

The Pines Echo

Summer Edition 2011

Presidents Desk

I sincerely hope everyone is having a wonderful summer.

You should have received the Proxy Packet for our upcoming vote on our proposed maintenance fee which we feel is very fair since it applies to every lot with no difference between Primary or Secondary lots. We hope it passes this time so we can get our employees back to full time status and complete the most needed maintenance issues.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers who have helped us complete many needed tasks that were needed and fill in for the reduced maintenance employee's hours.

The July 4th festival was very well attended and a big thank you to everyone who was there to enjoy all that was offered such as the entertainment which was donated and all the food prepared by the Men's Club.

Even with the shortage in the budget, thanks to many volunteers we have completed many improvement projects and I hope you notice them and agree that they make LOP a better place to reside.

Finally, I would like to mention that mailings are very expensive and we are trying to improve our communications with our members. The best way seems to be via email as well as utilizing our web page. Please make sure we have your current email address by emailing our office at info@lakeofthepines.cc. Also, check out LOP's website at www.lakeofthepines.cc for future activities.

R.D. Watson
President

Vice President

Summer is here and I hope everyone is enjoying the weather, even though it has been a warm one so far this July.

By now, I'm sure you all are aware that the recent vote to increase the annual Maintenance Assessments for the first time in 15 years here at Lake of the Pines failed to achieve the two thirds majority required for passage by our Covenants only by a mere 11 votes.

As you know, each individual lot is entitled to one vote, whether it is a Primary Lot or a Secondary Lot. I was disappointed to learn that over 400 LOTS DID NOT VOTE at all! I refuse to believe that that many property owners just didn't care one way or the other!

Your Board of Directors have the fiscal responsibility to operate the business of maintaining our Association within the limits of our income, in much the same way all of us here at L.O.P. must function within the limits of our own family income. The board has found it necessary to make some very tough decisions to try to "get by" as best we can with increasing costs of operation. Our employees have all received a 20% reduction in their pay since their work hours have had to be reduced by 8 hours per week. All other areas of operation are also under the microscope to reduce costs that are not absolutely necessary. We are relying on volunteer help to perform many of the Maintenance functions to help make up for the reduced Maintenance Employee's hours.

The situation is serious, and by now you have probably received in the mail another PROXY to request that you vote on the Proposed Increase in the annual Maintenance Assessment of \$10.00 on all lots, both Primary and Secondary effective 2012.

The board of directors recommends that you vote YES on the increase. The decision of course is yours, but PLEASE VOTE so we can be certain of the direction you all want us to take on decisions that affect all of our property values.

Mark Turner
Vice President

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Architectural	Dave Pohoda
Personnel	Dick Wells
Nominating	Dennis Way

LOP 2011 Events

- August 20th Security Chicken BBQ
- September 2nd DALMAC
- September 16th MMI Picnic
- September 20th Men's Club Casino Trip

No Grocery Auction until the 2nd Saturday of October.

If you have any questions about any of these events, please feel free to contact the LOP Office at (989) 588-9304

Lake of the Pines Men's Club

Men's Club is planning on having a fourth of July celebration on the 3rd of July so everyone can enjoy it without having to drive down state afterward. The day will consist of our regular breakfast buffet in the morning. Saturday at 5 o'clock in the afternoon we will have our Bratwurst Barbeque. From 6 to 10pm we will be having karaoke with singing and dancing like we had at the LOP 40th celebration last year. Also about 5 o'clock we will have a parade come thru that is done completely by the Brinkmeier family with clowns, mini bikes and golf carts. So come down and enjoy the fun. We will also be raffling off our cedar chair made by the Men's Club Members.

Also in the early planning stages, Men's Club & Women's Club are considering sponsoring a day Casino trip in late September or early October. Stay tuned for details.

Women's Club

The Lake of the Pines Women's Club is a group of ladies from Lake of the Pines that meet once a month and discuss ways they can help improve LOP. Donating their time and resources to help raise money by putting on special events to help LOP; meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 12:30pm.

The events that the Women's Club is proud to organize and put on to help raise money to help LOP are:

- Winter Carnival (one of the best ever)
- Breakfasts
- Halloween Boofet
- Thanksgiving Dinner
- Kid's Christmas with Santa
- MMI Picnic
- Subdivision Garage Sale
- Veterans' Dinner
- Memorial Day Pig Roast

At a lot of these activities we were helped by members of the Men's Club. I would like to thank them and the employees of LOP for all their help.

If you would like any information about joining the Women's Club, please feel free to contact Geri Shaw. The Women's Club dues are only \$10.00 per year. All LOP members in good standing are welcome to join.

Geri Shaw
President/L.O.P Women's Club

Ecology Committee

The dam for Doc and Tom Lake was inspected this spring as required by the State of Michigan. No problems were found with the dam. Some housekeeping was needed to remove a small amount of brush and small trees from the downstream face of the dam. Thank you to the volunteers who helped do this work.

I would like to thank all who contributed to the game fish fund this year. Walleye will be put into the lake this fall as none were available for planting from the fish hatcheries this spring.

Spraying of the boating channels and canal areas was done on Thursday June 9th, and a second treatment will be done again in the middle of July. Treatment for lily pads will also be done this summer again.

Fred Coyle
Ecology Chairman



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Organization

Architectural

Spring is here again with hope for another warm (HOT?) summer. Along with all the yard work and flower planting it is time to start the projects you had time to think about last winter. Remember if your project involves any kind of building, (fence, shed, Pole building, addition, etc) call the office or me directly (517-230-7824) to get a LOP permit. There is no charge for this and we might be able to answer some question about permits from the county.

Last year the Architectural committee gave out a total of 19 permits, the majority being for some type of storage, 9 sheds and pole buildings combined. This year is starting a little slow, 3 permits to date. I'm looking forward to hearing from LOP members for more permits, and if you are not sure if you need a permit, call anyway. I enjoy meeting new people or talking to ones I already know! Now, everyone have a FUN and Safe summer.

Dave Pohoda
Architectural

Maintenance

Well we have managed to get through our Spring Clean up and Start up. It is always a challenge and takes a lot of time to get things shaped up.

With the failure of our Maintenance increase and the extra high cost of fuel and materials, our upcoming summer is going to be very challenging to say the least. We have already reduced our hours of operation by 8 hours per man. This will have a big impact on what gets accomplished in the future. We have a beautiful place to live and it will be a shame to see some of that beauty go away and not be maintained.


In the future I will have to depend on our wonderful core of volunteers to help us out. I will be trying to designate 1 day per week to use volunteers for numerous projects. Please watch your email and help if you can.

I am not looking forward to maintaining LOP in the future, but with your help and understanding, we will make it work.

As always, if you see something you like that maintenance has done, then let the guys on maintenance know you appreciate it.

Thank you for your support,
Gary Way
Maintenance Director

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Security

Lately we have had several security problems here at LOP. Gas has been stolen from several boats on Pontoon Island, as well as several garages and cars. We have also had a couple of B&Es and thefts from the storage area. I want to again remind everyone to lock your doors and be very observant of anything suspicious. If you do see or hear anything unusual especially after dark, CALL 911 immediately and the sheriff or State Police will respond as soon as possible. All of the above incidents have been reported to the Sheriff and we are working on several tips as to who may be responsible. Have a safe and enjoyable summer and watch out for each other.

Leo Stevens

Security Coordinator

Secretary's Report

This was my first year as Secretary for the Board of Directors. I have enjoyed recording and transcribing the monthly minutes, some months were more challenging than others.

In the upcoming year, the Board will be challenged to come up with ways to cut the budget while trying to maintain the beauty of Lake of the Pines. There is a volunteer sign up list in the office for anyone interested in giving some of their time to make LOP a nice place to live and play.

Vicki Brauner

Secretary

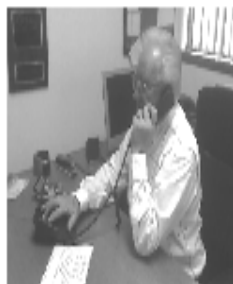
Please keep your membership information updated by emailing us at info@lakeofthepines.cc or call us at (989) 588-9304

Our website has been updated and has a lot of information on the changes that have been made to the Lake of the Pines. Please visit www.lakeofthepines.cc

We will be putting the newsletter on the website also.

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