

## Lake Somerset Property Owner's Association

# Annual Meeting

1:00 p.m.

Sunday October 2, 2011

## 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 29, 2012. 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](mailto: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

Jim Weber (*President*) .....(419) 885-8338  
 Al Hoffmanner  
 (*Vice-President*) .....688-9261  
 Bert Lawrence (*Treasurer*) .....688-9252

Gary Grandy (*Building*) .....688-3354  
 Dave Sajewski (*Water Quality*) .....688-9094  
 Jim Wajda (*Parks*) .....(734) 320-0599  
 Karen MacPherson (*Secretary*)(517) 900-9147  
 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

### **NOTICE**

#### **Monthly Meetings — NEW TIME!!**

Every **2nd Wednesday 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 7:00 p.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

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

The 2011 summer season by all accounts seems to be a success. New members, water quality, the lake picnic and just about every aspect of lake life seems better! Although 2011, at this time, seems to be an improvement over 2010, we have more work to do. We will continue to strive to make all of these items better in 2012, most importantly water quality.

Several new people have expressed their interest in serving on the board, which is great. New people bring new ideas, challenges and change. We want and need new board and

committee members!

One of our lake members made a wonderful contribution to our association in 2011 which we used to build a new children's play area in the west park. Thank you for your generosity from all of us.

We have more plans for improving the lake for you in 2012! We will share these with you at the Annual Meeting on October 2nd.

As always, if you need anything please contact us. We will try our best to make this lake a special place.

*Jim Weber*

## Lake Somerset History

Our lake community has an interesting and long history! We think it would be a great idea if all of us contributed stories and pictures of our lake, which we could then accumulate and organize in a digital or book format.

If you have an old picture of the lake before

there was water, the dam being built, the first house or anything of interest let's bring it to the office. We will make copies or scan and return all pictures to you. This should be fun and create history for a lifetime!

*Jim Weber*

## Pedestrians

We are a resort community and every day there is a growing number of people who live in our community and walk on the roads. There are no sidewalks so, if you are driving and come upon these people, please give them the right of way. Obey all traffic laws, but please yield to the

pedestrians. Your giving them some space on the road will allow them to better enjoy their walk, and our community.

Thank you for all your help to make Lake Somerset "Our Special Place."

*Jim Weber*

## Survey

Please take just a moment to complete the following survey and drop it off at the LSPOA office or mail it to the office at the address on the front page of the Gazette.

As always, we value your input and strive continuously to improve the quality of our community.

Are you generally pleased with water quality at the lake? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Are you generally pleased with condition of the facilities at the parks? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Are you generally pleased with the management of our association? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Do you attend/enjoy the annual lake picnic?

Attend Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Enjoy Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Are you willing to serve on the board or a lake committee? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

What one thing would you like to see improved? \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your participation, please feel free to call us any time.

*Jim Weber*

## 11th Annual Boat Parade

Our 11th annual boat parade was held on July 4th with 6 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.

**JUDGES:** Tony, Helen, & Darcy Harsch  
**BANNERS:** Made by Laura Harsch  
**PRIZES:** Handed out by Alyssa, Corrine, & Garret Harsch  
**PHOTOS:** Tony Harsch

**WINNERS**  
**1st Place:** Dee Petry & the kids  
**2nd Place:** Robertson Family  
**3rd Place:** Campbell Family

**1st Place: Dee Petry & the kids took 1st place this year with a "Submarine" theme.**



**2nd Place: The Robertson's took 2nd place with a "Fine Dining" theme.**



**3rd Place: The Campell's took 3rd place with a "Miss Liberty" theme.**

## 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.

## Vice Presidents Report

We plan to restart the rewrite of the Restrictive Covenants (RCs) this fall and winter. The RCs and By Laws are in our Red Book and on your deed for your specific subdivision. We had an excellent response from members to participate on the Rewrite Team. The Restrictive Covenants and By Laws prepared by Lake Columbia ([www.lakecolumbia.net](http://www.lakecolumbia.net)) and Lake LeAnn

([www.lakeleann.org](http://www.lakeleann.org)) are excellent resources that we will use as guides. The three lakes, Somerset, LeAnn, and Columbia, are very unique locally because they are deeded private lake associations.

Our RCs are typical of deeded homeowners' associations that enclose a lake. However, ours

*(continued on page 8)*

## 2011 LSPOA Picnic

This was the 19th 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 246 people. We had a full pig roast this year and lots of other delicious dishes brought to pass. Below are the winners of this year's events. See photos on other pages.

### **TURTLE RACE (6 ENTRIES)**

- 1st: Rylee Knapp  
2nd: Tucker Scheithauer  
3rd: Nicholas Miller

### **BASKETBALL FREE THROW**

#### 4 Years Old & Under

- 1st: Owen Shamy  
2nd: Amelia Shamy  
3rd: Tyler Ladd

#### 5 to 7 Years Old

- 1st: Jeff Sheldon  
2nd: Lyza Shamy  
3rd: Rick Wuerker

#### 8 to 11 Years Old

- 1st: Jack Sheldon  
2nd: Gavin McAndrews  
3rd: Brooke McAndrews

#### 12 to 15 Years Old

- 1st: Michael Horio  
2nd: Austin Thompson  
3rd: Taylor Sumner

### **EGG TOSS**

#### 12 Years Old & Under

- 1st: Gavin McAndrews  
Jack Sheldon

- 2nd Jeff Sheldon  
Joe Sheldon

#### 13 Years Old & Up

- 1st: Braden Iveson  
Robbie Iveson

- 2nd Tim Hitchner  
Cody Jones

### **HORSEBALLS**

#### 12 Years Old & Under

- 1st: Caden Bradley  
Kelsi Bradley

- 2nd Gavin McAndrews  
Jack Sheldon

#### 13 Years Old & Up

- 1st: Greg Knapp  
John McAndrews

- 2nd Brian Weaver  
Tom Weaver

### **HORSESHOES**

- 1st: Gene Davenport  
Dale Sumner  
2nd: Greg Knapp  
John McAndrews

### **GOLF CHIPPING**

#### Females 12 & Under

- 1st: Sara Cook  
2nd: Olivia Cook  
3rd: Brooke McAndrews

#### Males 12 & Under

- 1st: Gavin McAndrews  
2nd Ryan Ladd  
3rd: Jeff Sheldon

#### Females 13 & Over

- 1st: Beanie Jackson  
2nd: Taylor Sumner  
3rd: Sue Thompson

#### Males 13 & Over

- 1st: Cody Jones  
2nd: Tom Stegeman  
3rd: Justin Dollar

## Thanks To Our Workers!

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

### **LSPOA Picnic — Saturday, July 16, 2011**

- Attendance** 246+  
**Awards & Posters** Sue Thompson  
**Set-Up** John & Pam McAndrews,  
Sue Thompson, Ingrid Volker

- Take-Down** Doug Dollar, Pam McAndrews, Jen Scheithauer, Jeff & Sue Thompson, Brian & Tracey Utterback

- Food Organization** Ingrid Volker

- Games Organization** Alicia Badders, Sarah Beougher, Gene Davenport, Dennis Glasgow, Julie & Robbie Iveson, Greg Knap, Pam McAndrews, Sue Thompson, Jen & Chris Scheithauer, Christy, Dale, Joe & Myke Sumner, Tom Weaver

If you would like to help with the 2012 picnic, please contact the LSPOA office at (517) 252-5069.

# 2011 Game Winners



**Golf Chipping (Females 12 Years Old & Under):**  
1st Place: Sara Cook (middle)  
2nd Place: Olivia Cook (left)  
3rd Place: Brooke McAndrews (right)



**Golf Chipping (Males 12 Years Old & Under):**  
1st Place: Gavin McAndrews (middle)  
2nd Place: Ryan Ladd (left)  
3rd Place: Jeff Sheldon (right)



**Golf Chipping (Females 13 Years Old & Up):**  
1st Place: Bean Jackson (left)  
2nd Place: Taylor Sumner (middle)  
3rd Place: Sue Thompson (right)



**Golf Chipping (Males 12 Years Old & Up):**  
1st Place: Cody Jones (left)  
2nd Place: Tom Stegeman (middle)  
3rd Place: Justin Dollar (right)



**Horse Balls (12 Years Old & Under):**  
Pictured left to right  
2nd Place: Gavin McAndrews & Jack Sheldon  
1st Place: Caden Bradley U Kelsi Bradley



**Horse Balls (13 Years Old & Up):**  
Pictured left to right  
1st Place: John McAndrews & Greg Knapp  
2nd Place: Tom Weaver & Brian Weaver

## 2011 Game Winners (Continued)



### **Basketball (4 Years Old & Under):**

- 1st Place:** Owen Shamy
- 2nd Place:** Amelia Shamy
- 3rd Place:** Tyler Ladd



### **Basketball (5-7 Years Old):**

- 1st Place:** Jeff Sheldon
- 2nd Place:** Lyza Shamy
- 3rd Place:** Rick Wuerkker



### **Egg Toss (12 Years Old & Under):**

- 1st Place:** Gavin McAndrews & Jack Sheldon
- 2nd Place:** Jeff Sheldon & Joe Sheldon



### **Egg Toss (13 Years Old & Up):**

- 1st Place:** Braden Iveson & Robbie Iveson
- 2nd Place:** Tim Hitchner & Code Jones



### **Turtle Race:**

- 1st Place:** Rylee Knapp (left)
- 2nd Place:** Tucker Scheithauer (middle)
- 3rd Place:** Nicholas Miller (right)



### **Horseshoes:**

- 1st Place:** Dale Sumner & Gene Davenport
- 2nd Place:** Greg Knapp & John McAndrews

Vice Presidents Report (continued)

were written around 1967 by people who never lived here, and the relevant local and state ordinances have changed significantly. In some cases, our RCs are obsolete and contradict local ordinances, so it is costing us time, money and frustration to enforce and abide with them.

RCs are enforced by contract (i.e., deeds) and are similar to township ordinances enforced by the police power of the local government. However, RCs must comply with the local ordinances and be more restrictive (e.g., management of our lake, parks, private ownership, etc.), not less restrictive. An RC must be recorded and approved by LSPOA if it is

more restrictive than the Township ordinance; it is not legal if it is less restrictive than the Township's ordinance; and if it is the same it will be enforced by the Township and the Township's ordinance number could also be referenced in LSPOA files. The Township knows our RCs and will support compliance with them and the Township ordinances prior to approval of a building permit.

We will need a good, well written and communicated set of restrictive covenants and a 50+% approval vote of the members. I expect we will spend at least the next two off seasons preparing the final document for approval.

*Al Hoffmanner*

Community Council News

The Community Council was formed many years ago to help with the communication process and public relations involving Lake Somerset residents.

The mission of the council is to act as a liaison between residents and the association board. Representatives from each subdivision is a volunteer and a spokesperson for their subdivision.

Different events that have been provided by the council are the Lake Somerset garage sale in June, our annual picnic and boat parade in July (let's make it a larger boat parade next year), and we distribute all flyers for Lake Somerset events. We welcome any new volunteers or suggestions to help us promote and maintain our beautiful lake community.

The council is comprised of the following members:

- Pat Abersold (936-7615)  
**Somerset Heights & Meckley's Subdivisions**
- Sheila Davison (688-4051)  
**Somerset Heights & Meckley's Subdivisions**
- Sue Thompson (688-3710)  
**Hillandale & Gordon Subdivisions**
- Mandy Mullins (688-5302)  
**Crestview Subdivision**
- Jen Scheithauer (688-4737)  
**Somerset Heights Subdivision**
- Pam McAndrews (688-3349)  
**Somerset Heights Subdivision**
- Ingrid Volker (688-4327)  
i50volker@gmail.com  
**Somerset Heights Subdivision**

Building Control Committee

The committee approved 13 permits since the beginning of the 2010/2011 LSPOA fiscal year, which generated \$1,150.00 in fees. This compares to 22 permits approved last year. These 13 permits include: 1 house with garage, 2 house additions, 2 garages, 1 fence, 5 decks, 1 shed, and 1 pool.

If you are considering adding a deck, shed, pool, 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 information, cost and the document 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.

- Gary Grandy (*Chairman*).....688-3354
- Mike Sleek .....(734) 363-8517
- John Dickelman.....688-3466

## Water Quality Report

Fall 2011

My name is Dave Sajewski and I have lived on Lake Somerset for 15 years. I have been married to Patty for 47 wonderful years and we are very proud parents of 3 children and grandparents of 6.

I am retired and interested in the quality of our lake, so I agreed to fill the Water Quality Director position this past April. This is my first season to do this, so it has been a huge learning experience, but I am thankful for all the help I receive from my Committee members and our Lake Watch Group.

I am also proud to report that we have established a new communication process with our vendors, before & after each herbicide application, which has resulted in significant improvement of the control of our "nuisance" weeds (starry stonewort, eurasian milfoil & wild celery) in and around the boating lane around our lake. The DEQ requires permits each application and has very strict guidelines for what the herbicide applicator can do in order to assure that we do not do damage to the "good" weeds required to be protected for a healthy lake ecosystem and continued awesome fishing. For example, we may only apply in up to 5 feet of water, and not within 300 feet of the spillovers without amendments from the DEQ. We had one amendment this year to go deeper

for the wild celery, and plan to do more around the parks next year.

An overview of the actions taken this season include the following:

- LSPOA Water Quality Committee was formed in April (minutes & annual bulletin on website)
  - Special LSPOA Membership Meeting held 4/19 with our Aqua Weed Herbicide Applicator and Kieser Water Quality and Plant Management vendors (minutes & slide presentation on website)
  - Lake Watch Group was formed to monitor conditions before and after herbicide treatments and for harvester scheduling
  - 2011 Herbicide Treatment Dates were 4/25-5/10, 6/6-8, 7/6-12, 8/4
  - New Aquatic Weed Pick-Up Procedure & Schedule was launched with the Pontoon boat on Fridays
  - Tips on How to Maintain Good Quality Water: a) Fertilize with phosphorous free fertilizer, b) Pump out septic tanks every 5 years, and c) Keep fire pits at least 20' from water's edge
- If you have any questions, or would like to become a member of our LSPOA Lake Watch Group, please send me an e-mail at [pattys1@frontiernet.net](mailto:pattys1@frontiernet.net)

*Dave Sajewski*

## Parks — 2011

THANK YOU Polec family!!!!

The Polec family has made a sizeable and generous donation to the Somerset community. This donation has made the new play structure in the West park possible. By the time you get this Gazette the play structure should be installed and ready to go! Attached is a picture of the new structure in Blue, Red and Yellow.

This is a big addition to our West Park! Our West Park is turning into a must visit; first class destination on Lake Somerset!!! Bring your kids



and grandkids and have them check out the new play structure! I am sure they will enjoy it!!!

*James Wajda*

## Roads – Fall 2011

Since I became Chairman of Roads, we have taken a more proactive approach.

I met with the Township Supervisor, Don Figiel, several times and the Hillsdale County Road Commission twice and presented our concerns about the condition of our roads. I stated at the meetings that we only had 11 miles of roads and not all were in need of repair, but there were a few miles in need of immediate attention. I said that Limerick Lane, Blarney Circle and Killybegs were in dire need of resurfacing.

Because of our persistent and ongoing effort, a contract has been signed by the Township to pave Limerick from Blarney Circle all the way to the cul-de-sac. This will be a resurfacing and not a chip-n-

seal. Blarney Circle and Killybegs are also on our list but there wasn't enough money in this year's Township Budget to contract those roads. Hopefully, they will be done next year.

Another concern I am looking into is the speed limit on Northmoor. At present it is 45 mph. Residents in that area said they would like to see it lowered to 35. I believe that this is a reasonable request and that no residential area should be posted higher than 35 mph. Since the speed limit was first posted, the population of the lake has almost tripled. We will continue to pursue this matter until we get some positive results.

As always if you have any concerns about the roads you can call me at 688-9767 or e-mail me at [tony.helen.harsch@comcast.net](mailto:tony.helen.harsch@comcast.net)

*Tony Harsch*

## Security Report

Fortunately we have not had accidents or major issues on the Lake so far this Summer, but here are some items that you should always consider when out on the water:

- You can only display the current MC Sticker on your boat, other years are illegal and you can and may be stopped if others are visible by law enforcement

- Children under the age of 6 must wear a Type 1 or Type 2 Life Preserver that is right sized whenever they are on a watercraft. If you have a question please go to the "Michigan Boating Laws and Responsibilities" on the DNR Website.

- 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.

- 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 counterclockwise around the Lake and stay at least 100' from the shoreline at all times.

- When operating a Paddle Boat you must either have a Life Vest on or have a Flotation device on-board for each occupant.

- When on a Pontoon you must be inside the railing, which means no sitting on seats in front of

the railing or on the back sun deck, if you have one, while the boat is moving.

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.

- 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 out after dark make sure your running lights are on and working as intended as this is normally an "automatic stop" and probably a citation if the Marine Patrol is on our Lake

- Sergeant Greg Milbourne of the Hillsdale Marine patrol will be available after the Annual Meeting to answer any and all questions.- I have also met with the DNR and Hillsdale Police regarding Trespassing and Illegal Fisherman on our Lake during the Winter which many Residents feel is a problem. We will be re-doing some signs and posting the areas that the Non-Resident Ice Fisherman are entering through. We will also have one of our Summer Guards out on the Lake this Winter checking Residency as well. A complete Plan is not yet finalized, but we will do a much better job of securing our Lake from Non-Resident use this Winter.

*Mitch Wetzler*

# Fishing Report

## Summer 2011

Looks like summer is about half over and after a cold start, it heated up pretty good. Because of the early summer cold – not sure how well our fish spawned. Looks like the panfish had a pretty good year, with the exception of the perch and crappies.

Several fishermen have noticed a big decrease in the crappie population over the past several years. I didn't get out early as much as I liked – but I've only caught a few last summer and none so far this summer. This is my theory on the crappie: years ago (back in the late 1990s and early 2000s –

I thought Lake Somerset was one of the best crappie lakes in this area – many times you could catch a limit in less than an hour – and they were large fish 9-12 inches. Whether a coincidence or not – the population began to fall about the time we got the zebra mussel invasion and began using herbicides to control aquatic plants. I doubt that the zebra mussels have any impact on spawning. Which leaves us with the herbicide effect. Crappie begin their spawning when the water temperature approaches the mid 50s. Nests are loosely constructed in areas with vegetation – the newly hatched fish then hang out in the vegetation and eventually migrate into deeper water. Just a thought – but we have been “targeting” curly leaf pondweed in early May. Curly leaf pondweed has been in MI for over 100 years – but some refer to it as an invasive plant. Curly leaf springs up in late April and May, then dies out in June. This is just a theory on my part! Depending on what we see the fall and winter – we may need to restock some crappies next year.

And then there's the zebra mussels – seems like last fall they reached a peak and this year seemed to disappear. Snorkeling and wading around our area – showed no zebra mussels – only some empty shells. Let's see, what happens when people began pulling their boats out? Some lake people have been asking me if something has been eating them. As I've stated before – several fish species in our lake eat them – but not exclusively. Carp, catfish, and redear sunfish have been



documented dining on zebra mussels! Plus many diving duck species feed on them (scaup and piebilled grebes both feed on snails and small mussels.

Last spring I noticed a large flock of scaup (also called bluebills) spent almost a month in our bay diving for something – actually this is a first – other than a few individuals – they always stay on the main lake. Were they eating the zebra mussels??

Back to the fish!! Lots of fishermen have told me of catching redears in the 11-12 inch range including several that qualified for MI Master Angler awards. They certainly has been success around here. Some people have asked that maybe we should stock more of them. Most fisheries info shows that if a species (particularly panfish) are doing well you shouldn't stock more as it could result in stunting. I think

most of our “redears” are hybrids from pumpkinseed/bluegill crosses.

This summer – the bluegill bite has been great – right now they are stacked up over the deeper water, about 12-16 feet down. Most days I get a limit in about 1-2 hours. These fish are large, 8-9 inches, and very good eating.

The walleye and pike have slowed down a bit – but I spoke to several fishermen who have taken some nice walleyes trolling crankbaits or jigs baited with minnows or crawlers. And remember – the catfish are almost always willing to bite!

Here's the story on this year's fish stocking – I had planned on stocking pike this spring. Because of the cooler weather – the fish hatched late and were not ready until mid June. After rushing around getting the permit and health certificate approved – we finally had a stocking date in late June. However, when the rearing ponds were emptied there were only a few “big” pike left. That's a problem with rearing pike – as they grow – they begin eating each other! So, bottom line, I guess we will stock more walleyes than usual this fall.

As always, good luck fishing, and let me know if you have any questions, or have any comments. My phone number is 688-3384, email [grausch@comcast.net](mailto:grausch@comcast.net). Also send me any fish pictures you might want to share for the website.

*George Rausch*

## *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:**

Tony Harsch	Roads Chairman
Al Hoffmann	Vice President
Bert Lawrence	Treasurer

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

#### **Tony Harsch**

My name is Tony Harsch and I have served on the Board for almost 10 years in several positions: Building Control for 2 years, President for 5 years and recently as Road Chairman for 3 years. I believe the Board we now have is doing an effective job and I would like to continue working with them to better our Community. Thank you for your support.

#### **Bert Lawrence**

I was appointed Treasurer two years ago after the resignation of Chris Scollard from the Board. I have worked many hours to find and correct the many problems in our QuickBooks accounting software installation. I have also resolved safety issues in our office and at our pole barn. I initiated the repairs to our weed harvester a year and a half ago. I also noted the need for the extensive repairs to our pole barn a year ago.

More recent projects involve the upgrading of our office computer hardware and software; hiring and training two young men to pick up shoreline weeds with our pontoon boat; and converting our weed elevator to run with an electric motor instead of the harvester engine. This will allow the young men to empty the pontoon boat while the harvester is out on the lake.

Future projects involve a computerized archive system to avoid the massive loss of historical information we experienced several years ago. I am updating and revising our various Contractor contracts to standardize, simplify, and make them more legal. I'm also trying to get the pole barn stained before the summer is over.

I enjoy doing all of these things and being on the Board. With your vote and support, I will continue to do so for the next three years.

#### **Chris Scollard**

My name is Chrissy Scollard. I have previously served on our Board as Building Control Chair and as Treasurer, during which time I set up the LSPOA office, automated the financials, developed administrative processes, forms, reports, web pages, and hired and trained the Office Manager.

I continue to work with the Community Council to distribute flyers for Rolling Meadows and with the Annual Picnics, and am the Scribe for the Water Quality Committee bulletin, meeting minutes and monthly reports. I have lived on Lake Somerset since 2005 where I enjoy boating, gardening, golfing, community fitness activities, entertaining, and my cats. I grew up in Ann Arbor, graduated from Pioneer High, from MSU with a Bachelors in Retailing, and from CMU with a Masters in Personnel Management. I worked for Ford Motor Company for 30 years in many Human Resource management positions, including: a) Secretary to the main table for Ford UAW national negotiations management proposals, contract language changes, and pay and benefit change implementations, b) numerous Plant, Division, and Staff Human Resource Manager positions, and finally, the c) Corporate and Executive Personnel Manager at the World Headquarters. I am asking for your vote again because I am now retired and would like to contribute my Ford learned skills to help keep our lake community the special place that it is. If elected, I will accept whichever open position that the Board agrees best suits my skills and abilities to work toward continued lake process improvement efforts. Thank you for your ongoing kind support.

#### **Tom Stegeman**

I am married with two children and have owned a home on Lake Somerset since 2000. However, my family has owned on this lake for many years.

I am a small business owner of a restaurant chain in the Detroit metro area. Now that my wife and I are empty-nesters, I am interested in joining the board because I want to give whatever assistance I can in the continued improvement of our lake quality, community and property values.

I believe we have one of the best lakes in this area and want to continue to improve upon what the prior board members have already accomplished.

Cut along dotted line

**Lake Somerset Property Owner's Association  
Proxy and Official Ballot — October 2011**

**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)

- Tony Harsch
- Bert Lawrence
- Chris Scollard
- Tom Stegeman
- \_\_\_\_\_

**BUDGET**

I approve     I disapprove    the 2011/2012 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 2011/2012. 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 entrees 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.

Proposed 2011/2012 LSPOA Operating Budget  
PRELIMINARY  
Finalized Budget to be presented at the Annual Meeting

	Proposed 2012 Budget	2011 Budget	Proposed 2012 Budget	2011 Budget
<b>INCOME</b>				
<b>INCOME</b>				
300 Assessments/Dues	126,500.00			
301 Boat Registration Sticker - <b>FEE</b>	17,500.00			
302 Interest-Assessment (Late Fees)	1,300.00			
303 Interest - Bank	6,500.00			
304 Gate Keys - <b>FEE</b>	100.00			
305 Construction Review ( <b>FEE</b> )	1,250.00			
306 Bank Service Charges Expense	-			
307 Edward Jones - Change in Value	-			
308 Prior Years Delinquent Dues	20,000.00		20,000.00	
309 Uncategorized Income	-			
310 Pig Roast - <b>Donations</b>	200.00		200.00	
311 Gain on Repossession Account	-			
312 Miscellaneous Income	-			
313 Contribution Income	-			
<b>TOTAL 300-399 INCOME</b>	<b>173,350.00</b>	<b>173,350.00</b>	<b>173,350.00</b>	<b>173,350.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>Other</b>				
400 Fish Planting	5,000.00		6,000.00	
401 Community Council	800.00		1,500.00	
402 Fireworks/Neighborhood Watch	400.00		400.00	
403 Miscellaneous	-			
404 Roads and Public Relations	5,000.00		5,000.00	
410 Depreciation Expense	-			
<b>TOTAL 400-499 EXPENSES</b>	<b>11,200.00</b>	<b>11,200.00</b>	<b>12,900.00</b>	<b>12,900.00</b>
<b>Parks</b>				
500 Docks & Repair Labor	2,000.00		2,000.00	
501 Playground Equipment	1,000.00		500.00	
502 Fences	2,000.00		5,000.00	
503 Port-a-Johns	2,000.00		1,500.00	
504 Garbage Removal	1,000.00		1,000.00	
505 Consumers Energy	1,600.00		1,700.00	
506 Mowing Labor	4,500.00		6,000.00	
507 Picnic Tables & R&R	5,000.00		1,000.00	
508 Signs & Buoys	1,000.00		2,000.00	
509 Trees & Maintenance	2,000.00		2,000.00	
510 Boat Ramp	15,000.00		2,000.00	
511 Miscellaneous	2,000.00		2,000.00	
<b>TOTAL 500-599 PARCS</b>	<b>39,100.00</b>	<b>39,100.00</b>	<b>22,700</b>	<b>22,700</b>
<b>EXPENSE (Continued)</b>				
<b>Secretary</b>				
600 Gazette Printing and Mailing	2,000.00		2,000.00	
601 Web Maintenance Labor	400.00		400.00	
602 Web Account Fee	400.00		400.00	
603 Miscellaneous	150.00		150.00	
<b>TOTAL 600-699 SECRETARY</b>	<b>2,950.00</b>	<b>2,950.00</b>	<b>3,150.00</b>	<b>3,150.00</b>
<b>Security</b>				
700 Keys for Boat Launch Gate	400.00		400.00	
701 Boat Stickers	500.00		500.00	
702 Guard Labor	7,000.00		7,000.00	
703 Miscellaneous	1,000.00		1,000.00	
<b>TOTAL 700-799 SECURITY</b>	<b>8,900.00</b>	<b>8,900.00</b>	<b>8,900.00</b>	<b>8,900.00</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>				
800 Accounting Services	2,800.00		2,800.00	
801 Postage	1,050.00		1,050.00	
802 Office Supplies	2,000.00		2,000.00	
803 Bookkeeping Labor	7,500.00		7,650.00	
804 Telephone	1,350.00		1,350.00	
805 Property Taxes	3,900.00		6,000.00	
806 Legal Labor	3,700.00		3,700.00	
807 Insurance	6,500.00		6,500.00	
808 Collections	1,500.00		1,500.00	
809 Annual Meeting	100.00		100.00	
810 Income Taxes	2,500.00		2,500.00	
811 Rent	3,300.00		3,600.00	
812 Miscellaneous	500.00		500.00	
813 Bad Debt Expense	2,000.00		2,000.00	
814 Mileage Reimbursement	-		-	
<b>TOTAL 800-899 TREASURER</b>	<b>38,700.00</b>	<b>38,700.00</b>	<b>41,250.00</b>	<b>41,250.00</b>
<b>Water Quality</b>				
900 Dredging	10,000.00		10,000.00	
901 Fuel (Truck, Harvester, Boat)	1,750.00		1,750.00	
902 Truck Maintenance	4,500.00		2,000.00	
903 Harvester Maintenance	4,000.00		4,000.00	
904 Herbicide	26,200.00		35,000.00	
905 Harvester Labor	8,000.00		8,000.00	
906 Lake Management Consultant	7,500.00		9,000.00	
907 Miscellaneous	2,000.00		2,000.00	
908 Pole Barn	2,400.00		2,400.00	
<b>TOTAL 900-999 WATER QUALITY</b>	<b>66,350.00</b>	<b>66,350.00</b>	<b>84,150.00</b>	<b>84,150.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>167,200</b>	<b>167,200</b>	<b>173,050.00</b>	<b>173,050.00</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>6,150.00</b>	<b>6,150.00</b>	<b>300.00</b>	<b>300.00</b>

Lake Somerset Property Owner's Association  
P.O. Box 41  
Somerset, MI 49281

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

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

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### 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*

### 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.**