

PLA NEWS

Spring 2023



It is that time again for the annual Pine Lake Association Newsletter. A special welcome to the new residents of our community. It takes a village to make a community great and we are glad you are a part of our special community. Spring is the kickoff to our summer at the lake but remember all four seasons have so much to offer. This newsletter will share previous activities as well as inform you about future lake news and opportunities in our community.

Sadly, we have had to say goodbye to neighbors who have passed. Many of them were long time residents and each of them added to our lake community. Our condolences go out to their families as we treasure the memories they left.

In Memoriam

Gordon Scholl

Jackie Tafoya

Ken Craft

Deena Patterson

Mary Ellen Kaus

Eleanor DeVito

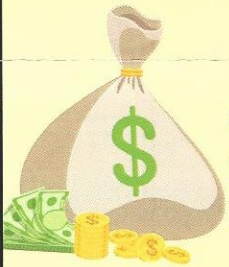
Kalvin Kalowski



GARAGE Sale

The sign up form for the Pine Lake Garage Sales on 6/23 and 6/24 can be found at pinelk.org under events.

Treasurer's Update as of March 31, 2023



General Fund - \$21,630.38
Fireworks - \$20,766.65
Buoy Fund - \$6,155.23

Next PLA Meeting

Saturday, June 3 at 9 a.m.
in the pavilion at
Pine Lake Recreation



PLA OFFICERS

President, Andrea Bernard
president@pinelk.org

Vice President, Corey Case
vicepresident@pinelk.org

Secretary, Sara Smith
secretary@pinelk.org

Treasurer, Darci Irving
treasurer@pinelk.org

Sergeant-at-Arms, Ron Goolsby
sergeant-at-arms@pinelk.org

EVENT COORDINATORS

Egg Drop - Sara Smith

Boat Parade - Brooks Craft

Fireworks - Nancy Whitney

Halloween Party - Andrea Bernard

Halloween Spook House -

volunteer needed

Turtle Races -

volunteer needed

Newsletter - MaryAnn DeVries

Garage Sales - Lori Schafer-McAdam

Webmaster - Pete Seibert

President's Message

As I reflect on the year, I am thinking about change and growth being the central theme as a pivot point around the lake. Naturally, changes will often lend oneself to reflect on what was.

Growing up on the lake provided me, my brother, and all of the other local Pine Lake kids with a childhood like no other. We learned on the go and lived for today. More than 40 years later my husband and I are raising our kids on the lake. We want them to have the same adventures and experiences. And quite honestly we are busy, working parents, in an ever surprising time of social change. I look to the lake to unwind, relax and find peace. If you know nothing else about me, at least know that is why I love the lake and this community. It helped raise me and helps me find peace today. I want to actively care for it and give back.

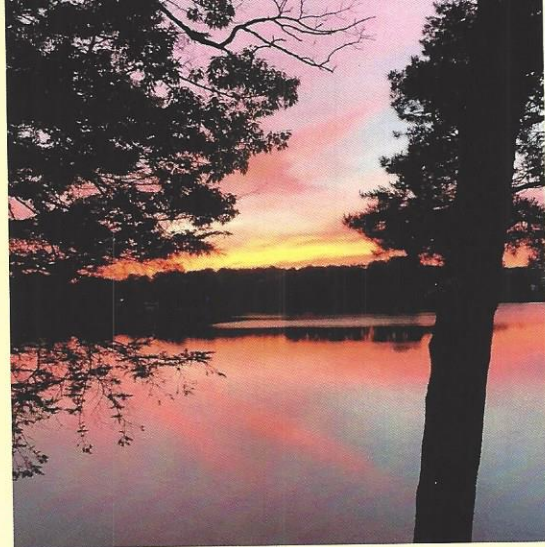
Whether you have just arrived for the season or are one of our legacy generational Pine Lake families that have been here well before the rest of us, I believe we all share these same ideals.

Today as we look around, we have lots of changes to navigate together. Let's be good stewards to our new residents and supporters of our local businesses. I believe doing this will only continue to enrich the quality and culture of our lake. As a community, we are also going through a complicated multi-year lake level management project which is held and overseen at the county level.

No matter the changes we are navigating, it is important to remember most of us share many of the same ideals for living here. We consider the future long-term impact of today's decisions for future generations. And/or we want to look to the lake in order to preserve our own peace and relaxation. We are more alike than different below the surface.



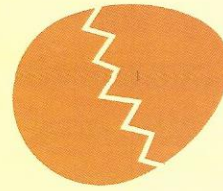
*Thank you from the bottom of my heart for another year.
I hope to see you on the lake!
Andrea*



Egg Drop



The sun was shining for our first Egg Drop sponsored by the PLA. Attendees were tasked with building something to hold a raw egg in hopes of keeping it from cracking. It was certainly a challenge when the egg was dropped from John Halloran's High Maintenance bucket truck. The creativity was amazing as the kids thought of different ideas to protect their eggs. Surprisingly, several eggs survived the drop. It was a fun event and plans are in the works for another year. Besides John, thanks to all who participated and Sara Smith for arranging this opportunity.



Pine Lake Float Fest

The 2022 Pine Lake Float Fest was held on August 20 in Lake 4. A huge thank you to Ann Arbor Distilling Co. who sponsored the show. They are co-owned by Chris and Mary Ann Qualters who live on Pine Lake. Thanks also to Lake Trades for the use of their barge and Andrea Bernard for planning the event. The great music was provided by Kyle Jennings and Lucid Vibe. The weather shortened the show but it didn't dampen the enthusiasm of Pine Lakers!



Save This Date...

**August 19 for
the 2023 Pine
Lake Float Fest!**

Water Level Update

Jim Dull, County Drain Commissioner

- There were 290 surveys returned with 160 saying to do nothing and the rest not saying anything against the project.
- The legal lake level is 890.5 feet.
- There were 88 surveys that said that legal lake level was OK. The rest said it was too low.
- In December the County Commission said they did not want to adjust the legal lake level at that time.
- There is a DEQ/EGLE permit to test pump to the gravel pit. This is planned for late April.

Water Safety



Water Safety is the responsibility of us all. On the PLA website the full document of the 10 Most Common Marine Law Violations can be found. This year there will be an emphasis on number 8 - Boater Safety Certificate. A class will be held in June for those needing this certificate. More information can be found at BarryCounty.org/marinedivision. If you see a situation on the water that is a danger, please call Barry County Central Dispatch at 911.

Weed Treatment

Andy Tomaszewski, PLM Southern Lakes Manager

If you haven't received the letter already, you will be getting one from PLM about this year's weed treatment schedule. The date is a target. Sometimes weeds or mother nature do not match this schedule, so we must adjust accordingly. If you have questions you can contact me at (616) 891-1294 ext. 2002.

4th of July

Fireworks

by Nancy Whitney

Another great gathering of Pine Lakers viewed the fireworks last July 3. The feedback was very positive and the addition of the lower water level features was a nice touch. This event is funded by donations, so please help us continue this tradition.

Thanks to these people who helped last year: Great Lakes Fireworks for the show, donation from Lake Trades for the barge and Pine Lake Boat & Motor for the pontoon for the workers. When you see these people, please thank them!



The 2023 fireworks will be Sunday, July 2 with a rain date of July 3.



Boat Parade
The 2022 Boat Parade was another success. This year the parade will be held on Sunday, July 2 at 2:30 p.m. Entrants are to meet at the cove by MCTI at 2 p.m. Watch Facebook for more information about the fun!

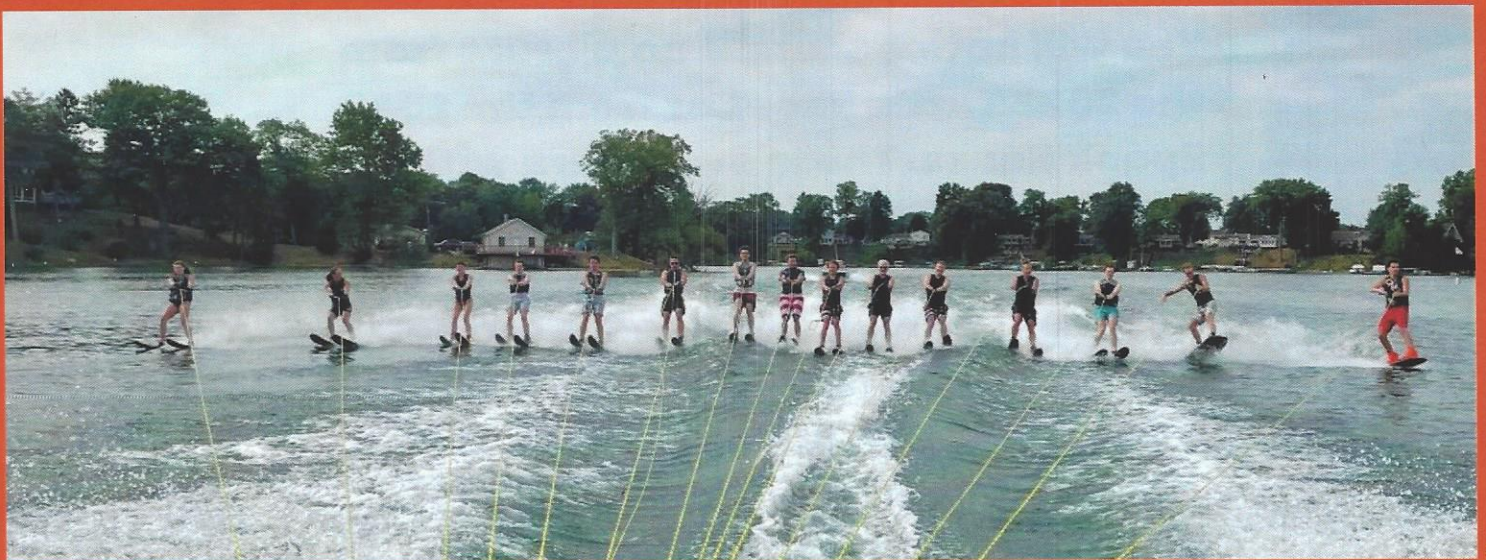
Pine Lake Big Ski

by Joel Schneck

The Pine Lake July 4th Big Ski Extravaganza continues to grow in popularity. We are looking forward to another exciting event this year. Last year was a record breaking year on two levels. First, a record 15 skiers successfully pulled into the finish area of Lake 4! Second was the support from Pine Lakers. It was great to see so many boats surrounding the perimeter of lakes 3 and 4. Both your encouragement and keeping the lakes wave free, made all the difference in our success.



Thank You!

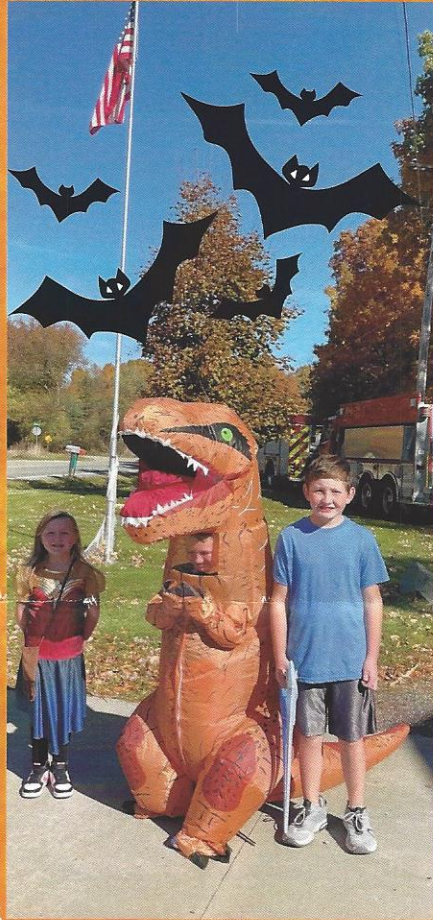


BOO!

Halloween Party



If you were near the Prairieville Township Fire Department on October 22, 2022, you may have observed some unusual looking creatures. It was the annual PLA Halloween Party! Thank you to all those who attended, the PTFD for allowing us to use their building and the volunteers who made it happen. Fun occurs at all times of the year at Pine Lake.



Needed

You will notice there is no picture from the 2022 Turtle Races or from the 2022 Spook House. These events are without volunteers. They have been events for many years that would be great to continue. To make sure these are not lost, please consider helping. It truly takes a village to put on successful events for the lake. Contact any PLA officer for more information.



Pine Lake Area Ladies Group

by Karen Blamer

Wow! It has been five years since a few women got together and established the PLALG. It has grown to over 180 members. The purpose of the group is for women around the lake to connect, get to know each other better and share common interests. There is something for everyone and all ladies are welcomed. To find out more check the Pine Lake Area Ladies Group on Facebook. This is where the communication occurs. If you are not on Facebook, contact me, Karen Blamer at 269-312-3447, and I will keep you informed. We are looking forward to connecting with all of you and making this the best year yet for the women of Pine Lake.

Join us!

PINE LAKE LADIES ROCK!!



Fire Department

by Chief Uridge

Safety Net



Living in a rural area certainly has advantages. One of the disadvantages is that it can take longer to get help in an emergency. The timeliness of ambulance service has become a greater concern over the last few years. Together Prairieville Township, Barry Township, Prairieville Township Fire Department (PTFD) and Hickory Corners Fire Department (HCFD) along with LifeCare Ambulance have adopted Safety Net to better meet our needs. When you call with a medical emergency, our medical first responders always arrive first to help. If the ambulance to transport the patient to the hospital is 30 minutes or more out, Safety Net goes into use. It is a special alert system to respond via a local ambulance housed at PTFD or HCFD. It provides a much faster response time. This "safety net" has been successful and is continually improving. Thank you to all who worked on this.



Other PTFD News

- The PTFD continues to successfully handle structure fires. They work with other area Fire Departments and together are making our corner of the world safer. They meet and train weekly on Monday nights at 6:00. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, stop by the meeting or reach out to me, Chief Uridge.
- We have a brand new Ford Explorer for emergency calls. We have also improved our meeting space. The community can utilize this space as well. Just contact us to reserve it.
- Welcome to new volunteers Makayla Konecny and Taylor Stewart.
- Congratulations to Deputy Chief, Mark Flick and Captain, Tyler Brownell on their recent promotions.
- Thank you to Zach Koon for all of his years of service.
- Also, thank you to Don Haneckow for his many years of service. Don has been a staple in our community and we can't thank him enough for his dedication.
- Thank you to everyone who works to make our community great! We couldn't do it without your support.

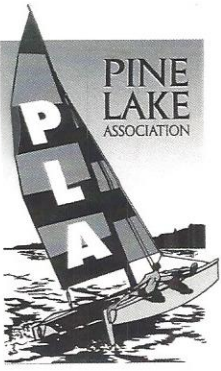
Police Department

by Chief Reizin

Since I took over as Chief of Police in late September of 2022, The Prairieville Township Police Department goal has been to build a respectful and trusting relationship with the community. We have been a part of every local community event that has taken place. We attend all the home football games and assisted Barry Township Police with the “Home Coming Parade”. We were a part of the “Gilmore’s Trunk or Treat”. We assisted Barry Township Police with the Delton Christmas Days “Cram the Cruiser” and the Christmas Parade. We took part in both the Barry County and Allegan County “Shop With a COP” programs, which helped over 150 children during the holiday season.

We are working diligently with the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Michigan State Police, in trying to get the speed limit lowered on Prairieville Township’s portion of M-43 near Gull Lake. We assisted with the “Election Day” activities at the Town Hall, standing by making sure the voters felt safe and secure as well as taking the opportunity to meet and greet the voters in line. We also recently made an important arrest in the “trespass larcenies” that have been occurring in the area. We hired an additional officer, which provides additional coverage for the community and we purchased a new police response vehicle that also helps with that coverage. We hope to hire another officer in the near future, which would provide Prairieville Township with 7 day a week coverage. We wouldn’t have to depend on the Barry County or MSP as much. We will continue this forward progress as we proudly protect and serve Prairieville Township.





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PLA 2023 Calendar of Events

| Event | Leader | Date/Location |
|--|---------------------|---|
| Feb. 2023 Virtual Meeting | PLA Board | 12 at 10 a.m. |
| Association Dues Invoices | Sara Smith | Mailed Feb. 2023; Due 6/1/23 |
| Buoy Drop/Removal | Andrea Bernard | Before Memorial Day/After Labor Day |
| Easter Activity | Sara Smith | Sunday, 4/2 at 3 p.m.; Pine Lake Recreation Area |
| Annual Newsletter | MaryAnn DeVries | Month of May |
| June in person meeting with Election of Officers | PLA Board | Saturday, June 3 at 9 a.m.; Pavilion at Pine Lake Rec |
| Garage Sales | Lori Schafer-McAdam | Friday, June 23 and Saturday, June 24 |
| Boat Parade | Brooks Craft | Sunday, July 2 meet at 2 p.m. at MCTI cove, parade starts at 2:30 |
| Independence Day Fireworks | Nancy Whitney | July 2 at dusk, raindate July 3 |
| Turtle Races | LEAD NEEDED | TBD |
| Pine Lake Float Fest Concert | Andrea Bernard | Saturday, August 19, time TBD |
| Children's Halloween Carnival | Andrea Bernard | TBD |
| Children's Halloween Spookhouse | LEAD NEEDED | TBD |
| TENTATIVE 4th Quarter 2023 Virtual Meeting | PLA Board | TBD |