

# PLA NEWS

**May 2021**

**Welcome to the Pine Lake Association newsletter. This newsletter is full of the many activities and support systems that are provided to all of us. We are so lucky to live in a remarkable community like Pine Lake. Each day we see sunrises that take our breath away, enjoy the lake activities and watch sunsets that are amazing.**

**A very special welcome to new residents who are experiencing the glory of Pine Lake for the first year. Thank you for becoming a part of our community and thanks to your neighbors who are mentoring you in the giving nature of Pine Lakers.**

**There are several members of the Pine Lake Community who have passed this last year. Many were long time Pine Lakers and they were all true lake lovers. We are fortunate to have great memories with them. These neighbors will forever be in our thoughts.**

## **In Memoriam**

***Phillip Dunlop***

***Murray "Stubs" Chamberlin***

***Dan Eager***

***Marv Anson***

***Roger DeMond***

***Ron Everitt***

***Barbara DeMond***

***Mike Howe***

***Yvonne Gabos***

***James Simonds***

***Dale Rounds***

***Mary Pennington***

***Jo Bos***

# Your Pine Lake Association

## Message from the President 2021

What a year! There were so many activities cancelled in 2020, we are now looking forward to what 2021 will

bring. Although the pandemic is not yet behind us, we are planning a year of resumed activities. As of this writing, all are proceeding with appropriate protocols. Please refer to the calendar of events for all event dates.

As summer approaches, high water levels are once again at the forefront. Please be mindful of your boat wake and consider giving extra distance to the shoreline when motoring about. Your efforts in this matter are both welcomed and appreciated.

Question: Do you know your immediate neighbors? How about those that live on the next lake over? Volunteering is a great way to meet your neighbors AND it just so happens we have a few volunteer opportunities on the PLA docket. Most are simple and just require a little time and enthusiasm. Please consider getting involved and making some new friends along the way. If I piqued your interest at all, reach out to any of the board members. Thanks!

On a final note, this June will bring an end to my tenure as the PLA President. I would like to thank the PLA board and the many volunteers that make this community such a great place to live. It has been a rewarding experience and I have met so many nice people the last four years. Stay safe and see you on the lake!

Randy Klinger,  
PLA President

### Officers

- President, Randy Klinger  
[president@pinelk.org](mailto:president@pinelk.org)
- Vice President, Corey Case  
[vicepresident@pinelk.org](mailto:vicepresident@pinelk.org)
- Secretary, Sara Smith  
[secretary@pinelk.org](mailto:secretary@pinelk.org)
- Treasurer, Darci Irving  
[treasurer@pinelk.org](mailto:treasurer@pinelk.org)
- Sergeant-at-Arms, Ron Goolsby  
[sergeant-at-arms@pinelk.org](mailto:sergeant-at-arms@pinelk.org)

Contact the association anytime through email at [plaofficer@pinelk.org](mailto:plaofficer@pinelk.org) or send a message on the Facebook page.

### Volunteers

Halloween Party, Haneckows and Bernards

Easter Activities, Barb Ver Sluis

Fireworks, Nancy Whitney

Boat Parade, Brooks Craft

Turtle Race, Nancy Robinson and ?

Newsletter, MaryAnn DeVries

Garage Sales, Lori McAdams

Webmaster, Pete Seibert

### Treasurer's Update

\$15,273.41 in the general fund

\$16,157.75 in the fireworks fund

\$3,915.23 in the buoy fund





## Association Meetings

There are two association meetings each year. The first association meeting of the 2021 year was held on February 4, 2021. Even though it was held virtually there were over 30 people who attended. The agenda was full of planning for the 2021 year and approving monies for different activities. In addition to the fun activities, the association pays each year to have the buoys put in and taken out as well as other maintenance items. The meeting minutes can be found on the association website under the About Us tab or on the Pine Lake Yelpers Facebook page under Files.

On Saturday, June 5 at 9 a.m. the June Association Meeting will be held at the MCTI cabin. This is a great opportunity to meet with other members and understand how the association works. Put this date on your calendar. It is held yearly on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in June at 9 a.m. Thanks in advance for trying to be present at this important meeting.

### Safe and Easy Virtual Pay

The Pine Lake Association now has a Venmo account for mobile donations for the PLA Fireworks! Venmo is an app owned by Pay Pal, that allows you to pay and request money virtually. There is no need for cash or check although they are still accepted. You can scan this QR code or search for @PineLakeAssociationFireworks in the Venmo app to make a donation. Don't forget to share this with guests who enjoy the fireworks. Money that is now being collected is for the 2022 Fireworks. If Venmo proves successful, it is the association's plan to make virtual pay more available.



### Garage Sale Time

It is time again for the Annual Pine Lake Garage Sales! This year they will be held on Friday, June 25 and Saturday, June 26. There are a couple of changes from previous years that you will notice on the sign-up sheet on the insert. First, your sale will be 9-3 on Saturday unless you check the box for 9-noon. This way it will be noted on the map which sales are only open 9-noon on Sat. Also, once again Salvation Army pickup will be offered after the sale **if the Salvation Army is doing pick ups at that point.** Lori McAdams will be giving updates as we get closer to the sales.

**Pine Lake  
Garage Sales  
June 25-26  
Use the insert to  
sign up!**

# Water Updates

## Pine Lake Weed Control Andy Tomaszewski, PLA

You have received information and a schedule through the mail from PLM about the weed treatment this year. This is a summary of that information and PLM's response to the question about the impact of treatments during the pumping of the lake.

There will be a whole lake application using Sonar A.S. for 2021. This treatment is applied early in the year and consists of two treatments conducted 21 days apart. Typically there is complete control by late June. Spot treatments for Starry Stonewort will occur in June, July and August.

This treatment should have no impact on any pumping. The EGLE permit reviewer pulled pump permit specs and ran the calculations. The rate of pumping will not impact the treatment as it is no different than a lake that has a natural flowing outlet. The product being used will not have any impact outside of the lake.

## Safety Update Sergeant Steve Lehman Barry County Sheriff's Office

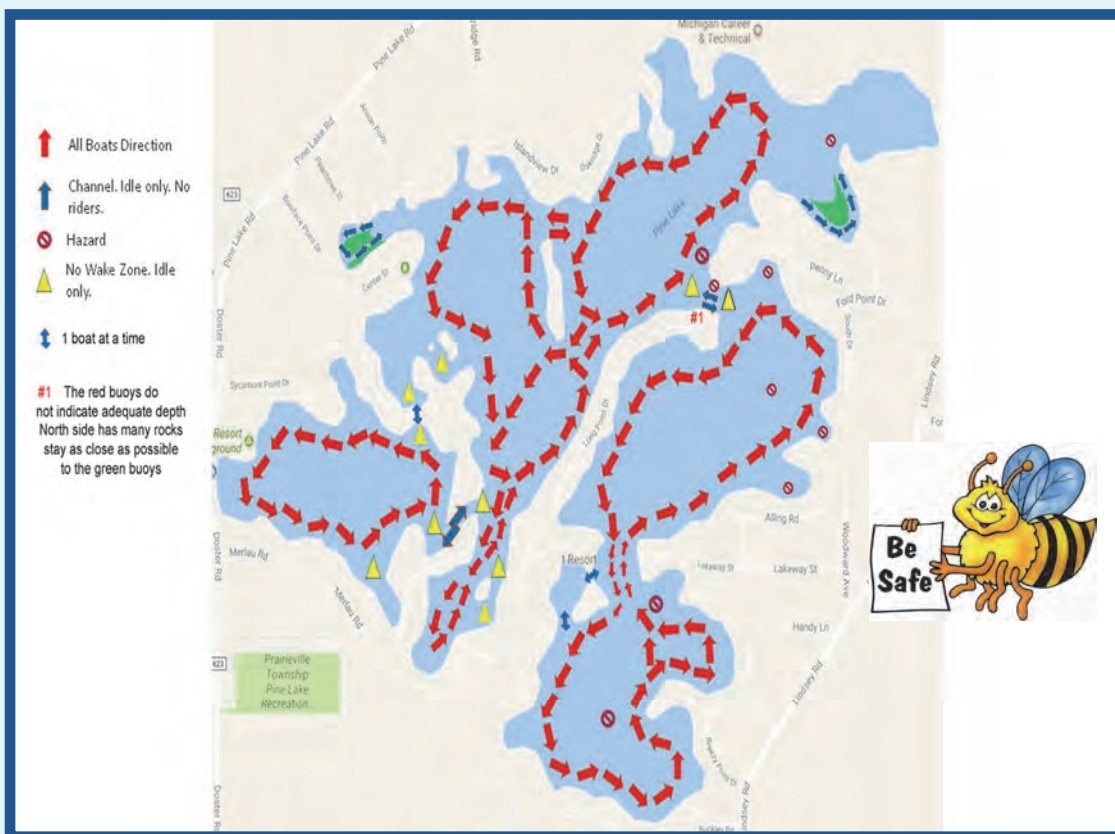
Safety must come first when using the water. The Marine Division enforces the laws, but they cannot be here all of the time. For everyone to enjoy the lake, it is imperative to follow the laws. You will see in the map below that boating on the lake goes counterclockwise around the lakes. The map also shows no wake zones and other legal boating directions.

Boater Safety Classes are once again being offered. There is a class on June 26 at Shady Shores on Gun Lake. The class is open to everyone and no registration is needed.

There is a full document on the association website ([www.pinelk.org](http://www.pinelk.org)) about the 10 most common areas of water violations. A few of these areas are: speed; DWI; personal flotation devices; driving on the lake; water skiing; PWC; and Boater Safety Certification.

If people have concerns on the lake, contact Barry County Central Dispatch (269) 948-4800 and

have a Marine Deputy contact you back. There will be someone working every day after Memorial Day.



Water safety is not just during warmer weather months. Above the PTFD practices ice rescue.



## Pine Lake Water Level Update

### Jim Dull, County Drain Commissioner

The previous plan to alleviate the water level by pumping through a hill to a Gun River tributary is out. There were problems both getting easements as well as getting a permit from EGLE. Next, a drainage area across Doster Road was looked at. In late March there was infiltration testing done. Even though soil borings showed it would drain, it was not successful. It would not drain fast enough to have an impact on the water level. The current option being looked at is a nearby gravel pit. After a vegetation study near Oakridge Road is completed in early May, a permit will be turned in to EGLE.

***Please note that this update was from April 10, 2021. Ongoing updates can be found at the Prairieville Township website as well as the PLA website.***



### Easter at Pine Lake

As with so many activities, the Easter Egg Hunt of 2020 did not happen. During planning in 2021 it was decided to have an activity that could be safely done and still give the

children of our community an opportunity to have fun. Barb Ver Sluis headed up the new program and designed a Scavenger Hunt for kids to do with their families. There was also a coloring contest that many entered. Everyone received a grab bag and there were drawings for other prizes. Winners of the bikes are pictured to the right checking out their new wheels. Congratulations to Delilah Rizzo, daughter of Bart and Danni Rizzo and Tanner Drenth, son of Justin Drenth and Marty Bero. You can also see some of the family fun that the Scavenger Hunt provided below. Many other pictures

can be found on the Yelpers or Association Pages. Thank you to Mike and Nancy Whitney who donated the bikes, Matt and Kerri Haist of Pine Lake Grocery and Culver's in Otsego for also donating prizes.





## Turtle Races to Return!

The Turtle Races were cancelled in 2020 but they are being revived for July 4, 2021. Registration begins at 11 am at MCTI with the races starting at noon.



Thank you to Nancy Robinson, the Turtle Race Lady, for 20 plus years of making the turtle races an amazing July 4<sup>th</sup> tradition for Pine Lake!



**Needed**

**An adult or teenager is needed to take the reigns of the Turtle Races for 2022. Contact Nancy Robinson at 269 743-9248 to find out more.**



**Pine Lake Big Ski**  
By Joel Schneck

The Pine Lake July 4th Big Ski Extravaganza continues to grow in popularity, and we are looking forward to another exciting event this year. This is one of the special events that is sponsored by residents. Each year, our goal is to get as many skiers behind one boat as possible. In 2019 we broke our record of 12 when, for a moment, we had 13 skiers being pulled.

As we set our sites on breaking the record this year, we welcome the awesome support and assistance Pine Lakers have given. The best way you can help is to choose your viewing spot early, park, and watch the craziness happen. It is also important that waves are eliminated so that the water is as smooth as possible. This will increase our chance of success. It would be incredible to have a ring of spectators.

The event is planned for the morning of July 4. We launch from the south end of Lake 4, circle Lake 3, and return to Lake 4. We usually target launching between 9a-10a and typically give it two tries as we all scrape the rust off on the first attempt.

We look forward to seeing you there. If you have any questions you can email Brian at [uridgeb@gmail.com](mailto:uridgeb@gmail.com). In the meantime, to see last year's event go to YouTube and search "Big Ski Extravaganza 2020."

## Fireworks By Nancy Whitney

It is sounding like a broken record but 2020 was not a normal year. Like most activities the annual fireworks display did not go according to plan. Just two weeks before the fireworks were to launch, MCTI notified the Association that we would not be able to use MCTI for our launch site. Within a few days the group had secured 2 barges from Lakes Trade LLC and we were able to get permit changes from the township. Having the fireworks launched from the barges gave a different perspective. The feedback was incredibly positive. The good news is the 2021 Fireworks Show will also be launched from barges. It is scheduled for Saturday, July 3 at dark with a rain date of July 4.



## Boat Parade

One event that took on an entire new dimension was the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Boat Parade. In the last 20 years there have been variations of it, but nothing came close to the 2020 Pine Lake Boat Parade. Thanks to Brooks Craft and his enthusiasm, it was a huge success! There were over 25 boats in the parade and thank you to four families as well as the Pine Lake Association that contributed money for prizes. If you were in the parade or on shore watching the fun go by, it was a great time. True creativity was on display.

The good news is this will be held again in 2021. If you are interested in participating, on Saturday, July 3 meet in the cove by MCTI between 1:30 and 1:40 to begin the parade at 2:00. There will be lots of prizes that will be awarded. More information will be announced soon so keep your eyes out. If you have questions you can message Brooks Craft on Facebook or call him at (269) 998-8327.





# Pine Lake Kids' Halloween Party

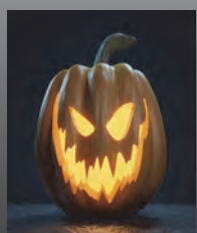
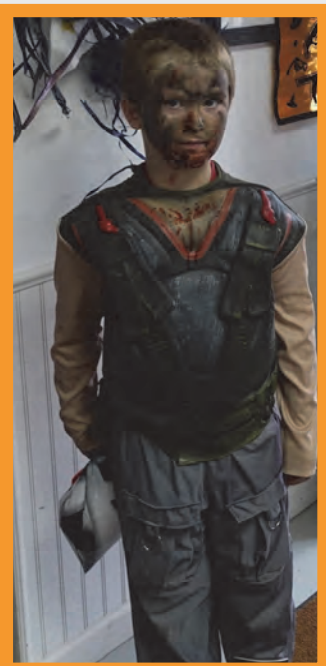
## Joanna Haneckow

We had a fantastic time at our party two years ago in 2019. Unfortunately, we were not able to have our party in 2020. New leaders will be taking over this year so you and your families will enjoy great Halloween fun together. Andrea and Jason Bernard will work with us this year to decorate and create the spook house, get to know the sponsors, organize people that help with the game room, set up lunch and craft areas and so much more. Thank you in advance to Andrea and Jason for sharing their time and creativity for this activity for our kids.

The actual party is Saturday, October 30 from 1-3 p.m. at the Fire Station. As you know there are many hands needed to make it happen so there are lots of opportunities to make Halloween more fun for our kids. We have a great time together. There is an evening where people get together to pack the goody bags in preparation. There is also the set up starting at 9 a.m. the day of the party bringing the Halloween Magic to the Prairieville Fire Station on Lindsey Road. Volunteers are also needed to run the games during the party. There are lots of opportunities to volunteer.

The layout of the spook house changes every year. Let's see what ghoulish fun Andrea and Jason will have for you in the spook house and for the entire event. Thanks in advance for supporting the party this year and helping us to bring it back to life.

Thank you to Joanna and Don Haneckow for their many years of planning the Kids' Halloween Party! They have proven that the adults have as much fun as the kids!







# Changes at PTFD and PTPD



## Retired Fire Chief Garrison



In 2020, Chief Richard “Spanky” Garrison retired after 26 years on the PTFD and over 46 years in the Fire Service. We wish him well. The Fire Department is now led by Chief Robert Pence, who has over 30 years as a member of the fire department and 50 years as a resident of Prairieville Township. Thank you, Chief Pence!

### PTFD Summary

#### Assistant Fire Chief Brian Uridge

- Updated safety protocols in 2020 to ensure the safety of patients, families and first responders.
- Responded to 270 calls including 1 boating accident on Pine Lake 1. This is a reminder to always remain vigilant while enjoying the lake.
- Donated used safety equipment to a Rapid Response Team in New Mexico who had never had any of this equipment.
- Assisted our friends and neighbors as they navigated a difficult day.
- Continually searching for new dedicated individuals to join us in this noble pursuit.
- Email Assistant Chief Uridge [uridgeb@gmail.com](mailto:uridgeb@gmail.com) for more information.

## Retired Police Chief Thompson



Chief William Thompson retired on March 30, 2021 from the Prairieville Township Police Department. He spent 32 years as a police officer with the last 13 of them with the PTPD. We wish him well. The Police Department is now being led by Police Chief Kevin Callahan who has over 21 years of experience as a law enforcement officer. Chief Callahan, his wife Amy and family are Pine Lake residents. Welcome!

### My Goal

#### Police Chief Kevin Callahan

I am looking forward to serving the citizens of Prairieville Township. My goal, as I get started as your Police Chief, is to deliver policing services that recognize and meet your needs. I will accomplish this by:

- Listening to you.
- Getting to know Prairieville Township and my fellow citizens better.
- Focusing on quality-of-life issues.
- Protecting property and preserving life.
- Making Prairieville Township safe for everyone.

# Pine Lake Area Ladies Group Glo Kelly and Karen Blamer



The Pine Lake Area Ladies Group (PLALG) was started two years ago with the purpose of networking and fellowship among the ladies of the lake! There is a Facebook page, Pine Lake Area Ladies Group, devoted to this group. It has now reached 155 members and all ladies of Pine Lake are invited to join.

In addition, our PLALG has offered opportunities to learn about community programs such as the programs at the Michigan Career & Tech School. The group has also supported local community services such as Christian Neighbors and the Plainwell Volunteer Christmas project.

Several groups have been organized for fun activities, a variety of events, and a few mingles to get to know each other better. These activities include a book club, a community garden, a walking group, Bible study, game nights, breakfast get-togethers, and dessert and wine nights. Activities are added based on interest, including the popular pickleball, which was just added.

Unfortunately, our activities were paused over the past months due to Covid-19, but we hope to restart in June with a Saturday morning Mingle Kickoff. We are looking forward to seeing and meeting old and new friends! In the meantime, make sure that you check us out on our Facebook page. Our goal is that every lady on the lake will be included in our wonderful lake community!

## Group Administrators

Glo Kelly [bigblock@mei.net](mailto:bigblock@mei.net) 269-569-3223

Jaci Dalke [jmdalke@gmail.com](mailto:jmdalke@gmail.com) 269-501-5986

Sheryl Garlick [shgar@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shgar@sbcglobal.net) 269-720-0567

Karen Blamer [jkblamer@yahoo.com](mailto:jkblamer@yahoo.com) 269-312-3447

Lori McAdam [BasketWeaves@aol.com](mailto:BasketWeaves@aol.com) 269-720-8777

Vi Thompson [sungoddess95395@yahoo.com](mailto:sungoddess95395@yahoo.com) 269-806-1954

Tammy McGuire [tw41700@gmail.com](mailto:tw41700@gmail.com) 319-721-1158

## Fun and Fellowship

Feel free to contact any of us or for more information like activities and team captains. You can also look on Facebook under Pine Lake Area Ladies Group.



**Don't forget to  
support our local  
businesses!!**



## Parks and Recreation Update Joanna Haneckow, Chairperson

Prairieville Township is blessed with beautiful landscapes, lakes and trails. Did you know that there are seven (7) parks within this amazing township for you to enjoy?

When the world was stricken by Covid in 2020, we were all challenged to be outside and keep our distance from one another. Many of you got outside to our parks for boating, fishing, hiking, pickle ball, baseball, disc golf, picnics and so much more. Thank you from the entire park's team for making our parks a place to be outside and be safe. If you have not yet checked the parks out, consider it a great option for you, your family, and friends this year.

There are so many activities offered. Places that you may fish are Center Street Park, Gull Lake Park, Lower Crooked Lake Park, Parker Road (however no boats allowed at this waterfront) and Upper Crooked Lake. Our boat launches for recreation boats are at Center Street Park, Gull Lake Park, and Upper Crooked Lake Park.

Pine Lake Recreation has become very busy with picnicking and groups at our pavilion, nine-hole disc golf, basketball, volley ball and newly added three (3) pickle ball courts. Children love the playground area as well. So, bring your kids and pickle balls, kids can play or walk trails and you can have a workout on the courts.



We are a self-funded commission that relies on the revenue from annual lake passes. Our only other monies are grants that we can obtain and gifts we may receive. The funding that we receive must be carefully managed. We appreciate every visitor and ask that when you are with us, you follow the posted rules and leave the parks always looking as beautiful as when you arrive. Some tips to make sure everyone may enjoy their visit is to keep your pets on leashes, put all trash and waste in containers provided, be patient especially when the parks are busy, and most of all savor the beauty and fun at our parks.

### Prairieville Township Parks

- Center Street Park (on Pine Lake): 10732 Center Street, Plainwell, MI 49080
- Gull Lake Park: 15457 M 43, Hickory Corners, MI 49060
- Lower Crooked Lake Park: 13000 Norris Road, Plainwell, MI 49080
- Municipal Park (in Prairieville): 10119 Norris Road, Delton, MI 49046
- Parker Road Park: Parker Road, Delton, MI 49046
- Pine Lake Recreation Area: 11481 Doster Road., Plainwell, MI 49080
- Upper Crooked Lake Park: 7317 Delton, MI 49046

## Your Input is Needed

**This year, The Parks and Recreation Commission is setting a new five-year plan. We are conducting a survey to get your input. If you haven't completed one, a link to the survey can be found at [Prairievilletwp-mi.org](https://prairievilletwp-mi.org) under the Parks and Recreation tab or a hard copy is available at the township hall.**

**This must be completed by May 31, 2021. Thank you so much!**

**Everyone's participation will make these events great!! Volunteers are needed to help so, if you are so inclined, contact the leader. All dates are subject to change. For further information regarding events, go to the association website [pinelk.org](http://pinelk.org) or our Facebook site.**

## Pine Lake Association 2021 Calendar of Events

Event	Leader	Date/Location
February Meeting	PLA Board	Thursday, 2/4/21 7pm - Zoom
Buoy Drop/Removal	Andrea Bernard	Before Memorial Day/After Labor Day
Annual Newsletter	MaryAnn DeVries	Month of May
June Meeting with Election of Officers	PLA Board	Saturday, 6/5/21 9am MCTI Cabin
Children's Easter Scavenger Hunt and Coloring Contest	Barb VerSluis	Sunday 3/21/21 through Saturday 4/3/21
Garage Sales	Lori McAdam	Friday 6/25/21, and Saturday 6/26/21
Boat Parade	Brook Craft	Saturday, 7/3/21 at 1:30pm
Independence Day Fireworks	Nancy Whitney	Saturday, 7/3/21 at dark; Rain date 7/4
Turtle Race	Nancy Robinson	Sunday, 7/4/21; Register 11-Noon, Race to follow at MCTI **Volunteers needed
Children's Halloween Party	Andrea Bernard	Saturday, 10/30/21; Setup 9 am, party 1-3pm

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