

2017-12 W.V.P.O.A.C. Newsletter



Prez Sez:

As we close in on the holiday season and put a very weird (weather-wise) year in our rearview mirror, I can't help but reflect on what a great year this was for our club.

As you probably know by now the clubhouse addition is complete and totally functional. Thanks again to our 2017 Outstanding Effort and Dedication Award winners, Dave Dohring and Bob Chadwick, for their hard work and long hours required to get it finished. How nice it is to have water and facilities at our disposal. Additionally, on a hot fall day, Ernie Zack coordinated a work detail and several members pitched in and did a fantastic job of painting the entire clubhouse while others fixed the soffits, repaired the shed, caulked the open joints and replaced the window screens. (See page 4 for the list of all the helpers.) We also had the cloudy and cracked windows replaced and purchased new lighter tables to improve the seating arrangements. Then Denny Gallagher coordinated an outside clean up detail to improve the clubhouse grounds. (See page 4 for Denny's write up on who helped out.) Moving forward on the clubhouse activity, we are now looking at options for the cement floor. Lastly, Kathie and I are doing some revisions to our cottage which includes replacing the deck, so D & B construction (Dave Dohring and Bob Chadwick) with a little help from their friends have removed our deck and are making plans to install it on the lake front of the clubhouse.....won't that be nice to have a couple of picnic tables out there overlooking the lake!!! That will also mean we have less grass to cut ☺.....and while I'm on that topic, thanks to Dave Andrusiak and his team for the outside yearly maintenance – Dave thanked all the grass cutters at the meeting.

Moving on to the lake activity, many thanks to Blair and the Lake Committee for staying on top of the weed surveys and herbicide applications. The lake is really looking great with the exception of the algae blooms which we will be discussing at the Spring Meeting. (See Blairs summary on page 3.) Also, many thanks to our new Dam and Lake Drawdown Chair, Bob Chadwick and his team, who are saving the club BIG money by performing this year's draw down of the lake based on our Standard Operating Procedure. It's been slow going but with all the rain we have had, but we are making progress.

Now onto club activities. Thanks to Carrie Dorcey for coordinating the July 4th Boat Parade. Unfortunately, the weather was lousy and we only had 3 boats enter the competition....let's make 2018 the biggest boat count ever!!!

The Pontoon Poker Run was a H-U-G-H success. The weather was great....we had 38 participants and it raised \$882. Much thanks to Millie Mann and her team for such a great time.

The Golf Outing that George and Cindy Jackson and their team put together this year set an all-time fundraising record. We ended up with 64 golfers and raised \$6,832 of which, I am proud to say, \$2,700 was donated to Operation Injured Soldier-Brave Hearts Estates in Pellston. Paula

Brown from BHE attended the luncheon after golf and shared what goes on at BHE and thanked the WVPOAC for all the support we have given them. (See page 3 for a list of all the winners.)

I have just a few more people to acknowledge before I wrap up.....

Thanks to Kathie Nihls who again worked diligently to make sure our yearly raffle was a success, which by the way set a new record by raising \$2,220. (See page 3 for a list of all the raffle winners.)

Thanks to Blair Wickman who, along with myself, pulled the Hay Ride trailers around the lake and back in to the 10-acre parcels with 28 folks that enjoyed some pretty nice scenery. Granted the colors weren't peak, but it was a great time with plenty of awesome food shared back at the clubhouse.

Thanks to Bob Nickodemus for once again coordinating the Fishing Contest. We had many entries this year and some new faces winning the different specie categories. (See page 4 for the list of who all won the \$25 gift cards.)

Thanks to all of you who have been enlisting their neighbors to join the club. Kathie reports that we are up to 94 members!!!

Kathie and I coordinated an offering of WVPOAC T-shirts and the response was fantastic. We sold 73 and have had many requests to carry it forward with hats, hoodies and wind jacket offerings. If you would be interested in helping coordinate offerings and orders please let me know.

As I stated earlier 2017 was a great year for the WVPOAC and it was a great year because of all the great people that made it great. If you read again through all that I have wrote about you can only imagine how many hundreds and hundreds of hours of volunteer work it took to make it all happen.

Lastly, thanks to your Board of Director's for their dedication and leadership to your club and thanks to all of you who support the WVPOAC Board as we continue to move the club forward.

I hope your Thanksgiving was safe and enjoyable, and Merry Christmas to all.....and hope to see you at the Stump Cutting Party in January 2018!!!

Jim

The 2017 WVPOAC Golf Outing Results

1st Place – Jack & Nancy Steele, Katy & Jeff Koon
2nd Place – Ben Peplinski, Janette Ferrier, Larry Riker, & Doug Celsi
3rd Place – Phil Williams, Les & Peg Bruscha, & Dave Dohring
High Score – Dave & Michelle Andrusiak, Ernie & Jackie Zack
Closest to the Pin-Men: Cole Loffer 12' 8-1/2"
Closest to the Pin-Women: None
Long Drive Senior Women: Pat Lambert
Long Drive Senior Men: Dave Dohring
Long Drive Women: Chavon Nihls
Long Drive Men: Cole Loffer
Closest to Squiggly Line: Vickie Nichols
Closest to the Loon: Bruce Greenhoe
Longest Putt Women: Ruth Rogers
Longest Putt Men: Bill Stapels

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO.....

- **Dave Dohring for bringing donuts in the early morning from Dutch Bakery in Alanson**
- **Luncheon Chef's Bob Chadwick, Bill Stapels, & Dave Dohring**
- **Photographers and helpers on #5 to sell brownies, donated by Bob Chadwick (secret recipe), and raffle tickets – Millie Mann and her niece Patty, Pat Chadwick, & Justine Gallagher**
- **Hole-in-One observers Anita Gleason & Connie Beardsley**
- **Pat Shelp for selling tickets in the early morning**
- **To the Steele's for stepping up and helping obtain prizes from Gaylord area merchants**

BIG THANK YOU TO.....

- **Tom Young from Feeny Chrysler for providing a car for our Hole-in-One**
- **Nancy Nickodemus for helping out each year to obtain prizes and sponsors and calling all to help with the Pot Luncheon**
- **Nihls's and Schmidt's for that wonderful auction item of a Kincade painting, and donating it to Cindi & George Jackson...we were overwhelmed!!!**

Thanks all and Happy Holiday's – Cindi & George Jackson

Lake Committee Update Lots of very nice size fish were entered in our fishing contest this year. See fishing contest results. But we still have an excessive number of stunted small pike. Over ten years ago the DNR evaluated the growth rates of our pike population and found that our pike are stunted due to over-population. Because of this they implemented liberal pike fishing rules for our lake, no size limit and a 5 fish limit with only 1 over 24". The DNR says it normally takes 10 years to eliminate this problem. It has been over ten years and we still have stunted pike. To help eliminate this problem please keep all small pike and eat them, give them away or bury them as fertilizer.

We have received many questions about weed treating on our lake so here are some of the basic facts about lake weeds and their treatment. There are two types of plants in our lake, native and invasive species. Invasive species can be treated anywhere they are found. Eurasian Milfoil has been the primary invasive found in our lake so far and before we started treating it we had over 70 acres of it and now we are only finding small patches of it due to our treating it every time we find some. Native species can only be treated where it is restricting use of the lake. They can only be treated in developed areas and at most 200 foot from shore.

There are two types of chemicals used to treat weeds, systemic and contact. Systemic herbicides are absorbed into the plant and go down into the roots and kill the whole plant. Thus it is a long term solution. Contact herbicides only kill the parts of the plant that it comes into contact with so the roots are not killed and thus the plants can come back. Unfortunately most systemic herbicides are only approved for treating invasive species. The primary one we use is Triclopyr and we use it when we find significant areas of Eurasian milfoil. Can use Habitat (a systemic herbicide) to treat lily pads in select areas, which is what we do in our fall treatment. In our fall treatment this year we treated select areas of lily pads and some trial areas of bulrush. Contact herbicides are the primary herbicides approved for use on nuisance native plants. Our first two treatments this year consisted primarily of combining 3 select contact herbicides to treat the various areas of nuisance native plants. We have found that an initial treatment followed 4-5 weeks later with a follow-up treatment has been very effective.

The electronic weed survey this year was performed on June 5 due to some complaints that we were treating too late. Unfortunately the weeds had not grown enough by then so we had to delay treatment and perform a manual survey and treatment on June 21. The follow-up treatment was performed on August 1 and the lily pad treatment was performed on Sept. 11. Next years treatments are planned similar to this years but the electronic survey will be performed around June 15 depending on weed growth.

In mid Sept. we experienced a very large algae bloom. Our lake consultant was informed and it was determined that this algae bloom was just a green algae and although very nasty looking it is not toxic. Although some lakes experience these regularly we have not and this year many lakes in Northern Michigan and around the country that normally don't experience these algae blooms did this year. The experts are looking at this years experience to see if they can determine why all these lakes had these blooms this year. One common factor appears to be that these lakes all had numerous very heavy rains.

Regards, Blair Wickman

Hayride: We had 28 people attend the hayride. The colors were good in some areas and not so great in others and it was a little chilly and drizzly but the enthusiasm was great. Back at the clubhouse, some great chili, food, and desserts awaited us. Thank you to Blair Wickman and Jim Nihls for donating and pulling your trailers. Much fun was had by all!

2017 Membership Report

We currently have 94 paid memberships.

New Members since the June newsletter are: Paul Collins, Rick & Sharon Perkins, and Steve & Lisa Wilhelm.

Welcome all!

2017 Fishing Contest Winners:

Pike – 27 ½ inches – Ruth Rogers

Perch – 12 inches – Ruth Rogers

Blue Gill – 8 ½ inches – Sandy Harding

Small Mouth Bass – 19 inches – Ruth Rogers

Large Mouth Bass – 18 ½ inches – Rich Jurewicz

These winners have been added to our new fishing contest plaque and received a Dunham's gift card.

Thank you to Bob Nickodemus for chairing this event.

WVPOAC Clubhouse Shoreline Cleanup

Much thanks to the hardy souls who showed up for our work party on Nov. 3rd – Bob Chadwick, Joe Wildberg, Steve Wilhelm, Bill Harding, Blair Wickman, Dave Dohring, Bill Stapels, John Horvath, Jack Steele, & Denny Gallagher. A special THANK YOU to Justine Gallagher for providing the great sub sandwiches for lunch!!!

The 2017 WVPOAC Large Raffle Results

The 5-\$100 prize winners:

Linda Manier
Frank Shelp
J Taylor
Tom Kowaleski
Bill Kangas

The grand prize \$1000 winner: Tom and Sandra Schmidt

Thanks for all who participated and to all who sold tickets (we sold 382 of the 500 tickets) and had a profit of \$2220.00.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO WHEELER MOTORS FOR SPONSORING THE TICKETS

A big THANK YOU to the Schmidt's for donating their winnings back to the Building Fund!

Pontoon Poker Run: The Pontoon Poker Run was held in August and 38 people participated, having a great time and enjoying good food at the club house after. Thank you to Carrie Dorcey for starting the event, Millie Mann for coordinating the food and clubhouse, to Dave Andrusiak and Bob Chadwick for running the game. Our host houses were wonderful with appetizers and drinks, thank you to the Dohrings, Millie Mann, the Steeles and the Morrisons, you were very hospitable. We raised \$882 for the building fund.

WVPOAC Clubhouse Maintenance Work Detail

A huge THANK YOU goes out to the WVPOAC members who helped with painting, rescreening, and fixing doors, trim, & the bulletin board at the clubhouse on Sat., Sept. 23rd (in 90+ degree heat!). Thanks to Denny Gallagher for your screen work, and Bob Chadwick & Dave Dohring for wood repairs & painting.....and Thanks to all the scrappers & painters: Ernie & Jackie Zack, Blair Wickman & Lori Connelly, Bob & Nancy Nickodemus, Bill Harding, George Jackson, Jim & Kathie Nihls, and Joe Wildberg. Everyone's hard work paid off – the clubhouse looks FANTASTIC!