

BLACK LAKE NEWS

Spring 2013

Meetings 2013

All meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 7:30 PM in Grant Township Hall.

- May 13
- June 10 Pot Luck 6:30
- July 8
- August 12
- September 9
- October 14



Volunteers

- President - Ron Dulak
- V. President - Virgil Smith
- Treasurer - Cindy Trepanier
- Secretary - Linda Smith
- Trustees - Erin McLean, Roger Selvig, Dick Hopkins
- Membership - Sharon Dulak
- Technical Advisor - Rusty Gowland
- Secchi Disk Readings - Bob Williams
- Newsletter—Sharon Dulak
- Banquet - Linda Smith, Kaye Hoefflin

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

RON DULAK 989-733-2565

I'm sitting here looking out over Black Lake. The 15 inch thick ice is covered with a blanket of snow, a snowmobile glides past pulling an ice shanty, looking for a better fishing spot. It has to be careful not to hit a pickup truck looking for that same spot.

It is a sight to behold, but one that is completely different from that of the summer months. It is still beautiful.

The Black Lake Association (BLA) is now starting its 85th year, striving to maintain its mission and promises to monitor Black Lake for environmental and ecological changes and to promote activities which will enhance the water quality, fishing, boating, swimming, safe navigation and all other activities enjoyed by those who use the lake.

This past year the BLA

has been involved in a number of projects directed at maintaining our mission.

We worked with the DNR to plant an additional 192,451, 1 1/2 to 2 inch walleye in June while the BLA Fisheries Committee planted 10,000, 6 to 8 inch walleye in October.

We rewired the night-light at the Onaway State Park boat launch. The fire that destroyed the pavilion last year also destroyed the wiring.

We also maintained our involvement in the Northern Inland Lakes Advisory Committee. It reviews and provides input and direction into fishery goals, objectives and management plans for Pickerel, Crooked, Mullet, Burt and Black Lakes.

We had meetings with Jeremy Spell, DNR Unit

Director for Aloha and Onaway State Parks to discuss how the BLA could help to improve Onaway State Park, especially with the pavilion, boat launch improvements and parking.

These potential projects will be discussed further during our summer meetings. Coming up with projects is pretty easy, but getting volunteer help is what makes an organization successful. The BLA Board of Directors will be looking to fill the positions of Vice President, one trustee and various chairman positions. We could sure use your help.



Fishery Committee Report

Erin McLean, Chairman 989-733-4661



The Black Lake Association Fishery Committee was formed in 2007 to address the fishing issues that were occurring in Black Lake. The declining walleye population and the lack of natural reproduction were our main concern, but we also wanted to establish a positive relationship with the Michigan DNR Fisheries Division. The current members of the committee are Ron Dulak, Virgil Smith, Mike Beuerle, Mike Parrot, Mike Kretz and Erin McLean.

Although we don't have all the answers yet, we have been able to build a strong relationship with the DNR. We have also had great success with our walleye stocking efforts.

Since 2008, The Black Lake Association has stocked 38,117 fall fingerlings into Black Lake. These fish are six to eight inches long and have a much higher survival rate than the spring fingerlings stocked by the DNR. Last October, 2012 we put in 10,000 of

these fish.

The DNR has stocked the lake with a total of 508,654 spring fingerlings, which includes 192,451 last spring. These fingerlings are around two inches in length.

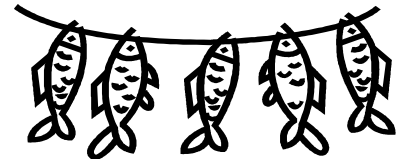
By flooding Black Lake with over half a million spring and fall fingerlings in three years we have made a huge impact.

Once again, in early October, the DNR electro shocked Black Lake for 0 aged walleye and had great success. The shocking produced the largest number of walleye to date. But, with that good news comes some bad, as well. Twenty-five walleye were sacrificed for lab testing and of these all twenty five were proved to have been stocked last June. This was evident because the June stocked fish had had their spines dyed and could be identified under a microscope. All of the fish tested had dyed spines. This shows what we believed to be true, that the stock-

ing of fish is definitely very successful. What we still do not know is why we don't see any large numbers of natural walleye. The BLA Fishery Committee will continue to raise money, work with the DNR and try to continue to improve the fishery in Black Lake.

Thanks go out to everyone who has donated time and money to help our cause, especially the Hammond Bay Area Anglers Association. Thanks also go to the DNR Gaylord Office, specifically to Dave Borgeson and Tim Cwalinski.

If any of you are interested in joining our committee, please feel free to call me, or Ron Dulak 989-733-2565.



Save the Date ! Banquet Saturday July 20th, 2013 Save the Date!

ELVIS is coming to the Black Lake Grill to perform at our annual banquet. Dig out your blue suede shoes and poodle skirts. (Prizes for the best dressed) Plan on a fun-filled evening with your neighbors and friends.

\$25.00 per person Cash Bar Cocktails 5:00 PM Dinner 6:00 PM



Make your reservations early. Payment can be sent in with your annual dues.

PRIZES Silent Auction PRIZES

Black Lake Sturgeon Shivaree Ice Fishing Contest Sponsored By The Black Lake Association

The Black Lake Association supported the Sturgeon Shivaree's Re-establishment by the Sturgeon for Tomorrow Organization (SFT).

We made a donation to the organization and agreed to run the Black Lake Fishing Contest. SFT purchased the trophies and registration forms and the BLA provided over 100 hours of volunteer help. We registered a total of 112 eager contestants at Parrott's Outpost, Twin Lakes Grocery, Northern Sports, Northcott's Gravel Pit Office and the Shivaree Tent.

We were able to award \$900.00 in prize money to the four category winners. The contest was a huge success thanks to the people who volunteered their time and energy.

Thanks go to :

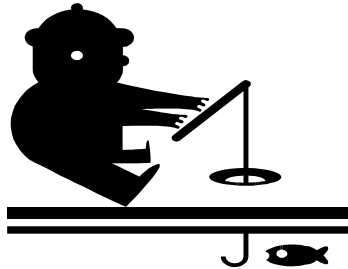
- Roger Selvig
- Pam Selvig
- Bob Bonner
- Linda Smith
- Sonny Smith
- Jim Wood
- Dick Hopkins

- Mike Beuerle
- David Soule
- Erin McLean
- Ron Dulak

AND THE WINNERS ARE:

PERCH

- 1st - Steve Hudenko
Rockford, MI 12 1/2 in.
0.95 lbs
- 2nd - Alex Larson
Onaway 11 1/2 in.
0.85 lbs



WALLEYE

- 1st- Jesse Szatkowski
Rogers City 23 1/2 in.
4.4 lbs
- 2nd - Tiffany Davis
Cheboygan 23 1/4 in.
4.05 lbs

NORTHERN PIKE

- 1st- Bob Koszubowski
Millersburg 29 in.
4.5lbs
- 2nd -Ravon Mac Leod
Onaway 26 3/4 in.
3.35 lbs

MUSKIE

No Entries

STURGEON

- 1st—Dan O'Henley
Afton 45 in.
18 lb.
- 2nd - Dan Stroup
Bronson, MI 42 in.
13 lbs.

Walleye Raffle Winners - 2012

The raffle winners were drawn at the banquet at Lorenzo's on July 21, 2012

The kayak was won by Virgil and Gail Smith.

Mark Nixon won the Gas Grill.

One \$100.00 gift certificate to Tom's Market was won by Shelly Edwards.

The other \$100.00 gift certificate was won by Grace Swearinger.



ONAWAY STATE PARK UPDATE

JEREMY SPELL - DNR



THE REMAINS OF THE
ONAWAY STATE PARK
PAVILLION

*Remember to put the
Black Lake Pot Luck
on your calendar,*

*6:30 PM June 10,
2013*

Grant Township Hall

I would like to extend a big "THANK YOU" to the Black Lake Association for getting the security light at the boat launch reconnected and repaired. I'm sure there are many park users that are very happy to have the light functioning again. Now we can turn our sights to the pavilion repair.

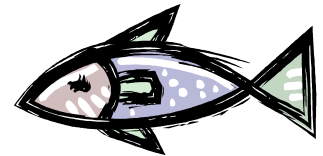
It has been a year since the historic pavilion burned. Last year we focused on clean up and stabilization of the site. Because the pavilion was listed on the National Register of Historic Places and has a cultural significance, we have had to be very diligent to involve all the proper government officials and entities. We recognized immediately

that involving multiple government agencies in the decision making process could take a very long time. Consequently, we began the administrative management immediately, the day after the fire. We focused our efforts on preventing administrative road blocks within the multiple agencies we were required to work with.

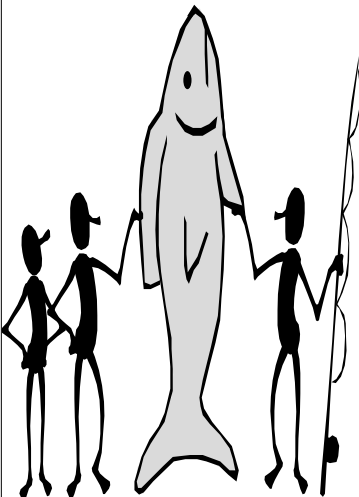
We stayed aggressive and our diligence paid off. Within eight months of the fire, we had sped through the administrative process, and in the fall of 2012, we were given final approval to move forward with the site restoration. Unfortunately, it was too late in the season to continue.

In summary, although it may seem like things have moved slowly, the reality is that we were able to accomplish this in a very short period of time. We will begin the site restoration this spring, commencing with the tearing down of the chimney, filling in the basement area and creating an outdoor patio where the chimney currently sits. We will be holding a public meeting in March to seek input on this plan, as well as a long term plan.

Jeremy Spell is a Unit Supervisor at both Aloha and Onaway State



BLACK LAKE STURGEON SHIVAREE



Black Lake, the only lake open to sturgeon fishing, was home to 268 registered anglers for this year's sturgeon spearing season. The state set the 2013 total harvest at six sturgeon. The spearing season opened on February 2nd and lasted 2 1/2 days. Six sturgeon were harvested and all anglers were notified

within 15–20 minutes that the season was over. Three sturgeon were speared on Saturday, opening day; one on Sunday and the remaining two on Monday.

Timothy Garms took the first one, a male, 39 inches long and 11 pounds. The second was harvested by Claudia Wright, a female which measured 66 inches and

weighed in at 67 pounds. The third was taken by Todd Schryer, a male, 63.5 inches, weighing 54 pounds. Dan Stroup took a 42 inch male weighing 13 pounds. The fifth was speared by John Stiles, and measure 59.5 inches and weighed 42 pounds. The sex was unknown. Dan O'Henley finished the season with a 45 inch, 18 pound female.

BLACK LAKE ASSOCIATION GOVERNANCE

Governance of the Black Lake Association (BLA) is currently accomplished through monthly membership meetings from May to October. The monthly attendance at these meeting has diminished over time until presently we have only 13 to 15 people present at each meeting, including board members. All decisions are acted upon by those present.

During the January board meeting the board discussed another governance method used by most organizations like ours. Using this method all business would be acted upon

by a board of directors elected by the general membership. The directors, in turn, would elect the president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. The number of BLA directors would be increased above the current number of board members in order to increase member representation. All members would be encouraged to attend these meeting to provide input and acquire information regarding BLA activities and projects.

There would also be an annual general meeting once a year to elect directors, act on business re-

quiring membership approval, report, discuss and obtain feedback on activities and to enjoy the fellowship of other members. The annual meeting could even be a potluck or picnic.

In order to change our method of governance, modification of our current by-laws and approval by the membership would be required. Your input is requested before we address this matter further. Please share your ideas with Virg Smith, 989-733-8089, virgsmith@msn.com or Ron Dulak, 989-733-2565, sdulak@src-milp.com. Thank you.



Special thanks go to the following Beach Reps. for all their volunteer time and help.

Graham Edwards
 Kay Hoefflin
 Liz Gowland
 Donna Lory
 Linda Smith
 Sarah Soule
 Mike Kretz
 Dana Brophy
 Elda Shull
 Norman Schwartz
 Lois Overton
 Florence Roberts
 Ray Garrison
 Sheila Kracys
 Julie Johnson
 Dar Grund
 Gary Shepherd
 Norma Lind
 Eugene Osantowski
 Grace Osantowski
 Dianne Kade
 Bette Hopkins
 Mable Leppler
 Marlene George
 Mary Rocco
 Lynne Henzler
 Charlene Swihart
 Gail Smith
 Kathleen Weir

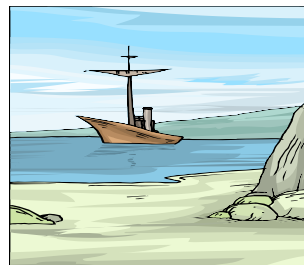
BLACK LAKE MEMBERSHIP

SHARON DULAK 989-733-2565

Black Lake Beach Representatives volunteer their time to walk the beaches and meet their neighbors and friends as they collect the Black Lake Association dues and give out the membership cards and decals. It is through these people that we are able to raise funds to protect and preserve the waters of Black Lake.

If any members are interested in becoming representatives, please feel free to call me or contact another representative with your information. Being a Beach Rep. gives you the chance to enjoy the woods and water as you walk the beaches, and the ability to meet new, interesting people.

Your help would be appreciated and you would also have the satisfaction of knowing you were doing something to help protect the lake.





2013 RAFFLE

1ST PRIZE

Kayak

2ND PRIZE

Two Nights at
Turtle Creek
Casino

3RD PRIZE

Gas Grill

4TH PRIZE

\$100.00

Gift Certificate
Tom's Market

5TH PRIZE

\$100.00

Gift Certificate
Tom's Market

TICKET PRICE

**\$2.00 each or
6/\$10.00**

Banquet Reservations

Mail to: Black Lake Association, P.O. Box 302, Onaway, MI 49765

\$25.00 per person Cocktails 5:00PM Dinner 6:00PM

Please reserve —dinner reservations for the July 20th, 2013 banquet at the Black Lake Grill. I have enclosed \$_____to cover the cost.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please mail by July 15, 2013



BLACK LAKE ASSOCIATION WEBSITE COMING SOON

BLACKLAKEASSOCIATION.COM

Cindy Trepanier has started work on our very own association website. She states that it is definitely a work in progress. The domain name is blacklakeassociation.com. She has already added the Mission Statement and the By-Laws.

We are hoping to have a web page that will include all relevant information about the Black Lake Association, including its history and projects. It will also contain contact information.

We will welcome any input from association members,

including thoughts on improvements and projects. Cindy is hoping this will give the members up to date information and perhaps "spark" some interest in becoming involved.

You can reach Cindy at 989-733-6451.

SUMMER EVENTS IN THE AREA

June 14-15 Summer Arts & Craft Show—Washington Park—Cheboygan

June 15 Wooden Boat Show—Presque Isle Harbor

July 6-7 Dancing Hippo Arts & Craft Show—Bearinger Twp Hall

July 11-14 Cheboygan Waterways Festival

July 30—August 4 Nautical City Festival—Rogers City