



# School Section Lake POA Crier

Spring 2021 Issue

## From Our President...

by Dan Karcher

Welcome back! Here's to a more normal, happy, and safe summer.

First, I would like to recognize former President and Champion of our lake, Doug Murdoch, whom we lost this winter. He will be greatly missed by everyone.

As you may have heard, the Millage proposed by the Mecosta County Parks did not pass. We will continue to monitor any future plans the park may have for shoreline development.

We are still under Covid restrictions so our annual meeting will be outside this year. Marlene Schalm has generously offered us her yard at the SW corner of W SSL and Buchanan.

The meeting will start promptly at 9:00 AM Saturday June 12th and end at 10:30 AM. Coffee and donuts will be served but you will need to bring your own chairs. The agenda will be emailed with no paper copies available. We have lots to cover and your input is important so please plan on attending.

Have a great summer!!

## Mecosta Summer Events

by Linda Howard

Fri. July 2, CAR SHOW Downtown Mecosta 5 PM-7 PM

Fri. July 2, 6:30 PM "Elvis" (Jake Slater) will be kicking off 2021 Mecosta Music on the River Bromley Park  
Come down early and enjoy a car show in Mecosta starting at 5:00 PM

Sat. July 3, 11 AM Parade on M-20

Sun. July 4, 10 PM dusk, Fireworks

## 2021 Annual Meeting

You are encouraged to attend the

### SSLPOA ANNUAL MEETING

Sat, Jun12 at 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Marlene's property W SSL and Buchanan

The agenda will be emailed

No paper copies will be distributed

Election of Area Representatives

Bring your own seating

Coffee and donuts will be served

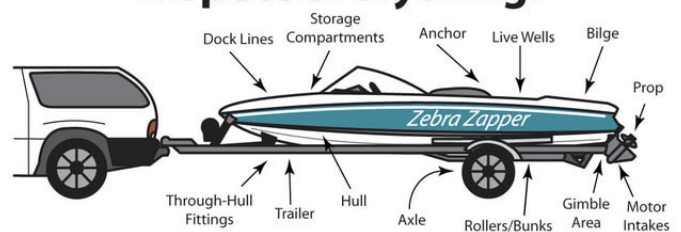
Rain date June 19

## Boat Launch Gate

By Don Swanson

The 2021 combination to the Launch Gate is 1901.

Before leaving and before launching...  
**inspect everything!**



# SSL Website and Facebook

by Kris Karcher and Christy Ishraidi

We currently have 412 members in our Facebook Group. It is a great place to share pictures, news, items for sale, events you're hosting, activities you'd like to see, ask questions etc.

Please note that if you are recommending someone join the page, there are 2 questions that must be answered as noted below. In addition, please keep in mind the group rules also apply to existing members.

\*How are you connected to School Section Lake?

\*Do you agree the Group Rules?

- Keep Posts & Comments Positive
- No Hate Speech, Political Posts or Spam
- This is not a place to vent about our neighbors.
- Offending posts will be deleted and posters may be removed.

Check our [website](http://www.schoolsectionlake.com) at [www.schoolsectionlake.com](http://www.schoolsectionlake.com) where you can find information on upcoming events and SSL information as well as helpful articles and important information.

## Meet Your Neighbor

Unfortunately, Covid-19 has caused us to cancel the picnic in 2020 and again this year. Meet Your Neighbor was a beautiful picnic held on the property of Marlene Schalm, corner of SSL and Buchanan. Many property owners from the entire lake attended and enjoyed the good food (brats, etc.), prizes and music. An abundance of prizes were generously donated by local businesses and a good time was enjoyed by all.

Let's all make an effort to be neighborly and get to know one another. We are hopeful that we will again be able to have this picnic in 2022.

# Gypsy Moths

by Marlene Schalm

Tri-Lakes Association, School Section Lakes Association along with Morton Township has been working on the possibility of spraying in the spring 2022 if the infestation of Gypsy Moths is bad this spring. Last fall Morton Township Board of Trustees paid \$8,398.00 to have a professional survey of the Gypsy Moth egg masses. The results of the survey received in November 2020 confirmed the suspicions and are currently posted on the township's website.

The next step is to decide how to pay for the spraying. In 1999 the board did a petition drive to put it on the taxes and it passed. I think at that time it was approximately \$15.00 per parcel. We did this until 2006 at which time we had not had a problem for 2 years so the tax was not renewed. We would have to do the same at this time but the tax would be much higher. We have not had a problem for over 15 years. Gypsy Moths are cyclic and depend on the environment/weather for an outbreak.

When brought before the SSLPOA Board it was decided to wait and see what the Township, County and Conservation Dept. decided what they were going to do. Tri-Lakes are already working on a petition and Canadian Lakes has said they have not had a lot of complaints yet.

We will keep the property owners informed as decisions are made for the need of a possible suppression program and what it will cost each person.



## In Memoriam

SSL has been greatly blessed by Doug Murdoch's contributions to our lake in countless ways ranging from serving as president of our association, assisting committees like Meet Your Neighbor, Fish Planting and Water Quality, being a liaison with the Park to being a great neighbor and friend to everyone. Sadly, Doug passed away on December 18, 2020. Doug will be greatly missed. Our heartfelt condolences go out to the Murdoch family.

If you know of anyone we have missed, please contact Dorothy Metcalf or Maxine Murdoch.

## Welcome New Property Owners

The School Section Lake Property Owners Association welcomes all those who have purchased property on the lake in the past year.

Cade VanAnterwerp- 9103 W. SSL Road  
Keith & Mary Jacobsen - 9444 W. SSL Road

## Boater's Safety Class

SSL Park is hosting a free boater's safety class on Saturday, June 12 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Pre-registration is required and the class size is limited.

Persons born after July 1996 must have a Boater Safety Certificate to operate a boat with a motor over 6 horsepower. Persons born after December 31, 1978 must have a Boater Safety Certificate to operate a personal water craft.



No Wake  
7:30 PM – 11:00 AM

## Jo Miller Memories

By Jo Miller

As far as I can remember, it was about 1930 the first time I saw School Section Lake. My parents, George & Leona Miller, little sister, Donna, along with Bill & Clara (Mayer) Taylor and me, (with the camping gear tied to the running board) hopped into the old "Jalopie" and headed North.

When we finally arrived at the lake, Mom took the wheel while the men used hatchets to clear the brush till a spot was found to set up camp. A good spot was found for our small umbrella tent, not too far from the present site of the Pavilion.

There was a pump near an old barn not far from the schoolhouse for drinking water, but no toilet facilities but three trees a few feet apart solved the problem. A hole was dug and a board with a hole was attached. A piece of canvas wrapped around 3 sides completed the project. Viola!!! A job well done! Mom's sign, "The Famous One Holer" became a family legend and School Section Lake became "Home"!!!

In 1941 (Pinecrest Subdiision.) and again in 1947 (Pangborn Subdivision.) my parents built cottages, and similar "One-holers" were used during construction. Presently six cottages on W. School Section Lk Dr. are owned and occupied by descendants of my parents. I believe we were the first "campers" on the site of the present county park.

Jo Miller passed away in 2020 at the age of 94. Present cottages are owned by Angela (Miller) and Mark Milad, Karen (Murdoch) Jones, Ken and Jennifer Murdoch, Maxine Murdoch, Michelle (Murdoch) and Marty Foster and Chuck Murdoch

## 5th Annual Poker Run

by Dan Karcher

Saturday, July 24 is a date you'll want to put on your calendars. The non-motorized Poker Run is a popular annual event. Each year we have more participants and a higher "pot". Contact Dan Karcher if you would like to be one of the 6-7 host houses. The hosts can participate in the event as well. Watch for details.

## Boat Parade Sat, July 6<sup>th</sup>

by Marlene Schalm and Kal Cotter

### The date for this year's parade is TBA

The first 4th of July Boat Parade set sail in July of 1990 with 32 festively decorated boats. It had been a long time dream of Ardith Smith, who lived in Restmore Resort subdivision and was an active member/secretary of the SSLPOA.

Throughout the years Flag Ships have led the way, followed by the Statue of Liberty, Bartles and Jaymes, Uncle Sam, Gilligan's Island, Retired Grandparents, America I, vocals by the "Yankee Doodle Dandy" singers, live music, and a sax player with an electric keyboard, a six person water ski team and a Water Safety Officer who brought up the rear of the parade.

## Water Quality

by Chad Kanouse

Periodically throughout the year, our lake is tested for Chlorophyll, Phosphorous & Clarity of the water. MICORP (Michigan Clean Water Corp) provides the kits necessary for this testing and samples are mailed to them. Our samples are then mailed to MICORP and the results are returned to us. MICORP is funded by the State of Michigan and grants. In January we were notified that they had no funding for 2020 but hoped to be funded in 2021. As a result no testing was done last year.

School Section Lake continues to be one of the purest lakes in the area. You can help us continue to keep the lake healthy by using phosphorus free fertilizers, trying to avoid gasoline spills and by preventing leaves and lawn clippings from going into the lake.

Our lake is completely spring fed, with no inlet of a stream or river and only an outlet that runs when lake level is high. This is a great aid in keeping our water pure.

Please do your part to keep School Section Lake healthy and beautiful!

## Weed Control Committee

by Dan Karcher

One of the topics discussed at the last board meeting was the condition of our lake. Specifically, we wanted to know if there were any other treatments that would benefit the lake.

I called Michigan Lakefront Solutions and asked this question. Their response was that our lake is very healthy and in excellent condition and that no additional treatments are needed at this time.

The reason our lake is so healthy is the routine maintenance program started years ago that still continues. We can expect the quality of our lake to remain unchanged as long as we continue with our annual program and guard against invasive species entering our lake. This is great news.

## Fish Management Committee

by Jerry King

2021 will be our 14th year of planting Walleye. Just to verify we are still on the right track with our protocol, I recently spoke with Mark Tonello, Fisheries Management Biologist, in the Cadillac DNR office. He confirmed continued support for Walleye stocking as the best way to control stunted Bluegill and other panfish and to create a viable fishery.

To support his conclusions, he cited a study written by Rich O'Neal of Michigan DNR Fisheries Division. For anyone wanting to read this report we will post it on our SSL website. Thanks for all your support and donations and good fishing!! Any questions give me a call.



# 2021 SSLPOA MEMBERSHIP DUES and FISH FUND PLANTING

by Jerry Ambrose, Treasurer

Please support your SSLPOA with your 2021 dues and donations!

The mission of your SSLPOA is to maintain, protect and preserve our beautiful lake for future generations, through education and commitment. For many years the SSLPOA has been actively involved in efforts to assure that our lake remains clean and vibrant and that property owners have a voice in matters affecting life on and along the lake - something which in the long term will enhance our enjoyment of this wonderful area, not to mention enhancing the values of the properties on and near the lake.

To this end, your SSLPOA oversees weed control activities, tests water quality, monitors the lake's water level, oversees the boat launch, and works to assure that the lake remains a premier fishing area by monitoring the amount and quality of the fish in the lake and by annually planting fish in the lake. SSLPOA also promotes community building with events such as the Meet Your Neighbor Picnic, the lighted boat parade, and the recently established poker run.

Membership is open to all property owners whose special assessment finances the weed control activities overseen by the SSLPOA. As the use of the special assessment funds is limited strictly to actual weed control activities, other financial support is necessary for the other activities of the SSLPOA.

The 2021 dues for SSLPOA, as it has been for the past many years, is \$20. Donations are also sought for fish planting activities. More information on SSLPOA activities and financing can be found on the SSLPOA website ([schoolsection.com](http://schoolsection.com)).

Please support your SSLPOA by sending your \$20 dues payment and your donations to the Fish Planting Fund to SSLPOA, PO Box 115, Mecosta MI 49332. Any questions, please email [schoolsectionlake@gmail.com](mailto:schoolsectionlake@gmail.com), or contact any Board member of the SSLPOA.

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## 2021 SSLPOA Dues and Donations

Mail to: SSLPOA, PO Box 115 Mecosta Mi 49332

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address(es) of Lake properties: \_\_\_\_\_

Subdivision: \_\_\_\_\_

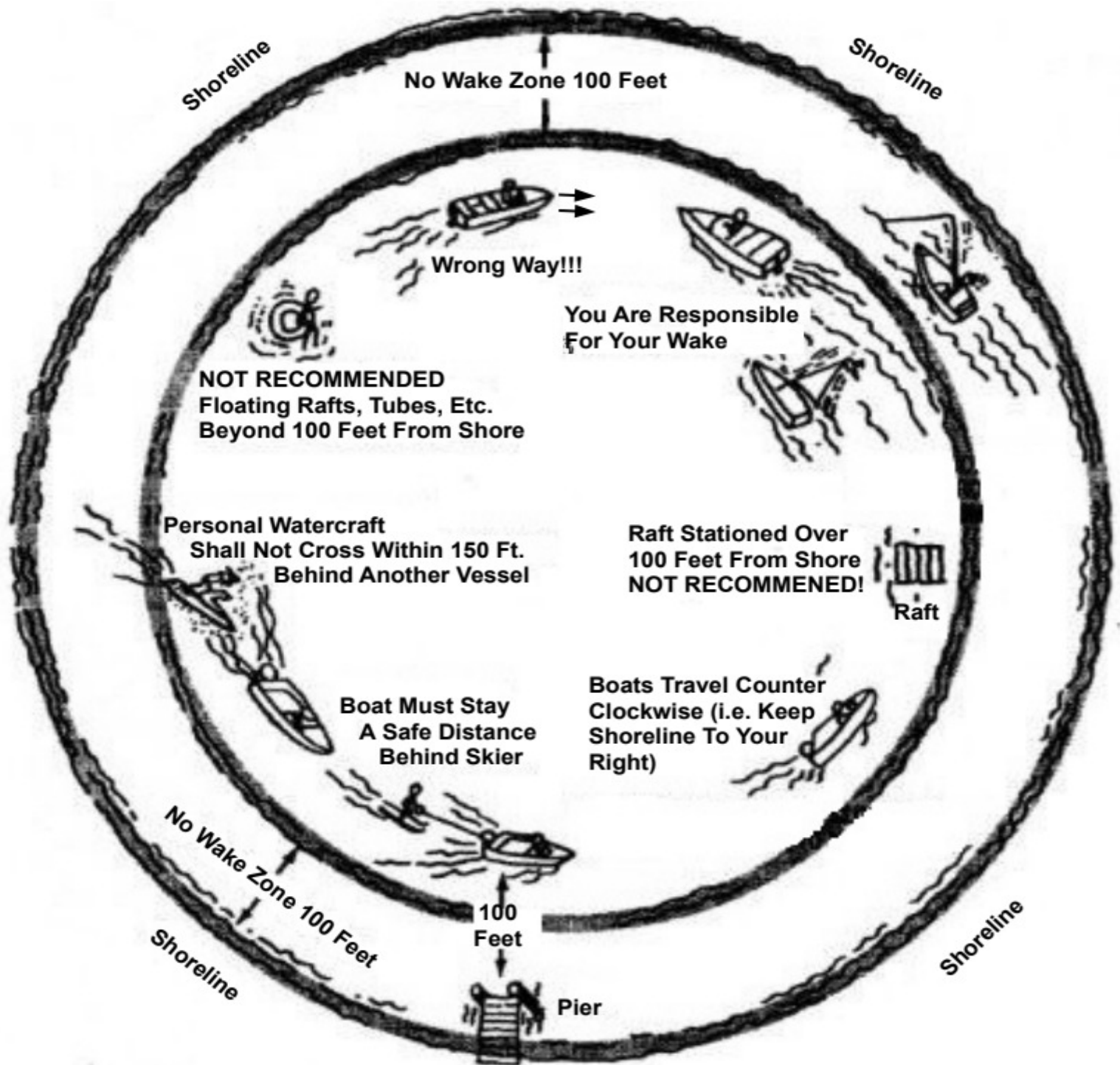
Mailing address if different from Lake address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email and/or phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Amount: Dues: **\$20** Fish Planting donation: \$\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_





**No wake hours: 7:30 p.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

**It is very important for property owners, their friends and renters to follow these State of Michigan Rules for everyone's safety.**