

# HOGBACK LAKE ASSOCIATION

## Newsletter



SEPTEMBER 2023

# See You Soon...

Happy fall y'all. It seems like summer just arrived; and just like that it's over. Another year in the books on Hogback Lake.

As the cooler weather approaches, you may want to consider these tips if you are buttoning up for the year:

- Bring in the dock – as the lake ices over, it can damage the anchor posts or the dock itself.
- After you've drained your marine craft, put those drain plugs back in!
- Bleed your pipes and shut off the water supply; trust me, we've learned the hard way.
- Clean and check your furnace.
- Unplug your appliances (well... maybe leave the sump pump, if you have one plugged in).



### MEET THE BOARD

President	Shaun Killeen
Vice President	Dan Beachnau
Treasurer	Mike Bassett
Secretary	Nikki Szymkowski

Dan Beachnau and Bob Richards are stepping down from their positions as President and treasurer. Thank you, Dan and Bob, for your dedication. And thank you Shaun and Mike for stepping into some big shoes.



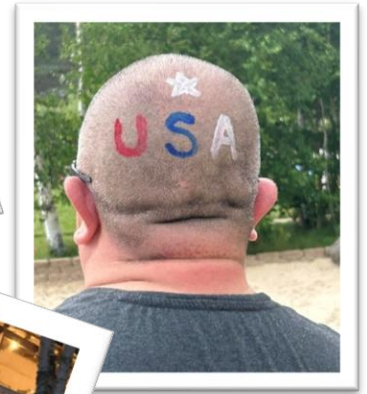
## Remembering Independence Day Weekend

I always look forward to enjoying the activities and spectacles of our Hogback Lake 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration.

As with each year, we hold the annual lake association meeting. Highlights of the meeting included the election of new board members, the discussion of an electronic newsletter, and updating the Hogback Lake webpage. Read more about it in the meeting minutes.

The activities began Friday evening with karaoke at Dave and Cathy's on the far west end of the lake. Equipped with 8,000 songs, we were guaranteed to find at least one to belt out.

For safety reasons, Nikki decided to go with a children's activities at her house, versus the usual kiddie parade. It was a real hit! and let's face it, we were all super excited to get on our boats and pontoons and head over to those piggy poker stops where prizes for the best and worse hands were awarded.

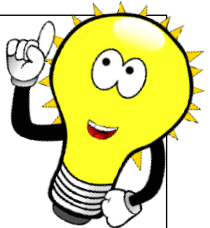


After wrapping up the poker run, teams and spectators headed to Keelean beach where there was food, music, and shenanigans during the corn hole tournament. Twenty teams competed this year for trophies, cash, and bragging rights; and the winning team was able to add their signatures to the tourney banner.

Of course, the celebration isn't over until we witness the spectacular fireworks provided by Eric S., Eric H. & Travis. It truly is the best show in town from the comforts of home.



### DID YOU KNOW?



Bounce Dryer Sheets are great for repelling rodents. The next time you winterize, remember to slip a few dryer sheets around your home. I like to put sheets on each bed, under sofa cushions, and inside cabinets.

There are approximately 7 million Canadian geese in N. America which can be found throughout the year in all 48 states (thanks "Bob Vila Tried, True, Trustworthy Home Advice"). By the time I return to Hogback in the spring, I feel like all 7 million of those b\*\*\*ds have fertilized my property! Experts recommend decoys, among other deterrents. You should consider placing them on something that will make them move or swivel since the added motion may be enough to keep the geese off your property. I, myself have tied plastic Meijer bags to stakes along the beach. The movement and sound seemed to be enough to scare the geese away – cheap and easy.

# HERE'S THE SKINNY



During the months of June, July, and August you may have noticed a fan boat on the lake spraying algaecide treatments. That was Sal from PLM Lake and Land Management Corporation. Of course, we all have our own opinions regarding the topic, but here are a couple of points I found with the little research I did:

- Algae may emerge at the bottom of the lake; but the sunshine, warm temperatures, reduced oxygen levels and abundance of nutrients may nurture the organisms enough to grow and eventually float to the surface of the water.
- Algae does have benefits to the lake's ecosystem from feeding fish to making great homes for invertebrates like bugs and worms. Unfortunately, algae also have their drawbacks. Besides being unsightly and causing problems for marine craft, uncontrolled blooms can cause oxygen depletion which negatively affects fish and other aquatic animals.
- Most algaecides do not have water use restrictions, though it is recommended to wait a few hours before entering the treated water.<sup>1</sup>

Several owners have elected to use weed control on the water in front of their properties with the help of PLM. Below is a sample portion of the letter containing information regarding the service provided.

A representative from PLM is willing to attend the annual meeting to discuss their service and answer any questions we may have. Let a board member know if this is something you'd be interested in.



Hogback Lake Property Owners,

PLM Lake & Land Management Corp. will offer herbicide and algaecides treatments for Hogback Lake property owners for the 2022 season. Please note that this program is for nuisance native plant control/suppression and algae control only and is a temporary program until a formal lake management program can be established. If you would like to participate, please fill out the below sign up form. The treatment program will consist of 3 weed and algae treatments for the 2022 season. The cost will be \$4.25 per running foot of shoreline (minimum of \$100.00) treating -100 feet out from shore. Tentative treatment dates and notification of products that may be applied will be mailed in the spring of 2022.

The products applied are based on the type and amount of nuisance vegetation present at the time of treatment. The program does not treat for any emergents (cattails, bulrush) or native plants such as sago pondweed unless mentioned above. The treatment program will include an eel grass/wild celery treatment as well. Please note that eel grass is extremely difficult to kill and the treatment will suppress the growth of the plant but not cause that specific plant to completely disappear. The swimming restriction is a maximum of 1 day. Watering lawns or gardens and fishing restrictions will be based on products applied at time of treatment.

<sup>1</sup> Thepondguy.com



## IN SEARCH OF...

We all have information, fun facts, and helpful hints to share with each other. To pass that information more efficiently throughout the year, we decided to give electronic newsletters a shot. The intent of the newsletter is not to replace the Hogback Friends Facebook page; nor to overshadow the official web page. Instead, we hope to augment the information shared through those media outlets in a more formal way; especially to those who may not have access to Facebook.

Since we don't want to 'hog' all the fun and responsibilities (see what I did there?), we are reaching out to anyone who would like to contribute to the production of a quarterly or semi-annual newsletter. You may contribute by:

- Contributing to articles (i.e. DIYs, recipes...)
- Offering article ideas
- If you are interested, contact Nikki Szymkowski

Letter from Nikki...

Thank you all so much for your donations, help and participation in another great Independence Day celebration on Hogback Lake. Though participation for the kids' field day was down, those who attended had a great time. On the other hand, there was a record high number of participants in the Poker Run this year (Woo Hoo)! We are always looking for ways to improve activities on the lake; so next year we plan to post flags at each Poker Run stop to help make it easier to navigate.

Thank you all again, we appreciate you all and look forward to celebrating with you again next year.



# Children's Field Day



A big thank you to the following local businesses who donated to our celebration this year:

- AJ Johnson & Sons, Inc.
- Swick Custom Butchering
- Village Market
- Mr. Pibbs
- Traveler's
- Leroy Hardware
- Buck Country Bait & Tackle

