



## School Section Lake POA Crier

Spring 2010 Issue

### THE PREZ SEZ

By President Jerry King

Think Spring! It's been a long winter. Not that I have not enjoyed it, but it's time for warmer weather.

The gate is in, the ramp is in, & the dock is in. It's been a long 3 yrs setting up a committee, fundraising, Margo donating the gate & Lakeside Motor Sports donating the dock. We sure do appreciate everyone that donated or helped us during this three year period. The lock system is working & the combination will be changed on the 13<sup>th</sup> of April. You will get a notice of the change.

I want to thank George Miller for all the hard work that he did with me on getting this done. George is the chairman of the ramp committee. Stop by & tell George "Job Well Done!" Nick Boroff has agreed to mow & keep the boat launch area clean. Remember Nick does good work on lawns around the lake & always can take one more lawn to mow. (972-7164)

As always, please have a safe, long & hot summer.

### ANCHORS AWAY!

By Ardith Smith

#### Only a few more months to plan your 4<sup>th</sup> of July Boat Parade event.

Again, the parade will be led by Ken & Jen Murdoch & Family. They have done a great job leading the flotilla for several years.

The parade will be Saturday July 3<sup>rd</sup>, with a rain date of Sunday, July 4<sup>th</sup>. Start time 7:30pm  
The best plan is to gather pre-7:30 near Buchanan end of lake and sail once completely around the lake, then on the second time around, drop off at your own dock.

Last year 27 boats participated. Our best year, 1992 we had 47 entries. If you have never decorated your sea worthy craft, make this the year you and your family join the parade.

See you on the 3<sup>rd</sup>!!!

You are encouraged to attend

The SSLPOA

### ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, June 12

9:00am

Morton Township Hall, Mecosta

Coffee & Donuts will be served!!!

### **"MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR" – AUGUST 14**

By Margo Miller

The fifth annual "Meet Your Neighbor" event is slated for August 14 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at it's same location, the corner of Buchanan and W. School Section Lake Dr.. With our fifth anniversary comes many surprises including a special menu. Plans are being finalized and will be forth coming. This event is open to all School Section Lake Property Owners. This is a good time to meet your Directors and Representatives and become familiar with the Lake Committees and issues. Local area civic leaders will also be on hand to answer any questions you may have concerning community affairs. T-Shirts and hats with our School Section Lake logo on them will be available for purchase. Many local businesses are again donating goods and services for our door prize drawings. Some local businesses will be on sight to talk with you.

If you have never been to a "Meet Your Neighbor" event, our fifth anniversary celebration will be the one you won't want to miss. We are seeking volunteers for this special milestone so contact committee chairperson, Margo Miller, at 989-233-9198 or sign up at our May meeting. There will be a sign up sheet at the June annual meeting as well. Come and "Meet Your Neighbor".

## SCHOOL SECTION LAKE VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK

by Marlene Schalm

The Mecosta County Parks system has undergone an employee restructuring for the 2010 year. The new seasonal Park Manager is Miss Laura Odette and her Assistant Park Manager is Mr. Tim Schroeder. The park will continue to be a 24/7 operation and anyone hearing or seeing issues that need to be corrected, are to call the park immediately at 231-972-7450. Problems need to be corrected when they happen, not brought to the Association meetings as a complaint. The staff is patrolling the park area until 2:00 am on weekdays and 4:00 am on weekends but can be reached by phone 24/7. The park is open to the public from May 1<sup>st</sup>. until October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Most of you have probably noticed the logging going on in the park. The money received from the sale of the logs is earmarked to help the park. The question has been raised as to what the park will do with the cleared areas. As everyone on the lake has a stake in the maintenance of the lake, we as an association need to take an active role in determining what will be done. Jerry King will be addressing this issue at the annual meeting in June.

## LAKE LEVEL REPORT

By John Rowland

The continued erosion of our only outlet has now resulted in a 12 month flowing stream. In past years the stream was dry for about eight months flowing during ice melt and long rainy periods. The net result is that lake levels are lower and this has a negative affect on the health and use of the lake.

A low lake level has a negative impact on water clarity, weed control, fish planting and recreational use. In the past, we have individuals who have altered the outlet at whim and by design. School Section Lake is a headwater that is spring fed. The outlet is the only way water can escape from our lake. The more it erodes the lower the lake will get. It is the "drain" in the bath tub and must be controlled before we alter our beautiful lake.

Most lakes in the area (7) have an established lake level and use spillways to control water levels. The Mecosta County Drain commissioner controls the spillways to the Court ordered lake level. The Association has started the process of getting a court ordered lake level.

We ask that property owners support us in this effort.

## WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tom Thering, John Sheppard & Jim Pratt

Water quality tests are being taken on required dates and delivered to Grand Rapids DEQ.

DEQ's report is available on our Web site, [www.schoolsectionlake.com](http://www.schoolsectionlake.com). A detailed report will be presented at the annual meeting in June. We need a volunteer to assist Jim Pratt with the secchi disk readings. If interested, call Jim at 972-2978.



*Some Even Fly in to Enjoy  
Our Clean Lake*

## ARE YOU DUMPING YOUR BAIT?

by Marlene Schalm

Help prevent disease transfer from one Lake to the next by properly disposing of unused bait on land or in the trash. Empty live wells and bilges at the ramp when removing your boat from a lake and don't transfer live fish to other bodies of water other than where they were caught. Fish diseases can be transferred from one lake to another in live wells or bilges. Clean these areas with ½ cup bleach to 5 gal. of water and allow to dry thoroughly before going in a different body of water. Don't forget to disinfect the minnow bucket also.

## MEMORIAL DAY FESTIVAL

Festival of the Lakes takes place memorial Weekend. All area merchants have been invited to join in the plans for the weekend. A parade will be held at 10AM just south of the Canadian Lakes Plaza area. Merchants are planning sidewalk sales, in store specials, live music, games, horse drawn wagon rides, giveaways, pantry sampling and more.



**Sharyl & Judy**

**T-Shirts & Caps – You have to have Some!!**

Everyone needs a School Section Lake” T-Shirt or Cap celebrating support of our lake & the efforts of those on the Fish Committee to plant fish in our beautiful lake! We have a selection of T-Shirt sizes & Colors in Tan, Pink or Navy Blue. Hats are Black or Camouflage. T-Shirts = \$10 & Hats = \$15.

Call Jerry King or Sharyl Fleming at 972-7446 to get yours.

**FISH FUND**

By Larry Bunker

Donations are still being taken, as the fish stocking in our lake is now an annual event. Last October, some 800 walleyes were released. Hopefully more than that number will be released in 2010.

**WEB SITE NEWS**

By John Rowland

Our website [www.schoolsection.com](http://www.schoolsection.com) has been published now for the third consecutive year. We have had about 6,500 hits which shows good usage by our members. The website has a lot of good information about our lake & activities. Please use it to keep up with local activities. Our web sponsors have donated advertising money that is used to pay for the site & fund our fish planting. Please contact John Rowland if you need any additional information

If you have pictures of interest & would like to share them on our web site, contact John Rowland.

**SAFETY ON A CLEAN LAKE**

by Marlene Schalm

We all want a clean, safe Lake environment to live and play on. This is the responsibility of everyone. The following are a few simple rules to follow in order to maintain a clean lake.

Use only non-phosphorus fertilizer on your lawn as phosphorous grows weeds and kills lakes and do not fertilize within the first 25 ft. of the shoreline. Another thing that kills lakes is the dispensing of gray water (water from dishwashers, washers, sinks etc.) which is tiled into the lake instead of a septic system. This is against the law. Use low phosphate cleaning supplies when cleaning your boat.

Whenever possible, refuel personal watercraft and small boats on land, at gas stations and away from the shore. Clean boats, motors, and trailers of any clinging plant or animal material before launching in the lake or canal. Dispose of all attached materials on land and away from shore. Do not bathe in the lake.

When boating in shallow areas or along the shoreline, minimize your wake. Every action causes a reaction and simply by slowing down to 5MPH within 100 feet of the shoreline reduces erosion and disturbance of bottom sediment and sensitive aquatic life forms. We can seriously hurt game fish spawning areas and decrease light essential to submerged vegetation by wave action.



**Eric Bell & Kids**

**If a 2010 Fall Fishing Tournament is to be held, a tournament chairman and volunteers are needed. Please contact Jerry King @ (231) 972-7446 or cell (517) 242-2784 if you are interested in helping.**

# LAKE TREATMENT NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO READ THIS NOTICE: IT IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION!!

**RESIDENTS IN THIS AREA ARE PLANNING TO HAVE THE WATERS IN THIS AREA TREATED FOR CONTROL OF LAKE WEEDS AND/OR ALGAE.** This notice is being circulated at least 7 days and not more than 45 days in advance of the treatment in accordance with Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) procedures. A permit for the treatment has either been secured or will be secured from the DEQ before the treatments are to begin. You are receiving this notice if you are within 100 ft of the treatment area.

**-Our company does two types of treatments: Algae control and Weed Control.**

If we are treating for weeds (including lake dye) then there are restrictions on the use of the water and we will post the shoreline with 14 x 11 inch yellow signs before these chemicals are applied to the lake. In some cases we treat for both algae and weeds. In those cases we may be treating with the copper products while the signs are being posted. We do not treat with the weed chemicals without posting first.

-We treat each lake according to a schedule or season plan worked out with the persons in charge of your lake treatment program. However, due to the differences in season plans and the uncertainty of weather please watch your shoreline for the posting of the 14 x 11 inch yellow signs, particularly in **April, to late August. YOUR LAKE MAY BE TREATED MORE THAN ONCE EACH SEASON. CHECK THIS WITH YOUR ASSOCIATION.** The signs will indicate the date of the treatment, the chemicals used, and the restrictions as to the use of the water for swimming, irrigation and the consumption of fish taken from these waters. We use **NEW SIGNS** for each application.

Only chemicals, which have been registered by the State of Michigan and the Federal Government, are to be used. These chemicals are applied in amounts approved by the DEQ.

**Method of Application: Chemicals are applied as either liquid or granular formulation, liquids are either surface sprayed or sub-surface injected, granular formulations are applied with broadcast spreaders.**

-Another requirement of our permit is that we locate all wells (**when using granular 2,4-D or granular Endothall products Aquathol-K and Hydrothol 191 only**) and maintain a distance of 75 ft from all wells and 250 ft from any well that is less than 30 ft in depth. **IF YOU ARE AWARE OF SUCH A WELL, PLEASE NOTIFY OUR OFFICE.**

-We anticipate using one or more of the chemicals listed below. Please be aware of the restrictions on each. We will post signs as necessary. If we have not posted it means we are using products that require no posting. If the DEQ changes any restrictions they will be noted on the signs we post. **PLEASE READ THE SIGNS WE POST!**

## **CHEMICAL/RESTRICTIONS**

**Reward (Diquat Dibromide):** Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hours. Do not use the treated water for watering lawns or gardens, animal watering (farm stock--not incidental drinking by a domestic pet), or drinking for 5 days after treatment. There is **NO** restriction on fish consumption.

**2,4-D(Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid,Butoxyethyl Ester):** Do not use the treated water for swimming for 1 day. Do not use the treated water for irrigation, agricultural sprays, watering dairy animals, or domestic water supplies. "Irrigation" includes water gardens--however, it does **NOT** include watering lawns. 2,4-D is often used by lawn spray companies to kill weeds in lawns--watering lawns when only 2,4-D has been applied will not hurt your lawn (but see restrictions on the other products). "**Domestic use**" means using lake water inside your house. Fish and wildlife are not effected. There is no restriction on fish consumption.

## **Renovate (Triclopyr)**

Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hours. Do not use the treated water for irrigation for **120 days** following application. As an alternative to waiting 120 days, treated water may be used for irrigation once the Triclopyr level has reached a non-detectable level. This can be done by laboratory analysis (immunoassay). **There are no restrictions on the use of water from the treated area to irrigate established grasses.**

## **Aquathol-K,Aquathol(Dipotassium Endothall), & Hydrothol 191 (Mono(N,N-Dimethylalkylamine) salt of Endothall):**

Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hours. Do not use the treated waters for household uses, irrigation (lawn or gardens), animal watering (farm stock), or similar uses for 14 days.

**SONAR/AVAST(Fluridone):** Do not use the treated water for swimming for 1 day. And do not use water for irrigation (turf-non food crops for 30 days).There is no restriction on fish consumption. When using Fluridone there may be more than one treatment bumping the concentrations back up.

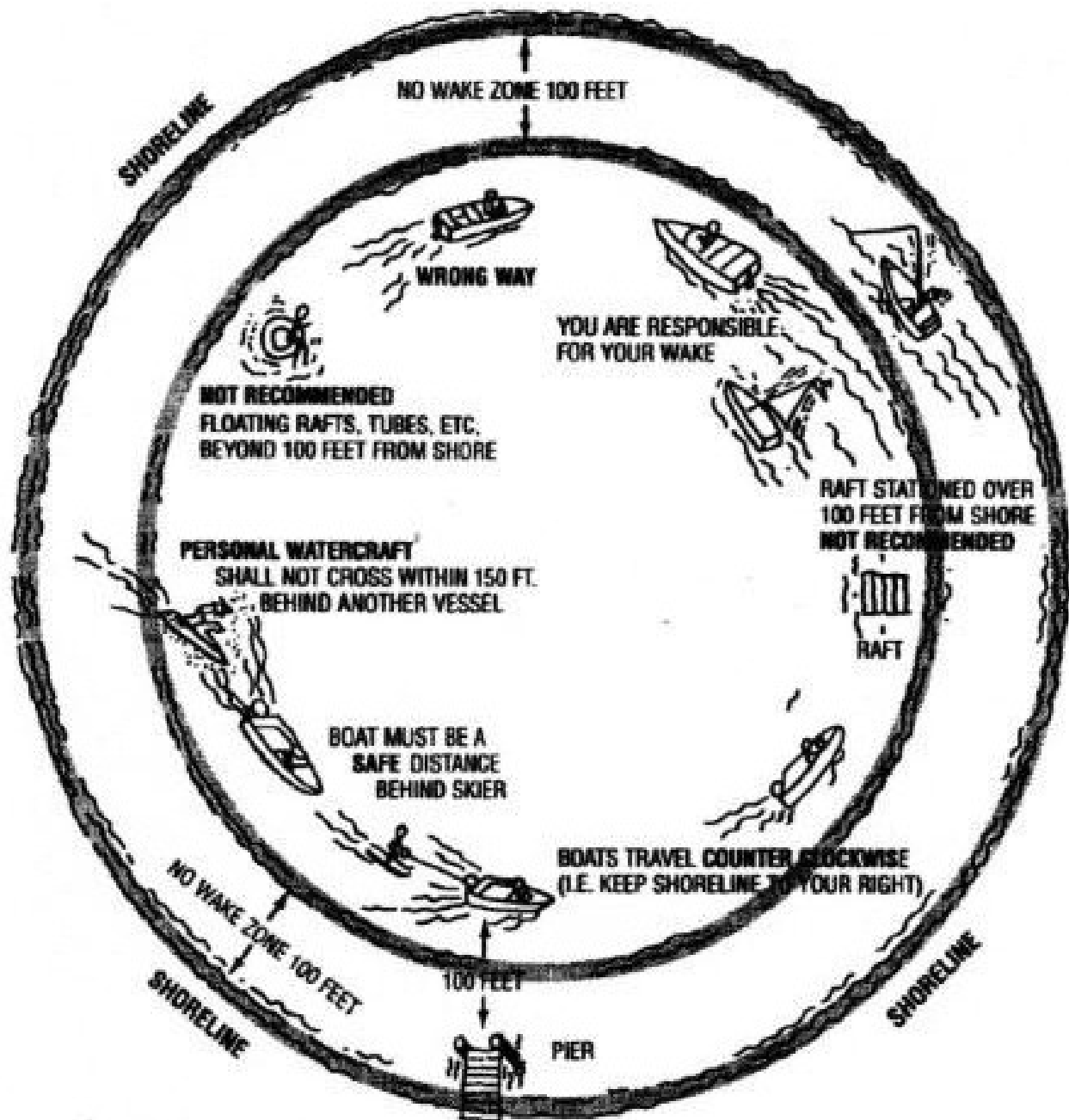
**Rodeo,Eagre(Glyphosate):** Rodeo is used primarily for lily and cattail control. There is a 1-day no swimming restriction. There is no restriction on watering or fishing.

**Copper Sulfate(Pentahydrate), Cutrine-Plus(Cutrine Alkanolamine Complex) NO RESTRICTIONS.**

**Nautique(Copper Carbonate): 24 hours No swimming.**

If you have any questions, please contact the homeowners association or Board who is in charge of the treatment. If they cannot answer your questions we can be reached at the number below.

*AQUATIC NUISANCE CONTROL, INC. P.O. BOX 316 REMUS, MI. 49340-0316, (989) 967-3600 FAX (989) 967-3447*



## ARE YOU A SAFE DRIVER?

We trust all property/boat owners are familiar with the laws for boating on School Section Lake. It is very important any guests you may have are also aware of these rules of the lake.

Please keep this sketch in a visible place to inform & remind anyone who may be new to boating on our lake. These boating rules are for all boats, pontoons, & Personal Watercraft (i.e. skidoos, etc).

**SCHOOL SECTION LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSN.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2009-2010**

**NOTE: Updated June, 2009**

NOTE: School Section Lk. Addresses are Mecosta 49332

**OFFICERS:**

**President:** 9398 W.School Sec. Lk Dr.  
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[ethering@centurytel.net](mailto:ethering@centurytel.net)

**Secretary:** 8665 W. School Sec Lk Dr  
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[heygeorge@charter.net](mailto:heygeorge@charter.net)

Vacant

Vacant

**SCHOOL SECTION LAKE COUNTY PARK**

Gary Brown, Sup. Mecosta Co. Parks  
Erin Bean, asst. Sup. 22330 Northland Dr  
Paris, MI 49338  
PH: (231) 832-3246  
Park Manager 9003 90<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Mecosta MI 49332  
PH: (231) 972-7450

**STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**

Finance Committee – Ellie Thering  
Fish Planting Project – Jerry King  
Newsletter Editor – Maxine Murdoch  
Park Liaison – Jerry King  
Lake Water Levels – John Rowland  
Water Quality Management – Tom Thering  
Web Site Master – John Rowland  
Roads Committee – Larry Bunker

## ROADS

By Larry Bunker

This last winter was easier on our plowing needs than in the past. If you haven't noticed, we now have overhead street lights at several locations around our lake. 90<sup>th</sup> Ave @ 10 mile, 90<sup>th</sup> Ave. @ 9 mile (park entrance), 90<sup>th</sup> Ave. @ Buchanan Rd. & Buchanan Rd. @ W. School Section Lk Dr. These lights were approved and paid for by Morton Twp.

The North end of W. School Section Lk. Dr. is acquiring large amounts of leaves and other wood. Please check with the property owners before dumping debris, as it can become potential fire hazards.

Dogs continue to roam our roads, not on a leash as required. Please keep your dog on a leash or on your property, as the authorities will be notified if this continues to be a problem.

### ANIMAL CONTROL REMINDER

We continue to have problems with our neighbors disregard for the Mecosta County Leash Laws. Animals are still being allowed to run loose and deposit "doggie doo" in our yards. There are several dogs that run in pairs and chase joggers and children

on bicycles. If you have problems with stray dogs, just call the Canadian Lakes State Police Post and they will assist in taking care of the problem. They do keep a copy of the complaint at their office and will use it if a follow-up is required. At this point, the sheriff's office does not seem to be able to control the problem because of lack of personnel as the reason for not having the leash law enforced. Remember, call Central Dispatch (911) and ask for the State Police.

### OBSERVE SPEED LIMITS BE CAREFUL!!!

If you are a Jogger, Walker, Roller Bladder, **always** face your traffic to be safe on our winding roads. The law states Bikers have to ride with traffic. Stay alert and listen for cars. Don't use earphones or ipods while riding on our roads. Automobiles need to slow down and observe the speed limit of 15MPH. Many vehicles are observed speeding on "The South Straight-a-way" of W. School Sec. Lk Rd. **A great danger to the pedestrian/bike traffic in this area.** Drivers stay alert as the curves in our roads produce many blind areas for you.

### SSLPOA MEMBERSHIP DUES

Thank you for the good response to our request for dues mailed in February. We have 137 paid members for 2010. Notices were not mailed to those who paid their 2010 dues in advance. Member status can be checked on web site, [www.schoolsection.com](http://www.schoolsection.com), or you can call treasurer Ellie Thering at (231) 972-7980. Annual dues are \$15.00. The form below may be used to send in with your 2010 dues and/or contribute to the fish planting program. Dues provide for water quality and lake depth monitoring, newsletters, Notices, web site, Meet Your Neighbor activity, membership in Michigan Lakes & Streams to keep current on information to protect the lake and water safety. Membership is required to vote at the annual meeting in June.

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### SCHOOL SECTION LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION 2010 MEMBERSHIP DUES

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

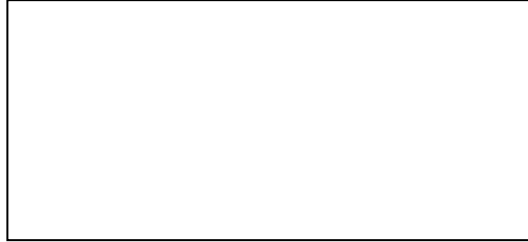
SUBDIVISION \_\_\_\_\_ LOT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

FISH PLANTING DONATION \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: SSLPOA  
PO Box 115, Mecosta MI 49332

**School Section Lake Property Owners Assoc  
Jerry King, President  
P. O. Box 115  
Mecosta MI 49332.**



**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**Annual Meeting: Sat. June 12, 9am, Twp. Hall**

**Boat Parade: Sat. July 3**

**Meet Your Neighbor: Sat. Aug. 14 – Volunteers needed**

**Recycle: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of every month – Canadian Lks Fire Barn**

**Twp. Spring Clean-up: Sat. May 8, 9am-noon, Fire Barns at Canadian Lks & Mecosta**

**POA Board Meeting Dates: May 15, 8-10am; July 10<sup>th</sup>, Sept. 11 & Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>, 9am**

**Memorial Day Weekend Festival – Canadian Lakes Plaza**

**Fall Fishing Tournament is in need of a Chairman & Volunteers**



