

## Lake Somerset Property Owner's Association

# Annual Meeting

1:00 p.m.

Sunday October 3, 2010

## LSPOA Business Office

The association has its office located in the Inside Out building at the corner of US-12 and Somerset Road. Office hours are reduced during the fall and winter seasons beginning September 1st and effective through February 28, 2011. The office address and hours are listed below:

**Address:**

LSPOA Office  
14261 E. Chicago Road  
Somerset, MI 49281  
**Phone** (517) 252-5069  
**Email** Treasurer@LSPOABoard.com

**Hours:**

Tuesday — 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Lake Somerset Web Site**

The association has a web site that is updated periodically. Our web site address is:  
<http://www.lakesomerset.org>

## Board Of Directors

Al Hoffmann (President).....688-9261  
 Jim MacRitchie  
 (Vice-President) .....688-5488  
 Bert Lawrence (Treasurer) .....688-9252

Gary Grandy (Building) .....688-3354  
 Larry Wright (Water Quality) .....688-3695  
 Mike Gossett (Parks) .....  
 Karen MacPherson (Secretary) .....  
 Mitch Wetzler (Security) .....(248) 345-7253  
 Tony Harsch (Roads) .....688-9767

## Building Committee

Gary Grandy (Chairman) .....688-3354  
 Mike Sleek – 13960 Grandpoint Cr., Somerset 49233 .....688-5052  
 John Dickelman – 13675 Dorchester, Somerset 49233 .....688-3466

## Meeting Times

### Monthly Meetings

Every 3rd Saturday of the month (except in December), the Board of Directors meets in the Somerset Township Hall for the purpose of conducting the Association’s 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 prior to the meeting.

### Membership

(a) Membership is restricted to Lake Somerset property owners 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.

In fairness to these individuals who have volunteered to help the rest of us have access to the boat launch, please try and give them 24 hours notice.

Tom Weaver.....688-9789  
 Bob Iveson.....937-7227  
 Marion Clapham .....688-4518  
 Warren Judson.....688-9847  
 George Martin.....688-3052  
 Bob Mawby.....592-4648  
 Glen Martin .....688-3861

To get a key to the boat launch, or to be on the call list for the boat launch, please contact the office at (517) 252-5069.

## President's Corner

We are nearing the end of our fiscal year and the budget is in good shape. Dredging, a major consideration impacting our reserve funds, probably will not be permitted because of state of Michigan regulatory requirements, but there are other options we might pursue. Bubblers for mud reduction are currently under evaluation at Lake Leann.

The year was most notable because of our weeds that were healthy and prolific due in large part to the warm weather. We started the season by integrating the services of our Plant Control Consultant with our chemical applicator, but experienced late applications for all our treatments not totally under our control. Late treatments are unacceptable because the biomass is high and the treatments occurred after seed drop that is the precursor of next year's weed crop. We plan to avoid these problems in the future by documenting and pursuing a weed control plan before the start of the next season.

We plan to pursue two important issues, property rights and Bylaws and Restrictive Covenants, over the next few years to help us manage the association more efficiently.

Property and property rights abuses have been an ongoing problem from the past because if we do not enforce our rules and regulations we are accepting a violation that is equivalent to providing a privilege to the violator for breaking the law. This has been an increasing problem because existing violations have become justification for violations by others. We must have rules and regulations that

are enforced; that may require modifying what we have, adding others and informing the members of state and township ordinances that are also impacting. However, the state and township ordinances that supersede or duplicate ours can carry stiff and immediate penalties and can be applied by the authorities with a phone call from a member or from the board. We will be providing you information on rules, regulations, ordinances and suggested changes for your information and suggestions for improvements. We will need membership approval on this subject.

Our bylaws and restrictive covenants need to be changed for better ease of use and communication; corrected due to changes in the law, avoiding attorneys fees, court costs and wasted time; incorporation of legal documents and property purchases that were not originally included in LSPOA; and, we hope, to provide one set of Restrictive Covenants and By-Laws for the Lake Somerset Development rather than the six subdivisions that we now have.

Our sister lakes, Leann and Columbia, have either completed this change or are near completion. Background on this can be found on the websites, [www.lakeleann.org](http://www.lakeleann.org) and [www.lakecolumbia.net](http://www.lakecolumbia.net) under the key words, rules and regulations, bylaws, and restrictions. These websites contain valuable information for us and will give you a good idea of the size of the task. We will need 50+% approvals from the membership before these efficiencies, bylaws and restrictive covenants can be implemented.

*Al Hoffmann*

## Parks — Fall 2010

This year we are planning to complete three major projects. We soon will have a shelter in the West Park to maintain the equity and quality of all our parks. Ingrid Volker and Pat Abersold are doing the planting in the West Park to landscape and stabilize the shoreline.

We are repairing the corner of the Pole Barn to maintain the integrity of the building. We are also building a barrier on the North entrance to the brush area. These should be complete soon.

Our plans are to have a permanent repair to the boat ramp, and secure attachments for our docks constructed in the fall after the end of the boating season.

Thanks go to Chris Scheithauer, John Dickleman, and Ingrid and Pat from the Community Council for their dedication and assistance in keeping our Association parks and properties in tip-top condition.

*Jim MacRitchie*

## 10th Annual Boat Parade

Our 10th annual boat parade was held on July 4th with 14 boats participating. Those that participated went all out with some great designs.

Judging was done by the winners from last year. Criteria used for judging was originality, participation, involvement, creativity, and patriotism.

Listed below are the winners and the people who made this parade possible.

<b>JUDGES:</b>	Larry & Carol Wright
<b>AWARDS &amp; BANNERS:</b>	Carol Wright
<b>PHOTOS::</b>	Carol Wright
<b>WINNERS</b>	
<b>1st Place:</b>	Harsch Family
<b>2nd Place:</b>	Petry Family
<b>3rd Place:</b>	Charles & Melissa Sawyer



**1st Place: "Captain Anthony" Harsch and his band of (costumed) pirates took First Place, shredded sails and all. Loved the pirate on the ship's wheel.**



**2nd Place: The "Wizard" (a.k.a. the Matt Petry Family) took Second Place. Anyone that can stack and dangle "crabbing boxes" on a speedboat (and dress the part, deserves some recognition.**



**3rd Place: Third was difficult, but the music and level of activity from the costumed riders (dancers) on the "Thriller Tribute" raft of Charles & Melissa Sawyer drew our attention and the award for Third Place.**

## 2010 LSPOA Picnic

This was the 18th year that the LSPOA Picnic was put on by the Community Council. We had

great weather and it was a huge success with an attendance of over 215 people. We had delicious food and lots of fun. Below are the winners of this year's events. See photos on other pages.

### **TURTLE RACE (13 ENTRIES)**

- 1st:** Ella Reuter  
**2nd:** Derek Dollar  
**3rd:** Robbie Iveson

### **BASKETBALL FREE THROW**

#### 5 Years Old & Under

- 1st:** Jeff Sheldon  
**2nd:** Ryan Ladd  
**3rd:** Nicholas Miller

#### 6 to 8 Years Old

- 1st:** Brooke McAndrews  
**2nd:** Joe Sheldon  
**3rd:** Allyson Smolarek

#### 9 Years Old

- 1st:** Jack Sheldon  
**2nd:** Chase Atwell  
**3rd:** Ben Skinner

#### 9 to 12 Years Old

- 1st:** Austin Thompson  
**2nd:** Andrew Amb's  
**3rd:** Isaac Skinner

### **Egg Toss**

#### 12 Years Old & Under

- 1st:** Andrew Amb's  
 Isaac Skinner  
**2nd:** Taylor Atwell  
 Alexis Torres

#### 13 Years Old & Up

- 1st:** Tyler Schupbach  
 Joe Sumner  
**2nd:** Braden Iveson  
 Robbie Iveson

### **HORSEBALLS**

#### 12 Years Old & Under

- 1st:** Gavin McAndrews  
 Noah Osburn  
**2nd:** Jack Sheldon  
 Joe Sheldon  
**3rd:** Taylor Sumner  
 Austin Thompson

### **HORSESHOES**

- 1st:** Joe Sumner  
 Myke Sumner  
**2nd:** Gene Davenport  
 Dale Sumner

### **13 Years Old & Up**

- 1st:** Alicia Badders  
 Robbie Iveson  
**2nd:** Sean Stegeman  
 Tom Stegeman

### **GOLF CHIPPING**

#### Females 12 & Under

- 1st:** Taylor Sumner  
**2nd:** Hayley Amb's  
**3rd:** Kelsey Halliwill

#### Males 12 & Under

- 1st:** Austin Thompson  
**2nd:** Andrew Amb's  
**3rd:** Jack Sheldon

#### Females 13 & Over

- 1st:** Sue Brinson  
**2nd:** Jan O'Shaughnessey  
**3rd:** Lorena McPhillips

#### Males 13 & Over

- 1st:** Leland Spangler  
**2nd:** Ryan Miller  
**3rd:** Tyler Schupbach

## Thanks To Our Workers!

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

### **LSPOA Picnic — Saturday, July 17, 2010**

- Attendance** 215+  
**Awards & Posters** Sue Thompson  
**Set-Up** Ingrid Volker, Sue Thompson, Chris Scheithauer  
**Take-Down** Ingrid Volker, Jeff & Sue Thompson, Pam McAndrews, Christy Sumner, Tracey Utterback, Jan O'Shaughnessey, Mitch Badders  
**Food Organization** Ingrid Volker, Tracey Utterback  
**Games Organization** Sue Thompson, Pam McAndrews  
**Horseshoe Tournament** Joe Sumner, Myke Sumner

### **Horseshoe Pits**

Joe Sumner,  
 Myke Sumner

### **Check-In Table**

Alicia Badders,  
 Sue Thompson

### **Turtle Race**

Chris Scollard,  
 Pam McAndrews

### **Basketball**

Jennifer Skinner, Karen Atwell, Alicia Badders

### **Egg Toss**

Christy Sumner,  
 Julie Iveson

### **Golf Chipping**

Greg Knapp  
 Bruce Davison

### **Horse Balls Tournament**

Jeff Thompson,  
 Brian Utterback

### **Photos**

Jeff Volker

### **Loaned Tables**

Bob Iveson

### **Loaned Horse Balls**

Dennis Glasgow  
 Pete Kasper

If you would like to help with the 2011 picnic, please contact the LSPOA office at (517) 252-5069.

# 2010 Game Winners



**Golf Chipping (Females 12 Years Old & Under):**  
**1st Place:** Taylor Sumner (middle)  
**2nd Place:** Hayley Ambs (left)  
**3rd Place:** Kelsey Halliwill (right)



**Golf Chipping (Males 12 Years Old & Under):**  
**1st Place:** Austin Thompson (middle)  
**2nd Place:** Andrew Ambs (left)  
**3rd Place:** Jack Sheldon (right)



**Golf Chipping (Females 13 Years Old & Up):**  
**1st Place:** Sue Brinson (middle)  
**2nd Place:** Jan O'Shaughnessey (left)  
**3rd Place:** Lorena McPhillips (right)



**Golf Chipping (Males 12 Years Old & Up):**  
**1st Place:** Leland Spangler (middle)  
**2nd Place:** Ryan Miller (left)  
**3rd Place:** Tyler Schupbach (right)



**Horse Balls (12 Years Old & Under):**  
Pictured left to right  
**2nd Place:** Joe Sheldon & Jack Sheldon  
**1st Place:** Gavin McAndrews & Noah Osburn  
**3rd Place:** Austin Thompson & Taylor Sumner



**Horse Balls (13 Years Old & Up):**  
Pictured left to right  
**1st Place:** Alicia Badders & Robbie Iveson  
**2nd Place:** Tom Stegeman & Sean Stegeman

*2010 Game Winners (Continued)*



**Basketball (5 Years Old & Under):**

**1st Place:** Jeff Sheldon (middle)

**2nd Place:** Ryan Ladd (left)

**3rd Place:** Nicholas Miller (right)



**Basketball (6-8 Years Old):**

**1st Place:** Brooke McAndrews (middle)

**2nd Place:** Joe Sheldon (right)

**3rd Place:** Allyson Smolarek (left)



**Basketball (9 Years Old):**

**1st Place:** Jack Sheldon (middle)

**2nd Place:** Chase Atwell (left)

**3rd Place:** Ben Skinner (right)



**Basketball (9-12 Years Old):**

**1st Place:** Austin Thompson (middle)

**2nd Place:** Andrew Ambs (left)

**3rd Place:** Isaac Skinner (right)



**Turtle Race:**

**1st Place:** Ella Reuter (left)

**2nd Place:** Derek Dollar (right)

**3rd Place:** Robbie Iveson (middle)



**Horseshoes:**

Pictured left to right

**2nd Place:** Gene Davenport & Dale Sumner

**1st Place:** Myke Sumner & Joe Sumner

## Community Council News

The Community Council was formed many years ago to help with the communication process and public relations involving Lake Somerset residents. Representatives from each subdivision volunteered to serve, and served for many years. We had a few 'retirements' and could use some 'fresh blood'. How about you?

Sheila Davison (688-4051)

### **Somerset Heights & Meckley's Subdivisions**

Sue Thompson (688-3710)

### **Hillandale & Gordon Subdivisions**

Mandy Mullins (688-5302)

### **Crestview Subdivision**

Ingrid Volker (688-4327)

### **Somerset Heights Subdivision**

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. If concerns come up, we will bring them to the board meetings but all of them may not be acted upon. We make recommendations, but it is not our charge to make decisions.

We are also here to act as a public relations committee. Different events that have been provided by the council are the Lake Somerset garage sale in June and an annual picnic and boat parade in July. We welcome any volunteers or suggestions to help us promote a better community.

Sharon Badders has volunteered to help distribute the flyers for the different events. The following individuals have volunteered to help Sharon with distributing the flyers: Chris Scollard, Kathee Sntiago, Ingrid Volker, Shelia Davison, and Mandy Mullins.

Sue Thompson wanted to recognize Pam McAndrews and Jen Scheithauer for their assistance with the Community Council.

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## Building Control Committee

The committee approved 22 permits since the beginning of the 2009/2010 LSPOA fiscal year, which generated \$1,625.00 in fees. These permits included: 1 house with garage, 3 house additions, 4 sheds, no fences, 10 decks, 3 garages and 1 pool.

If you are considering adding a shed, deck, pool, gazebo, fence, expanding your home or building any structure on your property, you must have an approved building permit from the LSPOA Building Control Committee before proceeding.

The LSPOA web site ([www.lakesomerset.org](http://www.lakesomerset.org)) provides the guidelines, cost and documents

required for obtaining a permit. If you have questions, contact one of the committee members listed below. A permit for approval can be delivered to the LSPOA office or to a committee member.

The committee revised the permit application form which was approved by the board. They have also proposed revisions to the LSPOA Rules Regulations By-Laws which is known as the Red Book and approved.

Gary Grandy (*Chairman*) .....688-3354  
Mike Sleek .....688-5052  
John Dickelman .....688-3466

## Water Quality Report

Fall 2010

This summer has been one for the record books. We have had a great summer to be on the lake, unlike last year when the weather was cool all summer. But this means that we have had a prime season for growing aquatic plants (weeds).

We have had five harvester operators, each running one day in the week. The excessive weed growth has been an issue with keeping ahead of the weeds. We have had three herbicide applications this summer and some residents believe that the herbicides did absolutely nothing. But, if we did not do the treatments, the weeds would have been much worse. Last summer, the harvester operators would run most of the day and only have one load on the harvester. This year, they have been averaging 2 or more loads each day.

The State (MDNRE) restrictions on herbicides changed between our first treatment this summer and the third (final) treatment. Our first treatment had restrictions on lawn watering. By the last treatment (August 5), the restrictions on watering lawns were removed. Restrictions on watering of gardens (i.e. vegetable plants, perennials, etc.) remained because these plants are more susceptible to the herbicides than grass.

Herbicides are generally only applied 50-60 feet out from shore. This is the treatment area that is covered by the 'no swimming' notices. Swimming is not restricted in the areas near the island, East park, and east end of the lake. These areas do not get treated because of their proximity to the three spillways. The middle of the lake ('swimming area') is also not restricted because of the distance from the treatment area. The dilution rate of the herbicide would be non-hazardous at that point.

The harvester's maneuverability is limited and getting in close to boats and docks is difficult, if not impossible. Cleaning around docks, boats, and boat lifts is the responsibility of the resident/homeowner. If you pile weeds on your property for the harvester to pick up, it needs to be in an open, accessible area where the harvester cutting head can be lowered to stabilize the machine. The operators cannot pick up piles left on docks for safety reasons. They will pick up piles when they are operating in that vicinity.

I'd like to thank the harvester operators — Dick, Ken, Ed, Carl and Don — for their long hours in the hot sun; always doing the best job they could under extreme conditions.

*Larry Wright*

## Vice Presidents Report

### **WANTED – Volunteers**

Your Board is composed of unpaid volunteers who expend many hours to manage and improve your Association's assets. There are committees to maintain the quality of the parks, water, and roads, manage weeds and fisheries, compliance to building standards, organize community activities, maintain security, manage funds, keep a record of meetings, and to communicate with the membership. If you have an interest in any of these activities, please contact the LSPOA office or one of the Directors.

The Association welcomes anyone willing to volunteer for a position on the Board, a committee, or a work party. The decisions your Board makes directly impact the enjoyment of your property, and potential property values. A very good way to stay informed on Association activities is attend the monthly meetings, to add your email address to our membership list by emailing Pam@lspoaboard.com, and to check the LSPOA website: [www.lakesomerset.org](http://www.lakesomerset.org).

It is very easy to criticize, but it is a lot harder to manage a park or lake for the betterment of all. Our meetings are open to all members. Please come to a meeting and express your concerns, and to let the Board know the good things they do. We would like to hear from you including your ideas to improve our Association. We would also welcome your participation in implementing your ideas.

I also ask for volunteers for a special committee that I would like to form. This committee would collect and/or develop ideas to improve the Association, research information for the Board, classify and categorize past Board actions, review and update Association documents, and make recommendations to the Board for their consideration.

If you are a detail person, a self starter, self motivated, and able to work on your own, I would like to have you on this very important committee. Please email me at [MacR9@cs.com](mailto:MacR9@cs.com) or call me at 688-5488.

*Jim MacRitchie*

## Roads – Fall 2010

Fellow members. As your Chairman of Roads, I wish I had better news to include in this article, but I do not. The truth of the matter is due to the economy, funding is down in all areas. We are hoping to see a Chip & Seal in the Blarney Circle area that was scheduled for

last Fall, but most of our repairs will be in the nature of Cold Patch.

I do a road survey about every two months and, if needed, I submit it to the Township. If you see any road problem in your area, please notify me and I will add them to my report.

*Tony Harsch*  
(517) 688-9767

## Brush/Leaf Disposal Area

The association provides an area for members to dispose of their brush and leaves. The entrance to the area is at the north end of the West Park parking area and is open Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. from early spring to late fall. The DEQ has inspected the area and expects the association to meet their

environmental requirements or the area will be closed.

The following restrictions apply: 1) Only brush and leaves, 2) No lawn clippings, 3) Limbs not to exceed 3" in diameter, 4) No bags.

Please respect the area by disposing away from the entrance and as far into the area as possible. If you observe a problem, please contact a board member.

## Security Report

Fortunately we have not had accidents or major issues on the lake to date, but here are some items that you should always consider when out on the water:

- Children under the age of 6 must wear a life preserver whenever they are on a watercraft.
- Those 14 years of age or older born after Dec 31, 1978 may only operate a PWC legally only if he or she has obtained a Boating Safety Certificate. Those born on Dec 31, 1978 or earlier may operate a PWC without restrictions.
- No one under the age of 12 may legally operate a PWC
- It is illegal to operate a PWC (1) hour before sunset and 8:00 a.m. along with a no-wake rule (1) hour after sundown to (1) hour before sunrise for all Watercraft
- A PWC must be operated at “slow or no wake speed” if crossing within a 150' of another vessel, unless the other vessel is a PWC
- You as the property owner are responsible to make sure your guests understand our and the Michigan Boating Rules and Law. The most common occurrence is that guests don't understand that they need to go counter-clockwise around the lake and stay at least 100' from the shoreline at all times.
- When operating a paddleboat, you must either

wear a life vest or have a flotation device on board for each occupant.

– Maximum speed on any Michigan inland lake is 55 mph

Our lake is patrolled by both the DNR and the Hillsdale County Marine Patrol. They can legally drop in on our lake any time, day or night, without association permission with the intent to keep our lake SAFE for all residents.

If you're issued a citation for any violation by either the DNR or marine patrol, it may be recorded as a motor vehicle offense and would go against your driver's license/insurance. This is especially important for underage drinking, which could result in an MIP and seriously affect a young person's life.

Most if not all of the above can be found either in the “Redbook” or “Michigan Boating Laws and Responsibilities” on the DNR website.

Finally, common sense, but all water watercraft operators should be aware of their surroundings especially watercraft behind them. Anticipate the moves of others especially those pulling skiers and tubers as they are going to fall down or slip off the tubes. Those pulling skiers or tubers also make sure that those people get their hands “in the air” ASAP if they fall and wave off any PWC that are within 150'.

*Mitch Wetzler*

## Fishing Report

Summer 2010

Looks like the summer of 2010 is fast coming to a close. Lots of good fishing left though. Been kind of a strange summer — turned pretty hot in June and stayed that way as of today. I do the water quality measurements in the lake — and, believe me, the surface water temperatures have been about the highest I've recorded in 13 years. Surface temps to 5 feet have been in the 80s since late June. Last year, in comparison, temps only ran in the mid 70s .

However, noticed rather strange phenomena this summer. The temperature in the deeper water has actually been cooler! Looks like a very strong thermocline (a rapid change in temperature) has formed about 12-14 feet down and has remained there all summer. The temperature below the thermo has been in the 60s. What this means to fishermen is — the fish have stacked up around the thermocline, especially in the deep water areas of the lake.

Checking the fish finder over the deep water will show some pretty large fish. This summer I've been having my luck for pan fish fishing at 12-14 feet. Many times I've picked up a limit in an hour or so fishing this depth with wax worms.

The bass fishing has been very good this summer. I've noticed several 20 inch plus fish being caught. The largest I've gotten was 22 inches. I think Doug Glasgow also caught a 22 inch a few days later!

Many fishermen have told of getting 10-12 inch redear sunfish and a few bluegills over 10 inches. The redears seem to be doing very well reproducing in this lake. Where do all the perch go? Lots of small perch (and a few 8-10 inchers) were caught during the winter and early spring — but I've not seen one since! The crappie seem to be very sparse. I usually

catch a few fishing for bluegills, but this summer I don't think I caught a single one.

Walleye were commonly caught in the spring, but have slowed down. They should pick up again when the water cools this fall. I did notice a picture of a 29-inch walleye at the Somerset bait shop that was caught on Lake Somerset. With all the walleyes we've stocked over the years, we should have some pretty good ones around for the taking.

Haven't heard too much on the pike since the weather got warm.

And the channel catfish — these guys are all over — and are getting big. I came in from walleye fishing the other night and had a leech on a jig. While

getting my stuff out of the boat, I tossed out the jig and a large cat grabbed it. After about a 15-minute fight, I brought in a 30-inch fish that I would guess weighed 13-14 pounds easily. These fish really put up a scrap when you hook them! I've read in the *In-Fisherman* magazine that the fish with the highest IQ are catfish and carp (This was determined by researchers who study these things!). Interesting — and I bet most of you thought a bass or a walleye were smarter?

With all the rain and warmth this summer — I've noticed the "anti-weed complainers" have been much more vocal. You need to realize this weather grows aquatic vegetation faster than normal — and the clearer water as the result of the zebra mussels also allows the vegetation to grow deeper than normal. This all means more weeds!

We stocked about a 1,000 pike fingerlings (6-10 inches) in June of this year. We also plan on stocking about 1,000 walleye fingerlings this fall. If you catch any of these — make sure they are 24 inches long for pike, and 15 inches for walleye. Good fishing to all!



*George Rausch*

FIRST CLASS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
JACKSON, MI  
PERMIT NO. 456

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 shantys must have your name, lot # and address on the outside of the shed!!

*LSPOA Board*

## Pontoon Removal

If you need to have your raft removed this fall, call Glen at 688-3861, Mawby at 688-3869, Bob at 688-4771, Rick at 688-3068, or Pete at 410-8501.

## To Receive Your Boat Sticker

1. Send your boat registration and sticker fee along with your annual dues payment.
2. From the guards at the main park on the weekend. (Remember boat sticker fee).
3. Call the office at 252-5069.
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.**

**Lake Somerset Property Owner's Association  
Proxy and Official Ballot — October 2010**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Please read full instructions on reverse side

**PROXY** Please note this election, if selected on outside of envelope

- For Quorum Only
- I elect \_\_\_\_\_ to vote in my stead
- I elect the LSPOA President to vote in my stead

**BALLOT**

**Nominating Committee**                      Vote for no more than three (3)

- John McAndrews
- Dave Sajewski
- Chris Scheithauer
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Board of Directors**                              Vote for no more than three (3)

- Frank Miller
- Jim Wajda
- Jim Weber
- Larry Wright
- \_\_\_\_\_

**BUDGET**

I approve     I disapprove    the 2010/2011 Operating Budget

**NUMBER OF LOTS OWNED:** \_\_\_\_

**REMEMBER**

**DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME OR ADDRESS ON THE BALLOT**

Place your Proxy/Ballot in a sealed envelope and write on the front:

Your Name

Your Lot Number(s)

If you have elected to specify or appoint a designee to vote your Ballot

This Ballot is prepared in accordance with the LSPOA By-laws. All Ballots will be tallied at the meeting

You may bring this Proxy/Ballot to the Annual Meeting for submission.

Envelopes and Ballots will be available at the Annual Meeting

## Budget Information

The LSPOA “Dues” is composed of two components — an assessment imposed by some (but not all) of our Declaration of Restrictions of \$18.00, and an assessment component recommended by the Board of Directors. The combination of these two (if applicable) is the figure titled “Assessment/Dues” (line item 300) in the INCOME portion of the Operating Budget. This has been confusing in the past, since our defining documents are not consistent between subdivisions. This combination of the two (if applicable) is the figure presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting for their approval. This year, the Board is not requesting a change in the annual Assessment/Dues. They shall remain \$115.00 for 2010/2011. We ask for your approval of this Operating Budget.

## Proxy Ballot

### Rules

- One vote per lot
- The Board requests all proxy ballots for those not planning to be in attendance to be in the hands of the Secretary at the LSPOA Office by September 21. You may mail your proxy ballot or drop it off during regular business hours.
- Votes may not be split by multiple owners. In case of a dispute, the owner first listed on the deed shall prevail.
- You may elect to vote your proxy ballot, specify an alternate member to vote in your stead, specify the President to cast your vote, or specify your proxy for quorum purposes only.
- Your proxy ballot may be rescinded by you if you attend the meeting in person. In the case of multiple owners, only the owner first listed on the deed may rescind the proxy ballot. This may be accomplished in person or in writing.
- You must be a member in good standing
- In the event of a “called” meeting, any continuance, or adjournment of the meeting, your proxy ballot will be valid for any rescheduled meeting for that purpose
- Invalid entries in one category will not count, but will not invalidate any other category on the proxy ballot
- Write-in candidates are allowed
- Multiple votes for the same candidate are not allowed
- All proxy ballots must be submitted in a sealed envelope with the owner’s name, date, and lot number(s) printed on the outside of the envelope
- The proxy ballot shall not be signed.
- The proxy ballots format shall be used for all members voting, and shall follow the same rules as those for absentee proxy ballots.
- Proxy ballots may be submitted in person at the Annual meeting prior to the tabulation process
- Proxy ballots and envelopes will be available at the Annual Meeting for those members who appear in person, and did not bring their proxy ballot
- If you elect to designate an alternate to vote for you, or if you elect to have the President vote your Proxy Ballot, please indicate this on the outside of your envelope.

## *Nominating Committee*

**All members of the Nominating Committee are up for election each year.** Three members shall be elected at large by the membership, and two members shall be Board members and appointed by the Board.

This year the three incumbent members at large are candidates for reelection.

Chris Scheithauer  
John McAndrews  
Dave Sajewski

Each has expressed an interest in being nominated again for the upcoming year.

## *Candidates for the Board*

**Three Board members terms are up this year:**

Mike Gossett	Parks Chairman
Jim MacRitchie	Vice President
Larry Wright	Water Quality Chairman

**Nominees for a three (3) year term on the LSPOA Board of Directors**

### **Frank Miller**

My name is Frank Miller and I have owned a home on Northmoor Dr. since 1998; however, my wife and I have been coming out to Lake Somerset from the Detroit metro area since 1970. My father lived in one of the first homes built on the lake for almost 40 yrs. We originally used our house here as a vacation home with the intention of moving here permanently when I retired from Ford Motor Company. That dream became a reality in 2007.

We love living in this community and now that I have more time, I would like to take a more active role by contributing to the betterment of "our special place" and being elected to the Board.

I would appreciate your support.

### **Jim Wajda**

I have owned a home on Lake Somerset since 2006. Initially it was just a vacation home but now it is my full time residence with my wife Kris and two children, Mark and Lexi.

I am currently a senior vice president at Prospect Airport Services. I am based at Detroit

Metro Airport but travel throughout the United States. Originally from Chicago, I relocated to Michigan 20 years ago. I have an MBA from Loyola Business School and an BA from Lake Forest College.

The lake is our biggest asset in this community and one that needs to be improved and protected as we progress through the next several years. I will be committed to that endeavour!

### **Jim Weber**

I am married with two children, served as a member of the board in the past and look forward to joining the board again. I am a CPA and managing partner in the firm of Weber-Obrien, LLC and have served as a member of the board of a variety of for-profit and non-profit organizations in northwest Ohio. I look forward to the development of a formal strategic plan for the lake to the benefit of all members.

### **Larry Wright**

My name is Larry Wright. I have been a property owner on Lake Somerset since the fall of 2003. I became a permanent resident in spring, 2005. I first came on the board in November of 2004, taking over the Water Quality position that was recently vacated.

I have been serving as the Water Quality Chair for the past six years, and I am hoping to continue for another term on the Board if I am re-elected.

Proposed 2010/2011 LSPOA Operating Budget  
PRELIMINARY  
Finalized Budget to be presented at the Annual Meeting

	2010 Budget	Proposed 2011 Budget		2010 Budget	Proposed 2011 Budget
<b>INCOME</b>			<b>EXPENSE (Continued)</b>		
300 Assessments/Dues	115,000.00	126,500.00	<b>Secretary</b>		
301 Boat Stickers - <b>FEE</b>	17,500.00	17,500.00	600 Gazette Printing and Mailing	2,000.00	2,000.00
302 Interest/Penalty/Late Fees	1,300.00	1,300.00	601 Web Maintenance Labor	400.00	400.00
303 Interest - Bank	6,000.00	6,500.00	602 Web Account Fee	100.00	400.00
304 Gate Keys - <b>FEE</b>	100.00	100.00	603 Contingency	150.00	150.00
305 Building Control Cmte - <b>FEE</b>	1,000.00	1,250.00	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>2,950.00</b>
306 Bank Service Charges	-15.00	0	<b>Security</b>		
307 Ed Jones - Change in Value	2,500.00	-1,150.00	700 Boat Launch Keys	400.00	400.00
308 Prior Years Delinquencies	20,000.00	20,000.00	701 Boat Stickers	600.00	500.00
309 Uncategorized Income	0		702 Guard Labor	7,000.00	7,000.00
310 Annual Picnic - <b>Donations</b>	200.00	200.00	703 Contingency	1,500.00	1,000.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>163,585.00</b>	<b>172,200.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,500.00</b>	<b>8,900.00</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>			<b>Treasurer</b>		
<b>Other</b>			800 Accounting Services	2,000.00	2,800.00
400 Fish Planting	5,000.00	5,000.00	801 Postage	1,000.00	1,050.00
401 Community Council	800.00	800.00	802 Office Supplies	2,000.00	2,000.00
402 Fireworks/Neighborhood Watch	400.00	400.00	803 Bookkeeping Labor	8,000.00	7,500.00
403 Reserves Investment	5,000.00	5,000.00	804 Telephone	1,200.00	1,350.00
404 Roads		5,000.00	805 Property Taxes	3,800.00	3,900.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,200.00</b>	<b>16,200.00</b>	806 Legal	3,700.00	3,700.00
<b>Parks</b>			807 Insurance	3,700.00	3,700.00
500 Docks & Repair Labor	1,000.00	2,000.00	808 Collections & Mileage	6,500.00	6,500.00
501 Playground Equipment	1,000.00	1,000.00	809 Annual Meeting	1,500.00	1,500.00
502 Fences	2,000.00	2,000.00	810 Income Taxes	100.00	100.00
503 Port-a-Johns	2,000.00	2,000.00	811 Rent	2,500.00	2,500.00
504 Garbage Removal	500.00	1,000.00	812 Contingency	3,300.00	3,300.00
505 Consumers Energy	1,500.00	1,600.00	813 Bad Debt Expense	500.00	500.00
506 Mowing Labor	5,500.00	4,500.00	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,600.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>
507 Picnic Tables & R&R	4,000.00	5,000.00	<b>Water Quality</b>		
508 Signs & Buoys	500.00	1,000.00	900 Dredging	10,000.00	10,000.00
509 Trees & Maintenance	2,000.00	2,000.00	901 Fuel (Truck, Harvester, Boat)	1,750.00	1,750.00
510 Boat Ramp	15,000.00	15,000.00	902 Truck Maintenance	2,000.00	4,500.00
511 Contingency	4,185.00	2,000.00	903 Harvester Maintenance	4,000.00	4,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>39,185.00</b>	<b>39,100.00</b>	904 Herbicide	25,000.00	26,200.00
			905 Harvester Labor	8,000.00	8,000.00
			906 Lake Management Consultant	5,000.00	7,500.00
			907 Contingency	6,750.00	2,000.00
			908 Pole Barn		2,400.00
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>62,500.00</b>	<b>66,350.00</b>
			<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>163,585.00</b>	<b>172,200.00</b>

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