at the park.

Tom Weaver688-9789
 Bob Iveson688-4771
 Don Johnston688-9472
 Marion Clapham688-4518
 Warren Judson688-9847
 George Martin.....688-3052
 John Kisella688-4140
 Bob Mawby.....937-9820 or 688-3869
 Glen Martin688-3861
 Guy Vahoski688-3725

President's Corner

All of those members who attended our 2004 annual meeting should well remember the slide presentation put on by Vice President Jim Weber. In this presentation he explained in great detail just where and how our association dues are spent. At that time he pointed out that we are in need of a dues increase. He also proposed three ways that we could meet our growing financial needs:

1. A large dues increase.
2. A dues increase and a boat sticker fee.
3. A large boat sticker fee.

At the time we couldn't vote for a dues increase because we didn't meet the by-laws requirements of member notification. It was then decided by the board to require a boat sticker fee of \$35 to help meet the growing cost of managing the association.

At our 2005 annual meeting we will be asking the members to approve a \$30 increase in our annual dues, raising them from \$85 a year to \$115. Having served on the board for a couple of years, I can assure you that the increase is needed or I would not have voted for it.

As this association grows so do our costs and we can no longer rely on volunteers to help keep our costs down. Some believe that we should ask for a larger increase, but the more you ask for the less likely we are to get it.

If you put the \$30 increase in perspective, you spend that amount or more every time you fill up your gas tank. I will not press this issue. I hope that you understand the needs of this association and will vote accordingly.

When we meet at the annual meeting I will be able to give you an update on our Revised Covenants approval voting.

As most of you know we are now moving this association into the computer age and this is due mostly to the efforts of Larry McNeal and his son Larry, Jr. They have done all the basic work of loading and setting up programs, creating a mailing list, running phone lines and a hundred other things you have to do to get a system up and running. On behalf of all members, I thank you both.

Speaking of computers, it should be noted that we now have an e-mail list of 110 members. We are not yet to the point where we are interactive and I cannot give you a time frame when we will be. Those members who are on the list are receiving notices of monthly and annual meetings and all association sponsored activities (Boat Parade, Pig Roast etc.).

I hope to see you all at the annual meeting.

Respectfully,

Tony Harsch, Sr.
harsch@acd.net

Community Council News

The mission of the council is to act as a liaison between residents and the association board. Each representative is a spokesperson for their subdivision. We welcome any volunteers or suggestions to help us promote a better community.

Andi Overmyer (688-3652)
Somerset Heights & Meckley's Subdivisions

Sheila Davison (688-4051)
Somerset Heights & Meckley's Subdivisions

Sharon Badders (688-3074)
Somerset Heights & Meckley's Subdivisions

Sue Prange (688-3710)
Hilldale & Gordon Subdivisions

Manessa Braman (688-3631)
Rolling Meadows Subdivision

Tracey Dear (688-9528)
Crestview Subdivision

Covenants Status Report

I would like to bring everyone up to speed on the Revised Covenants Approval that was held at the Township Hall on the weekend of August 6th and 7th and 13th and 14th. Listed below are the statistics of our four large subdivisions.

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Somerset Heights Total No. Lots | 405 |
| No. Needed to Approve Covenants | 203 |
| No. Signed to Date | 104 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Rolling Meadows Total No. Lots | 326 |
| No. Needed to Approve Covenants | 163 |
| No. Signed to Date | 76 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Hillandale Total No. Lots | 278 |
| No. Needed to Approve Covenants | 139 |
| No. Signed to date | 40 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Crestview Total No. Lots | 123 |
| No. Needed to Approve Covenants | 64 |
| No. Signed to Date | 26 |

As you can see, we have a ways to go to achieve our goal, but we have a two-year window in which to do it. As a friend of mine stated "What do you call a 1,000 lawyers on the bottom of the ocean. IT'S A GOOD START."

I think it should be noted that the lake access homeowners benefit most from these revisions because they are in an area where most of the

new construction will be taking place. If you have not signed for your subdivision and would like to please contact me by phone at 688-9767 or e-mail me at harsch@acd.net

Respectfully,

Tony Harsch

Covenants Helpers

I would like to use this Gazette to personally thank all the people who gave so freely of their time to man the Township Hall the two weekends we spent recording signatures.

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Pat Sejewski & Cherrie Grandy |8 hours each |
| Mary & Paul Hedding |18 hours each |
| Larry McNeal |26 hours each |
| Jim MacRitchie |26 hours |
| Marion Clapham |26 hours |

Sharon Badders came in on Saturdays and relieved people so they could get some lunch. To all of the above, I will always in your debt.

THANK YOU ALL

Tony Harsch

Building Control Committee

The Lake Somerset Property Owner's Association (LSPOA) Building Control Committee would like to remind both new and old residents that everyone must comply with the LSPOA building guidelines.

All structures including houses, garages, sheds, and fences must be approved by the Building Control Committee before they can be erected.

Documents needed for sheds, decks or anything else built above ground are:

1. Three (3) sets of drawings complete and clearly definable.
2. Three (3) grid plans showing location of the proposed structure showing size and distance to lot lines.
3. Three (3) sets of elevation drawings showing height and appearance.

If you have any questions, please contact any of the committee members listed below:
Colleen McNeal (*Chairperson*).....688-4091
Charles Hummel.....688-4236
Doug Dollar.....(734) 260-5814

Editor's Notes

When we decided to move to Somerset in 1996, our home was not yet complete. It took another year and a half before we could move in. We lived in a rented farmhouse off Waldron Road in the meantime.

My sister-in-law's husband thought we were crazy. "You're moving to a damned retirement community," he said. "Just a bunch of old farts out there." We didn't care. We loved this lake and we were moving here to make this area our new home.

It was probably one of the best decisions I have ever made. There is no place that I would rather live. Lake Somerset is vibrant. There is always something going on. The people I have met and the friendships I have made are of a caliber that I am proud to be associated with.

Lake Somerset has wealthy residents and also those who get by on small pensions or social security. We have young people and, yes, we have old farts. Who cares? My son is 22 years old and he has great friendships with a bunch of guys in their 50s. I am friends with people whose ages range from 20 to 70+.

We have factory rats, doctors, IT people,

retirees, entrepreneurs, at least one airline pilot, and who knows what else.

They all have one very important thing in common. They call Lake Somerset home. And they love it here.

You see them jumping in their boat to run over to a friend's house for a visit. Or maybe they take their moped instead. You see them tying their pontoons together and cruising the lake partying. Walking around the lake either individually or in groups. My wife and I ride our bikes in the morning.

This lake is not a natural phenomena. It is not an act of God. It was created by a development company in the 1960s. It was then turned over to our property owner's association. It is through this association that our community has blossomed.

If you have read any of my articles in the past, you know how supportive I am of our neighbors who give of themselves for the benefit of our community. Ensure that Lake Somerset thrives well into the future by getting involved and following their lead.

Pete Tochman

Michigan Boating Rules

Requirements for Towing Skiers: It is illegal to tow skiers, wakeboards, or any device of this type between:

- One hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise if towed behind a vessel
- One hour before sunset and 8:00 am if towed behind a PWC.

Hot Topic

Personal watercraft: It is illegal to operate a PWC between one hour before sunset and 8:00 am. Check the weather channel for legal sunset!!!

For the most current Michigan boating rules:
<http://boat-ed.com/mi/handbook>

Somerset Book

One of our local lake residents, Dan Doyle, has recently published a historical novel, "Paddy". It's about the Somerset area. Much of it centers around the old Somerset Inn that used to be next to Freddie's Freeze (but is now torn down) during the early years of the Civil War. Paddy O'Tool drives the local stagecoach between Clinton and Jonesville and is involved in several amusing escapades during this era.

You might want to check it out. It should be available soon locally. You can also check out Dan's website on the internet at: <http://www.dansdoyle.com> for more information.

George Rausch

Water Quality Report

August 2005

Several residents called or emailed us concerning the conditions in the water in late July/early August. Blue-green algae blooms appeared along sea walls in the channels and the main lake. Keiser and Associates advised that this was due to a combination of factors including the warmer weather this summer (warmer lake water temperature), excess nutrients from lawn fertilizer run-offs and the calm winds. All of these combined make conditions ripe for the algae blooms (which have been lying dormant on the lake bottom) to rise to the surface and become a nuisance.

Keiser advised that swimming and/or allowing pets to swim or drink the water during the presence of this 'slime' can cause illness if ingested. Unfortunately for us, there is little that we can do to eliminate the algae problem right now. With proper lake management, we hope to be able to reduce this problem in the future. Keiser will present their report this fall, and we anticipate moving ahead with a long-term plan for the improvement of our lake.

Thank you to all the residents who have approached me regarding the great job Larry Henning has been doing running the weed harvester operators this summer. Being new to LSPOA board, I have appreciated his willingness and dedication to going out and getting the job done for us. Thanks also to John Lichtle for keeping the harvester up and running!

Lawn fertilizer run-off continues to be a problem on the lake. It is one of the factors that contributes to the blue-green algae growth. Solution: Don't fertilize your lawn. If it's weeds you're trying to control, using a weed killer that doesn't contain fertilizers is a better solution. If a lush, green lawn is your goal, using the lake to water your lawn will help you meet that goal (along with all the rain we have had this summer!). Working together, we can all enjoy a healthy and beautiful Lake Somerset for many years to come!

Larry Wright

"The Mill" in Onsted has Phosphate free fertilizer (27-0-9). A 50 lb bag is \$6.99.

Security Report

Fall 2005

I'd like to introduce myself to everyone. My name is Guy Vahoski and I took over the Security seat on the board for Dennis Schober, who moved out of state. I look forward to serving the community and help make it a better place to live.

Neighborhood Watch

There has been a number of thefts around the lake ranging from golf clubs, wake boards, boat cd players, and gas tanks. Please help your neighborhood by looking for suspicious activity and report anything out of the ordinary to the police. Lets all make an effort to make the community watch successful.

Boat Stickers

This year was the first time I've patrolled the lake looking for LSPOA boat stickers. With much surprise there was a number of boats with a sticker not visible on the back of the boat. Please

make sure when you apply a boat sticker, make it visible on the rear of the boat not under any covers.

Boat Launch

There has been a few issues with the boat launch washing out and trailers being damaged in years past. It is still very important NOT to power load any boats. Power loading causes the end of the launch to wash away and will damage boat trailers.

Water Safety

Even though we live on a private lake, please remember that there are still laws and rules in effect. Lake traffic is to move in a counter-clockwise direction. Also any PWC (jet ski, wave runner, etc.) can ONLY be operated between 8:00 a.m. and one hour BEFORE sunset. Please check sunset times before you go out later in the evening.

Guy Vahoski

2005 LSPOA Picnic

This was the 13th year that the LSPOA Picnic was put on by the Community Council. It was also the first year that we had to cancel the Saturday picnic and hold it on Sunday. It

was still a huge success with an attendance of 200 people. We had great weather, delicious food, and lots of fun. Below are the winners of this year's events. See photos on other pages.

TURTLE RACE (16 ENTRIES)

- 1st: Braden Iveson
- 2nd: Nikki Koziol
- 3rd: Dakota Koziol

BASKETBALL FREE THROW

5 Years Old & Under

- 1st: Jordan Vericker
- 2nd: Gavin McAndrews
- 3rd: Mason Cook

6 to 7 Years Old

- 1st: Austin Prange
- 2nd: Taylor Sumner
- 3rd: Shyann Cook

8 to 12 Years Old

- 1st: Ben Borton
- 2nd: Derek Dollar
- 3rd: Brian Enbody

13 Years Old & Up

- 1st: Matt DeFay
- 2nd: Braden Iveson
- 3rd: Christy Sumner

TUG OF WAR

No Tug of War this year!

EGG TOSS

7 Years Old & Under

- 1st: Austin Prange
Taylor Sumner

- 2nd: Nikki Koziol
Makayla Pattenaude

8 to 12 Years Old

- 1st: Drew DeFay
Justin Dollar

- 2nd: Derek Dollar
Dakota Koziol

- 3rd: Candance Smith
Jen Smith

13 Years Old & Up

- 1st: Debbie Haraszkiwicz
John Haraszkiwicz

- 2nd: AC Slater
Brian Tochman

- 3rd: Angie Davison
Matt DeFay

HORSEBALLS

- 1st: Julie Iveson
Christy Sumner

- 2nd: Gene Davenport
Dale Sumner

GOLF CHIPPING

Females 12 & Under

- 1st: Makayla Pattenaude
- 2nd: Jessica Pattenaude

- 3rd: Taylor Sumner

Males 12 & Under

- 1st: John West Kennedy

- 2nd: Justin Dollar

- 3rd: Drew DeFay

Females 13 & Over

- 1st: Joyce Yandric

- 2nd: Angie Davison

- 3rd: Alicia Badders

Males 13 & Over

- 1st: Charlie Norton

- 2nd: Frank Yandric

- 3rd: Matt DeFay

HORSESHOES

- 1st: Gene Davenport
Dale Sumner

- 2nd: Randy DeFay
Brian Halliwill

Thanks To Our Workers!

Below is a list of everyone who helped make our picnic a big success.

LSPOA Picnic — Sunday, July 17, 2005

| | |
|--|---|
| Attendance | 200 |
| Awards, Equipment & Posters | Sue Prange |
| Tables | Mitch Badders, Sheila Davison, Julie Iveson, & Christy Sumner |
| Food Organization | Shelia Davison & Andi Overmyer |
| Games Organization | Sheila Davison |
| Horseshoe Pits | Jimmy Frank Miller |
| Check-In Table | Sue Prange & Alicia Badders |

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Turtle Race | Colleen McNeal & Carol Wright |
| Kids Basketball | Alicia Badders & Angie Davison |
| B-Ball Free Throw | Colleen McNeal, Carol Wright, Julie Iveson, and Christy Sumner |
| Egg Toss | Colleen McNeal, Carol Wright, Julie Iveson, and Christy Sumner |
| Golf Chipping | Bruce Davison |
| Horseshoe Tournament | Jimmy Frank Miller |
| Horse Balls Tournament | Dennis Glasgow |
| Photos | Sue Prange |
| Pig Roast | Tim Cook |
| DJ | Travis Dear |

If you would like to help with the 2006 picnic, please contact Sue Prange at 688-3710.



Horse Balls Winners:

1st Place: Julie Iveson & Christy Badders
2nd Place: Dale Sumner & Gene Davenport



Golf Chipping (Women 13 years old & up):

1st Place: Joyce Yandric (middle)
2nd Place: Angie Davison (left)
3rd Place: Alicia Badders (right)

Park Update 2005

We continue to update park equipment at all of our parks. This year we have purchased new picnic tables, replaced worn out swing set chains and spring animals, updated our electric system that was 30+ years old. We are scheduled to have new sand delivered to the West park by Mid August. We always appreciate members keeping our parks looking

great. If you have any suggestions or comments let me know.

Thanks to Dave & Kip Halliwill for maintaining our park water fountains. It is always nice to have new volunteers helping the community.

We are always looking for volunteers. If you are interested give me a call at 688-4737.

Thanks for a great summer!

Chris Scheithauer

Roads 2005

As you probably are aware, road repairs surrounding Lake Somerset are being done. Thanks to an agreement between the Somerset Township Board and the Hillsdale County Road Commission the following roads are either being paver patched and/or seal coated: Crestridge Drive from Somerset Road to Harper Road, Kildare Lane, Glenbeigh Lane, Glendalough Lane, Connemara Circle, Hollywood Circle, Loughrea Lane, Killorglin Lane and Bunratty Lane.

In addition to the above repairs, a list was submitted detailing other roads around Lake Somerset that also require some repair. The majority of the repair work should be completed by summers end.

The LSPOA Board will continue to work with the Somerset Township Board in identifying road repairs where needed.

As we look forward to the 2006 calendar year, more funds will be made available to continue the process of improving our roads.

Ken Kiraly

2005 Game Winners



Basketball Free Throw (6 & 7 Years Old):
1st Place: Austin Prange (middle)
2nd Place: Taylor Sumner (left)
3rd Place: Shyann Cook (right)



Turtle Race:
1st Place: Braden Iveson (middle)
2nd Place: Nikki Koziol (right)
3rd Place: Dakota Koziol (left)



Egg Toss (8 to 12 Years Old):
Pictured left to right
2nd Place: Dakota Koziol & Derek Dollar
1st Place: Justin Dollar & Drew DeFay
3rd Place: Candance Smith & Jen Smith



Egg Toss (13 Years Old & Up):
Pictured left to right
2nd Place: AC Slater & Brian Tochman
1st Place: John Haraszkiwicz & Debbie Haraszkiwicz
3rd Place: Angie Davison & Matt DeFay

Pedestrian Safety

We do not have sidewalks at Lake Somerset. Please remember that pedestrians walking on the roads around the lake have the right of way.

Walkers deserve your respect and courtesy by you driving carefully around them.

It has been reported that some vehicle drivers have made rude hand gestures and exhibited other signs of displeasure because walkers do not move out of their way fast enough.

Come on, have some patience!

Jim Weber & Pete Tochman

6th Annual Boat Parade

Our 5th annual boat parade was held on July 4th with 28 boats participating. It was a big success with many outstanding entries. Listed below are the winners and the people who made this parade possible.

BOAT PARADE COMMITTEE

Judges Brian & Tracey Utterback
Awards Sharon Badders
Banners Sue Prange

WINNERS

1st Place: Glenn Champion*
2nd Place: Paul & Rose Klee†
3rd Place: Chris Scheithauer‡
Honorable Mention: Fran & Charlie DuVall§

*Assisted by: Jack Wolf, Kylee, Kami, Lexie, Emily, Jonathan, and Hayden

†Assisted by: Kerry, Pam, Penny, Dan, Randy, and Tom

‡Assisted by: Jen Selland and Mary

§Assisted by: Bob Ryder, Evy Ryder, Sue Smith, Jennifer Smith, Scott Ryder, Walt Smith, and Bob Smith



1st Place: Glenn Champion



2nd Place: Paul & Rose Klee



3rd Place: Chris Scheithauer



Honorable Mention: Fran & Charlie DuVall

Additional pontoon parade pictures are elsewhere in the Gazette

More Pontoon Parade Pictures & Leland's Pike



Davenport



Sumners



Wrights



Leland Spangler's very nice 20 pound pike

Boat Ramp Closure

We will be doing maintenance and seal coating on Monday September 12th (weather permitting). The ramp and parking areas at the Main and West parks will be closed for 24 hours. Rain date will be the 13th. Please plan accordingly.

Dogs Still On the Loose!!!

We continue to have complaints from members about dogs running loose.

You may love your pet but your neighbor may not!!

Please control your pet with a leash or electric fence.

LSPOA Office

The association is looking to rent office space.

We need an area to store LSPOA records and an area to conduct committee meetings.

If you have any suggestions, please call one of the board members.

New LSPOA Brush

Area Hours

Due to abuse the brush pile is now open Saturdays, Spring thru Fall, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Entering from Grandview Drive is not permitted for brush pile use. Please use the main entrance from the West Park. This area is for brush and leaves only. All other items are illegal. This includes lumber, grass clippings, plastic and trash. Please respect your community and use this area properly. Failure to comply will force immediate closure.

Thank you,
LSPOA Board Members

East Park Work Party

This past April the association had a volunteer cleanup day at the East park. Rocks were set along the shoreline to help prevent erosion. Mulch was installed around the trees and play equipment, and new security poles were installed on the dam. Thanks again to Dennis Glasgow from Power Process Piping and Bob Iveson from Habitat Landscape for the generous donations of mulch and security poles. Following is the list of volunteers at the spring cleanup: Gene Davenport, Braden Iveson, Bob Iveson, Jim McRitchie, Tom Weaver, Brad Glazier, Doug Dollar, and Guy Vahoski.

Thanks for the help Guys!

Chris Scheithauer

Boat Ramp Reminder

PLEASE WINCH YOUR BOAT ONTO THE TRAILER

DO NOT POWER LOAD

WE ARE DESTROYING THE RAMP

Do You Fertilize Your Lawn?

Reminder to use Phosphate free fertilizer when applying to any LSPOA property.

Look for the bag with a zero on the middle number:

15-0-10.

Protect our lake and only use Phosphate free fertilizer. "The Mill" in Onsted has Phosphate free fertilizer (27-0-9). A 50 lb bag is \$6.99.

West Park Volunteer Cleanup - September 24th, 1pm

We will be having our Fall park cleanup at the West park. We will be landscaping, painting and having a general cleanup. Please bring yard equipment and old paint brushes, etc. Rain date 9-25-05

Any questions, contact Chris at 688-4737.

LSPOA Volunteers Needed

The Lake Somerset Board of Directors is in need of volunteers.

If you have an interest in Computers, Parks, Harvester Maintenance, Water Quality, Building Committee, Security, Roads, Annual Picnic, Boat Parade, Community Council or serving on the board, please contact a board member or visit a monthly board meeting at the township hall.

We need your HELP!

Fishing Report

Summer 2005

Sorry about last fall's fishing report! Due to a misunderstanding, it did not get into the Gazette. It is available on the Lake Somerset web page should you want to take a look.

Because the last fish report didn't get into the Gazette, I still want to congratulate Leland Spangler on his big pike caught last fall. The fish measured 40 inches and weighed 20 pounds. According to the DNR fish growth data, this fish had to be over 13 years old!! Also have to give Leland credit for releasing the old guy to grow even bigger! Who knows — maybe the next time he's caught he might be 25 pounds. Not to be outdone, Pete Tochman lost a nice pike the other evening in the net. He was using his favorite bait — a hot dog in about 16 feet of water. (Yes — this is true!) I should also mention a couple of catfish lovers took 10 catfish (15-20 inches) in less than 2 hours off a dock using hotdogs and beef liver.

With all the heat this summer I think the fishing remains a bit slow. Have seen a lot of people fishing this summer, but not too much action. Lots of smallish bass around and some pike. I heard of several walleye in the 3-5 lb range caught in early summer, but not many since the heat wave arrived. Neighbor Bob went out a few weeks ago and got 4 'eyes on a purple rubber worm. I've seen more perch this year than in the past — but they are still on the small side (4-6 inches). Has anybody caught any redears this spring or summer? I saw a few caught last winter that measured 9-10 inches. I keep wondering if we should stock a few more. Any comments would be appreciated.

I notice a lot of the bass fishermen targeting the shallow bays. That's fine for the smaller fish — but to get a truly big bass you need to concentrate on the deeper water (14 feet or deeper). With a decent fishfinder you should be able to easily see these fish. According to one of my bass expert friends, most people do not have the patience to fish this deeper water — you've got to let your bait get down on the bottom. Take your time and if it's calm watch the line go out, when it stops, you're on the bottom! Now reel very slowly and twitch the bait — letting it settle back down on to the bottom. If you feel a tap —



set the hook — if you do not get a hookup — let it settle back down — the fish will usually hit it again. The problem with our lake and deep water fishing is that the dissolved oxygen gets used up in mid August, then the fish get inactive or move up to more oxygenated water.

The fish stocking for this year started with about 800 pike fingerlings (4-6 inches) in June. It was interesting to see these fish try and get to the deeper water in front of the main park — a couple of large bass and a pike soon showed up for lunch. They patrolled the edge of the deeper water scaring the pike fingerlings back time and again. However, within an hour all of pike had gotten to safety. We are also planning on stocking about 800 walleye fingerlings in the fall.

I'd like to comment on a couple of observations I've noticed on the lake. Did you ever notice — the people with the largest pontoons usually have the least amount of people on board? The lakefronts that have the most swimming activity, have the least amount of weeds? (All the activity keeps them out!) The people who complain the loudest about weeds in front of their property have the greenest lawns and usually use the most lawn fertilizer? (REMEMBER 1 POUND OF NITROGEN ADDED TO THE LAKE PRODUCES ALMOST 600 POUNDS OF WEEDS!!) Lake Somerset IS THE ONLY Lake I've noticed pontoons and boats using their docking lights for night cruising? I remember the first night I was on the lake I was surprised by two bright "headlights" coming out of the darkness! I thought it was one of those amphibious vehicles coming at me! It seems like half the boats on the lake don't use their stern lights — do you know you are "invisible" to another boat approaching you from the rear?

I get a lot of questions on what I'm feeding the fish off of my dock. The grandkids and other visitors get a charge out of this activity — the question always comes up when they are coming up from the evening swim — "Grandpa can we feed the fish now?" The fish food I use is a commercial fish food pellets that I buy from Howard's feed store in Jackson. I think its around \$12-13 for a 50 lb bag. This lasts for all summer depending how much you feed them.

Been doing some snorkeling this summer, no sign of any more zebra mussels yet!

Enough — I ramble on too much!!

George Rausch

OFFICIAL DUES INCREASE BALLOT — OCTOBER 2005

Lake Somerset Property Owner's Association

INSTRUCTIONS: Please read carefully

DO NOT put your name or address on the ballot. However, you **MUST** have your name and return address in the upper left hand corner of your envelope for your ballot to be counted. Mailed ballots must be received 10 days before the annual meeting. You may also bring your completed ballot to the Annual Meeting. **ALL** ballots will be tallied at the meeting.

Select Yes or No for Item #1.

Item #1 — The board has proposed a \$30 increase in the annual dues. Should the Lake Somerset Property Owner's Association annual dues be increased from \$85 year to \$115 year?

Yes No

You are allowed one vote for each lot owned up to a maximum of seven (7) lots.

Please mail your completed ballot to:

LSPOA
P.O. Box 41
Somerset, Michigan 49281

Or return it at the annual meeting.

Your Lot No.(s) _____

Number of lots owned _____



FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

Somerset, MI 49281

P.O. Box 41

Lake Somerset Property Owner's Association

Attention Ice Fisherman

Soon the winter season will arrive. Just a friendly reminder!

All L.S.P.O.A ice shanty's must have your name, lot # and address on the outside of the shed!!

Chris Scheithauer

Pontoon Removal

If you need to have your raft removed this fall, call Larry at 688-3968, Glen at 688-3861, Mawby at 688-3869, John at 688-4140, or Bob at 688-4771.

To Receive Your Boat Sticker

1. Send your registration with your dues payment.
2. From the guards at the main park on the weekend.
3. Call Marion at 688-4518.
4. Assessments on all property owned must be paid prior to launch.

Please take the time to put lot numbers on all your boats. Several paddle boats have been found with no way to notify the owners. The guards have numbers for anything and everything at the Main Park (4 for \$1.00).

PLEASE NOTIFY LSPOA

**WHEN YOU BUY OR SELL A LOT SO WE CAN KEEP
OUR RECORDS UP TO DATE.**