

# Greater Wall Lake Association

## Fall 2019 Newsletter

### A Gift to Wall Lake

By Richard Fluke

As we approach the end of 2019, it is a good time to review our charitable giving for the year. Greater Wall Lake Association (GWLA) should be included in this review.

There are two ways to give to the GWLA Mission and Programs:

1. **A direct contribution to the GWLA**, P.O. Box 56, Delton, Mi 49046. These donations are used for the associations Programs and Operating Expenses. An example of a Program is the semi-annual Walleye Stocking Program at a cost of \$1,800.00 per occasion. An example of an Operating Expense is a recent Electronic Program to improve member communication and financial record keeping. On January 17, 2019, GWLA received the IRS 501 ( c ) ( 3 ) Charitable Designation and since that date donations to GWLA are tax deductible.
2. **A contribution to the GWLA Preservation Fund** at The Barry Community Foundation (B.C.F.), 231 S. Broadway, Hastings, Mi. 49058. These gifts are dedicated to the long term efforts for the Preservation, Protection, and Enhancing the Quality of Wall Lake and its Watershed.

The B.C.F. is responsible for the management of the GWLA Preservation Fund and the GWLA Board has oversight of how the funds are used. All gifts to the GWLA Preservation Fund are tax deductible through the B.C.F. IRS 501 ( c ) ( 3 ) designation.

For additional information on the GWLA Preservation Fund, go [www.mywalllake.com](http://www.mywalllake.com) and click on Dues/Donations and then click on How to Donate. At the bottom of the window click on the fund brochure for information on various donation methods.

As citizens of Wall Lake we enjoy a pristine natural resource that requires our support to continue in the future as we know it today.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND SUPPORT.**

#### Contribution Form

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Gift Amount: \$

Thank you for supporting the preservation of Wall Lake!

Mail to: Barry Community Foundation  
GWLA Preservation Fund  
231 Broadway  
Hastings, MI 49058

or Greater Wall Lake Association  
PO Box 56  
Delton, MI 49046

# FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

By Christy Tigchelaar, President

This beautiful poem was written several years ago by David L. Tiffany when he was a mere teenager. David graduated from Delton Kellogg in 1960 and went on to serve in the Navy for twenty years. He graduated from the San Diego Naval School and the University of South Alabama. His love for our beautiful Wall Lake is reflected within his poem. His family continues to reside in the home in which he grew up.

The skies have turned somewhat gray, the air is fresh, and the leaves are falling as we begin to enjoy yet another season on our Wall Lake. We sincerely appreciate your continued support and participation in the many events that were scheduled this year including attending our annual meeting that was held at our Delton VFW Post 422.

We too appreciate those of you who have donated to our Preservation Fund and to our Fish Fund in addition to paying your GWLA dues.

Lastly, I wish to thank our GWLA Board of Directors and reluctantly, say farewell to Bob Cove and Bill Cook, both who have dedicated many years of service to the GWLA.

This year, in particular, seems to be going by so fast! Soon we will be celebrating the holiday season with our family and friends. We send to each and every one of you best wishes and good health!

## SAVE THE DATES for 2020

**GWLA Annual Garage Sale.....Saturday June 6, 2020**

**Annual Meeting.....Saturday June 20, 2020**

**4th of July Boat Parade....Friday July 4th 2020**

**Kayak the Wall.....Saturday July 25, 2020**

**Light Up the Wall .....Saturday August 29, 2020**

*Dates subject to change*

## Autumn

By David Tiffany

The season comes to an end. Boats that once glided and rampaged across the lake are gone.

Docks that festooned the shoreline have been pulled broken into sections, and neatly stacked between the trees.

Cottage windows have been boarded over in preparation for the long winters' rest.

In their place, placid water and quiet stillness.

It's the rhythm of life on the lake.

I admit, I've never understood the city people. Those renters and occupiers of summer.

Why the mad rush to leave?

Color them green and glitter them on the ripple of waves.

In their haste they miss the change of autumn's wild and fiery colors.

They herald the layers and changes of wardrobe.

Announcing with trumpet call the crisp morning air that beg a sweater and pants and is moved if only for a few hours to shorts and light shirts before giving way to sweatshirts, pants, and crackling fires kindled by leaves that were once green.

Yes.

They miss it all in their hurry to return to their lives of pavement and brick.

I envy them not but will gladly welcome their return, come end of spring and the beginning of yet another season the sun and waves of cheer.

## Treasurers Report

By Martha Edger

As your GWLA treasurer, I would like to thank all of the 162 members who paid your 2019 due. We have had a few inquiries about what exactly do my dues pay for...

### VARIOUS LAKE ACTIVITIES

Kayak the Wall

Fourth of July Parade

Light up the Wall

### LEGAL COUNSEL

Preserving lake quality

501(c) (3)

### POSTAGE, PRINTING, PO BOX

### INSURANCE

Limited liability for GWLA members

### WEBSITE FEES

### QUICKBOOK SUBSCRIPTION

### PROFESSIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Michigan Waterfront Alliance

MSLA membership

### BI-ANNUAL FISH PLANTING OF WALLEYE

Again, thank you for your support in 2019 and watch your mail/email for 2020 invoices.

## ANNUAL MEETING

By Connie Vaughn

The 2019 annual meeting was held this year at the VFW Post 422 in Delton and was a huge success. We had over a hundred turnout and the VFW provided us with a great venue and delicious food.

Christy Tigchelaar, our Association President opened our meeting and welcomed all of the guests to enjoy the evening and briefly provided the agenda for the evening. We had several special guests including Andy Tomaszewski representing PLM (Professional Lake Management), Jim Minich, President of Crooked Lake Association, Bill Johnson from Barry County Sheriff Marine Division, and David Comeau the Barry County Watershed & Invasive Species Coordinator. Our guests that provided brief presentations were well received and were available after dinner if members had questions.

Wall Lake board members provided the following reports to members:

Audit Report, Richard Fluke

Preservation Fund, Bill Cook

Wetland Activity, Jeff Keller

It was fun recalling the 2018 events that the Greater Wall Lake Association sponsors and recognizing the winners.

A few door prizes were given out during the evening and our President Christy Tigchelaar really told some great stories about the winners of the prizes. Donations for the door prizes were from Katie of mid-Lakes Screen Printing, Larissa Shaw's Avon, Family Fare, Lisa Warner of Jaqua Realty and Jessica Brandli, owner of Ken's Sports Shop.

Thank you to all of you that came out and made it such a special evening.

If you have questions or concerns about Wall Lake you may contact the Greater Wall Lake Association by:

Mail: PO Box 56 Delton, MI 49046

Email: [greaterwalllakeassoc@gmail.com](mailto:greaterwalllakeassoc@gmail.com)

Website: [www.mywalllake.com](http://www.mywalllake.com)

Or follow the Greater Wall Lake Association Facebook page.



***The Greater Wall Lake  
Association wishes you a happy  
and safe holiday season.***

## AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES UPDATE

By Andy Tomaszewski  
PLM Lake & Land Management Corp.

### Wall Lake Management Update 2019

The 2019 season was very successful in regards to exotic plant control on Wall Lake. Eurasian watermilfoil (the main management target) was found in several small, isolated patches in the lake and was addressed via spot treatments whenever found. Treatments took place on: 5/29, 6/24, 7/25, 7/29, and 8/21 2019. Selective herbicides were used whenever possible to treat milfoil without harming naturally occurring plant species. These products are also systemic meaning that they have the ability to control/eliminate the milfoil root system. In certain situations where milfoil was found growing close to shore and around docks/boats, low dose contact herbicides were used to selectively control milfoil and minimize spread. Treatments throughout the 2019 season were very successful and the year-end AVAS survey showed it at .1% cumulative cover (9% of shoreline sites at very low density). This is down from .39% in 2018. Wall Lake has not experienced any significant milfoil problems since 2011.

One concerning find in 2019 was the exotic species Cabomba. Not previously found on Wall Lake, Cabomba is species with a heavy presence in the Delton area (Lake 21, Upper Crooked, Long, Mud, Pleasant, Wilkinson and Cloverdale Lakes). A small area of growth was found on 7/25 in the northeast part of the lake in the small channel near the end of Cordes Rd. It was immediately treated a few days later. Unfortunately, Cabomba does not have a systemic control option and treatments will only provide seasonal control. Currently, Cabomba is confined to this one specific area and it will be monitored closely and treated aggressively in order to keep it from spreading to the rest of the lake. We would NOT anticipate Cabomba to colonize in most shoreline areas given that it prefers softer "mucky" bottom types. It is more likely to be found in areas that grow lily pads.

During our several visits to the lake this season, an abundance of native/naturally occurring weed types were observed. These types are good for the lake and part of a healthy ecosystem. In some cases, they may have been considered a nuisance. Native plants can fluctuate year-to-year and even within the same season. Certain species might be heavier in the early part of the summer only to die back and be replaced by later season species. Even lily pads can die back at various points in the summer as water levels fluctuate.

For 2020, we anticipate that the lake will be in good shape to start the season. We will evaluate the lake several times during the summer. If any Eurasian watermilfoil or Cabomba are found, it will be addressed as needed.



#### Carolina fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*)

**Description:** This species is listed on the Michigan prohibited aquatic plant list. Introduced as an aquarium plant.

**Habit:** Aquatic; submergent perennial; typically grows in water depths ranging from 1-3 m (3-10 ft).

**Leaves:** Vary, submergent leaves opposite, palmately, finely dissected, floating leaves alternate, entire, small.

**Stems:** May reach up to 2 m (6.5 ft) in length; grass green or olive green; sometime reddish-brown in color.

**Flowers:** White in color, 3 petals, 3 petal-like sepals, flowers emergent, less than 1/2 in (13 mm) in diameter.

**Fruit and seeds:** 2-4 leathery pods per flower, each 2-3 cm long and 1 mm wide, usually containing 3 seeds each.

**Habitat:** Grows in lakes, ponds, occasionally slow-moving rivers or streams.

**Reproduction:** Southern species sold in aquarium trade. Germination of seed less likely in north; spreads vegetative parts which adhere to boats and waterfowl; may also be dispersed by currents.

**Similar species:** Spineless hornwort or Coontail (*Ceratophyllum echinatum*) and Beck's water marigold (*Bidens beckii*) but do not have distinct petioles like Cabomba.

**Common Name:** Carolina fanwort **Scientific Name:** *Cabomba caroliniana* **Family:** [Cabombaceae](#) (Water-shield family) **Duration:** [Perennial](#) **Habit:** [Aquatic](#) **USDA Symbol:** CACA

## The Tradition Continues

By Dan Erb

On Monday, November 4, 2019 the Laggis Fish Farm delivered 500 6-8 inch Walleye for distribution into Wall Lake. GWLA Board Director Richard Fluke met volunteer members Randy Froelich and Dan Seymour to help with the distribution process. The Laggis employee nets the fish off the back of their truck and then transfers the net full of fish to our volunteers who bravely waded out into the water to release the Walleye into their new lake, Wall Lake. Stocking the lake with Walleye is a bi-annual event that started decades ago.



## Communications Update

Please help us keep you updated on important information and activities by sending us your current email address. If you have not been receiving updates or know someone who hasn't, please provide us your email. You can send it to:

[greaterwalllakeassoc@gmail.com](mailto:greaterwalllakeassoc@gmail.com)

# GWLA SPONSORED EVENTS

## GARAGE SALE

Our annual garage sale gives an opportunity for Wall Lake residents to clean out their storage areas and share their treasures. The 2020 Garage sale will be on Saturday, June 6.

Start planning now!



## 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY PARADE

The 4th of July began with excitement and sunny skies looking forward to the annual 4th of July Boat Parade. This year Tim Harsevoort and family served as the Grand Marshall and led about 25 boats around Wall Lake to the sounds of patriotic music, horns and laughter! A few squirt guns just may have been involved to shower the fellow parade participants and as well as a few of those watching from docks.

Levi Vanderloon was able to capture the Dom Court Trophy for the second year in a row but...it was a tough decision with so many beautiful boats.

We thank each participant for their hard work and beautiful boats. Your efforts helped us all to start our celebration with many smiles.

More photos available on the  
Greater Wall Lake Association Facebook Page.



## UNSUNG HEROS OF WALL LAKE

Kudos to Tim Harsevoort. He is a former GWLA board member who seems to have time for everyone and everything. He is married with two children who are as busy as most children are. A famous quote from this third shifter.. "sleep is over rated".

Tim is the person who puts out the rock buoy every spring and removes them in the fall, and puts out the garage sale signs. He also helps maintain the Reynolds Road Launch, has led the Fourth of July Parade and decorates his boat to the hilt for our lake's special events.

He is a former volunteer fireman that sprang into action and helped when his neighbors' house caught fire. He is always so kind to his senior neighbors and always willing to lend a hand.

Tim is so handy that he can fix just about anything. He is also a neat-nick. Boats, cars, yard.. they're all spotless.

We appreciate the helping hand you are always willing to lend to help your community.

If you would like to nominate someone in your neighborhood, please send it to:

[greaterwalllakeassoc@gmail.com](mailto:greaterwalllakeassoc@gmail.com)



Levi Vanderloon winner of the Dom Court Trophy and the 2019 Peoples Choice Award

# GWLA SPONSORED EVENTS

## Kayak The Wall

By Katie Dolfman

On July 27th, 2019 the GWLA hosted 66 courageous people battled the blissful winds of Wall Lake to compete in the 3rd Annual Kayak the Wall event.

This is the first year that Terry and Helen Deike were not able to enjoy this day with us, but I'm certain they were with us in spirit.

There were 5 rest stations scattered around the lake that were taking on water to help the participants with this great event. Each rest station had "snacks" for all, tally sheets and playing cards. Using any non-motorized vehicle, the goal is to get yourself to all 5 rest stations for the opportunity to draw the best hand. Once at the rest station, draw a card and the rest station supervisor will mark the card on your tally sheet. When you are at your final rest station, draw your last card and give your tally sheet to the supervisor.

All tally sheets were picked up and compiled for the top 10 winners. The top 5 hands won a long sleeve T-shirt with this year's logo and the next best 5 hands won a short sleeve t shirt with this year's logo on it. Katie & Christy's mid-Lakes Screen Printing, located at 121 E. Orchard, Delton, donated the creation of this year's logo. Mindy Zimmerman had the very best hand this year and also won this year's trophy. Julie Grimes won a fabulous dry bag made by Gamakatsu and donated by Ken's Sport's Shop, located at 126 East Orchard, Delton.

A special thanks to the rest station supervisors: Connie Vaughn, Mary Branch, Melody Lutz, Colleen Herubin, Lisa Roodbergen and all of their helpers. Without them, we would not be able to have this event.



**Mindy Zimmerman, winner of the 2019 Trophy for the Best Poker Hand**



**Julie Grimes, winner of the dry bag donated by Ken's Sports Shop in Delton**

**More photos available on the Greater Wall Lake Associations Facebook Page.**

**Thank you Erica Lutz for sharing your talent as the official photographer for both 4th of July parade and the Kayak the Wall events**

# GWLA SPONSORED EVENT

## Light up the Wall

By Steve Larson

The Light up the Wall event started at the point with about a half dozen boats. A little less than normal, but there were storms in the forecast for the area. Once we got around to the north side of the lake, we could see that mother nature was getting in on the show. The thunderstorm passed close to the northwest corner of the lake but didn't cause any issues, only a little light rain once we were done and heading home.

Our lap around the lake went well, but for the next time, I will have a two batteries onboard. I used my handheld search light a lot, checking our path for all the rafts and buoys around the lake. I ran my battery down to the point where my search light did not turn on if I used it to much.

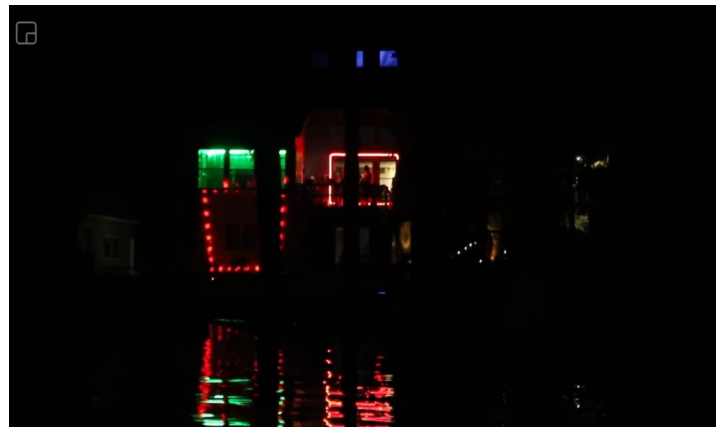
Many of the shorelines were decorated as well to brighten our lap around the lake.

Over in the southwest corner of the lake, I turned all my lights off so I could get my bearing to cut across the south end of the lake and do the last leg of our trip along the west side of the point. I hope everyone enjoyed the show.



Winner of the 2019 Peoples Choice Award for Boats

Don and Lisa Homic your certificate is waiting at  
Midlakes Screen Print



Winners of the 2910 Peoples Choice Award for the Shoreline.  
Gordon and Larissa Shaw had a beautiful light show.

Special thanks to Jeff Baur's Photography for these beautiful night photos. We appreciate your willingness to share your talent with us.



# SPECIAL FEATURE

## Natural Shorelines

By David Comeau  
Barry Conservation District

Did you know that at least 50% of Michigan lakes are shown to have poor nearshore habitat? Healthy shoreline habitat includes native trees, shrubs, and smaller plants like forbs and grasses to provide habitat and protect shorelines from eroding. However, it is more common along populated lakes to see a row of manicured lawns and seawalls along the shore. Seawalls are generally hard structures such as concrete or steel that are used to stop erosion, but they lack natural vegetation. Some issues with seawalls include expedited erosion, barriers to wildlife, and habitat loss due to scouring of the lake bottom. A healthier alternative to seawalls is natural shorelines.

The native vegetation of natural shorelines provides many benefits such as absorbing and filtering runoff and holding soil in place to prevent erosion. Reducing erosion and runoff obviously protects the environment and water quality, but it also protects your shoreline and your property value. Keeping things natural along our shorelines, helps protect the water quality in our lakes. Vegetated shorelines will help protect and enhance water quality by slowing and filtering runoff. This can result in lower turbidity (less sediment), less frequent algae blooms, and fewer issues with *E. coli* at your favorite swimming spots. *Natural shorelines provide critical habitat for many of Michigan's native species. Over 200 species of amphibians, reptiles, fish, birds, and mammals as well as countless native plants depend on shoreline habitat along inland lakes. Some examples include the Blanding's turtle and the Eastern Massasauga which are both species of concern in Michigan.*

Natural shorelines can also help with those pesky geese. They love to congregate on manicured lawns and tend to leave behind a big mess for the homeowner. Manicured lawns provide wonderful grazing grounds for geese and are inviting places to nest and raise young because there are no places for predators to hide. While natural shorelines with taller native plants may not completely stop geese from accessing your yard, they will tend to choose the easier path and congregate on lawns without natural shorelines.

Shorelines consist of four different zones and it is important to choose the right plants for each zone. A natural shoreline planting typically includes work in more than one of these zones. The first zone is below the water level. These plants will be rooted and growing within the lake. For this zone choose native plants deemed "floating," "aquatic," or "emergent," depending on if they grow in the water or above the surface. The second zone is between the water level and the ordinary high-water mark or OHWM. These plants like to have wet roots, but they don't like to grow in water year-round. They can generally handle seasonal flooding and will be able to stand up to some waves and ice. Zone three is above the OHWM. These plants can handle limited flooding but need to have very moist soils to thrive. This area occurs a little further up the shore from the lake edge. Fourth is the upland zone. Plants in this area like mesic soils, which are drier than moist soils. Although not on the shoreline, native plants in the upland are important as a first line of defense against erosion and runoff headed for the lake. Upland habitat is also very beneficial for a wide array of wildlife.

When choosing plants for a native shoreline, always remember to choose native! Native plants are not only better for wildlife, they tend to have better root structures to anchor the shoreline soil and they will be more adapted to handling the conditions along shorelines such as fluctuating water levels. Be sure to research plants before you buy them. Many harmful aquatic and shoreline plants are still available for purchase. Please do not plant known invasive species- yellow floating heart, water lettuce, frogbit, phragmites, water hyacinth, and others. When in doubt, native plants are the safest and most beneficial choice.

Continued on next page

## Natural Shorelines Con't

Barry Conservation District

In some cases, it may not be feasible to rip out a seawall and jump right into native plants. This is especially true with the waves caused by boats on many inland lakes. That's where a cross between harder yet more natural structures come in. This is called bioengineering. Two of the more common methods of bioengineering on natural shorelines are rock riprap and plant fiber rolls or bundles called coir logs. These materials are generally placed along the shoreline and coincide with native plantings to give the shoreline an added level of protection.

Natural shorelines may seem like a daunting task to consider on your own, but there are many resources available to help through the Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership (MNSP). If you need help choosing plants or even finding landscaping plans, the MNSP webpage ([www.mishorelinepartnership.org](http://www.mishorelinepartnership.org)) has great information. Trainings for homeowners are held throughout the year as well- contact Watershed Coordinator David Comeau at (269) 908-4099 for dates. If you would like professional help with your next shoreline project, there is a list of Certified Natural Shoreline Professionals on the MNSP webpage. To see a natural shoreline in person, you can find demo plots on the MNSP website. If you do decide to move forward with any shoreline work, remember to contact EGLE (formerly DEQ) to find out permit requirements.



Plant Fiber Rolls or bundles call coir logs

Used for native plantings

## Ladies of the Lake

By Denise Duda

The Ladies of the Lake is a very informal lunch bunch. There are no meetings or dues; it's all about going out to LUNCH. A group of women who live on (and a couple that used to live on) Wall Lake get together at 11:30 am on the second Wednesday of the month. At lunch we chat and laugh, suggest different restaurants and select the location for next month. Then an email goes out 1-2 weeks prior to get an RSVP headcount so we can make a reservation. There are typically 10 to 16 ladies that come to lunch depending on who is in town and what else is going on. There are about 34 ladies currently on the email list. All Wall Lake ladies are welcome! If you would like to be added to the email list, please send your name, address, phone number and email address to: [ladiesofthelake50@gmail.com](mailto:ladiesofthelake50@gmail.com) and we will send you the next email that goes out.

More information about Wall Lake  
is available on the  
Greater Wall Lake Association website  
[www.mywalllake.com](http://www.mywalllake.com).

### GWLA 2019 Board

Christy Tigchelaar, President

Richard Fluke

Connie Vaughn

Bob Cove

Jeff Keller, Vice President

Andy Bohr

Melody Lutz

Bill Cook

Dan Erb, Secretary

James Lockwood

Martha Edger, Treasurer

If you wish to contact the GWLA Board please go to the website [www.mywalllake.com](http://www.mywalllake.com) and hit the Contact button or send an email to [greaterwalllakeassoc@gmail.com](mailto:greaterwalllakeassoc@gmail.com)