



THE RUMMMBLE
OVER
RUMBLE STRIPS
—PAGE 4—

From the Desk of the President

As 2011 comes to an end I'm proud to communicate that, thanks to your help, we've set the stage for progress on our weed problem in 2012 and even added two new initiatives—our Walleye Stocking program and expanded 2012 ice fishing tournament, which now includes a spear fishing contest. However, what I'm most proud of are the generous donations received from our supporters for the Christmas Needy Basket program lead annually since 1997 by John Beeson. This year, we will be able to sponsor families with small children who have fallen on hard times by buying a few small Christmas gifts for the children that otherwise, would not have a Christmas. I want to thank all who participated for making this program a great success!



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- NEW BASS TOURNAMENT DATE!
- WALLEYE STOCKING
- PLIB UPDATE

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Paradise Lake Improvement Board Update

ROSEMARY CONSANI

Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M. on Wednesday, November 9, 2011.

Minutes of previous meeting approved as read.

PUBLIC COMMENT: John Beeson told the Board that an individual has approached him about buying a compressor and donating it to the LIB for the Laminar Flow project. If he did this, could he deduct the donation on his taxes? John talked with our CPA who said that, yes, he could, or he could donate the equivalent cost to the board in cash, but if he did that then he would have more paper work to fill out for his taxes, and he could not designate where the money was to be used. The board thanked John and said that maybe we could get more donations from the community that would reduce the amount to be included in the SAD.

CORRESPONDENCE: Received final report from Progressive in the form of a PDF file and it will be posted on the LIB web site.

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FRIENDS OF PARADISE LAKE MISSION STATEMENT

“It is the goal of the Friends of Paradise Lake to identify foreign invasive species, both plant and animal which impact our lake ecosystem in a negative manner and to put in place a systematic plan of action to control such species to the point where it no longer threatens the environmental quality nor interferes with the recreational enjoyment of the lake and its watershed.

In accordance with the above, it is the intent of this organization to formulate a course of action to strive to reduce the current acreage of Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) by 90% within a five year period and to put into place positive control measures consistent with protecting our lake ecosystem including native plants and fishery.”

FOPL OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

- President: Rick Schweller
- Vice President: Rosemary Consani
- Assistant VP: Mark Marino
- Secretary: Dick Drago
- Treasurer: Rosemary Consani

- Directors: Sean Banks
- Justin Drago
- Paul Erickson
- Dick Moster
- David Drago

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Ice Fishing Tournament.....	January 21, 2012
Ice Fishing Spear Tournament.....	February 1, 2012-February 29, 2012
Bass Fishing Tournament.....	June 16, 2012
Hot Dog Roast.....	TBA
Chicken Fry.....	July 21, 2012
Pig Roast.....	TBA

FOPL AFTER HOURS!



JOIN US FOR FOOD, FUN AND AFTER-HOURS SHENANIGANS @ CLYDE'S PLACE: EVERY 3RD FRIDAY, 6:30 PM!

FoPL News

CHRISTMAS BASKETS

FoPL will once again be giving out Christmas Baskets to families that could use a hand during the holiday season. There has been a tremendous amount of non-perishable foods turned in at the Marina for this very worthy cause. We have also been receiving cash donations. We have close to \$800 in cash donations for our Christmas baskets, so we will be able to help several families. If you know of anyone that could use a helping hand this time of year, please contact Rosemary at 231-537-4714, and give her the name of the family.



BACK TO THE PAST

As many of you may remember Paul “SMOKEY” Jordan had retention ponds behind the warehouses on Pachy. In these ponds, Smokey raised Walleye and stocked them in Paradise Lake when they reached a significant size. That project was abandoned when the DNR took over and started stocking 50,000 fingerlings in the lake. The DNR expected survival rate was 2% of the 50,000. The DNR stocking was about every 2 – 3 years with the next one to be in 2012 when they will stock 25,000.

John Beeson (owner and operator of Paradise Lake Marina) approached the FoPL board about reinstating what Smokey had started many years ago. His suggestion was that instead of stocking fingerlings, we stock 6 – 8 inch Walleye. The board discussed this and decided that it was a very good idea. John suggested that we put contribution jars at Clyde’s, the General Store and the Marina. In addition, FoPL decided that we would match up to \$500.00 of monies collected.

We had to get a permit from DNR for this endeavor. Michigan Bait volunteered to handle getting the permit. The collection jars were put out, Michigan Bait filed for the permit and the donations started coming in.

DNR gave us the permit for stocking the 6 – 8 inch Walleye. We were told that by stocking that size of fish, we could expect as much as a 90% survival rate.

In the short time that we had the donation jars out, we collected \$1,100.00 in donations, and FoPL matched that with \$500.00. In mid-October our Walleye were delivered and were distributed throughout the lake with the help of Dale & Angie Berry, John Enzenauer, Dave Klebba, Steve Kirsch, John Beeson, and Rosemary Consani. The Berry’s had already taken their boat off the water but were kind enough to put it back on to assist with the distribution of the Walleye.

With the money collected, we were able to stock ~1100 fish.

We are hoping to make this an annual event. Donation jars will be put out in the spring, and hopefully we will be able to stock even more next year.

This was a great idea started by Smokey Jordan and revived by John Beeson. Way to go, gentlemen, and a HUGE thanks to those who came out to help.

SPEAR FISHING TOURNAMENT

FoPL listened to your input and suggestions after last years ice fishing tournament, and as a result we will be sponsoring a spearing tournament this year. It will run from February 1 to February 29, 2012. Starting time will be 8:00 A.M. on February 1 and end at 4:00 P.M. on February 29. Entry fee for this tournament will be \$15.00 per person. Entry fee must be paid before 8 A.M. on the day you plan to go out spearing. You will have to bring your fish to the Paradise Lake Marina between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. Sunday through Saturday to be weighed. Prizes will be awarded at 4:30 P.M., February 29, at the Marina. We will be paying for 1st and 2nd place as follows:

- 1st place – 50% of the total entry fees taken in
- 2nd place – 30% of the total entry fees taken in
- 20 % will be retained by FoPL.

You DO NOT need to be present to collect your winnings.

We hope that you will come out to support this new tournament that many of you have requested.

ICE FISHING TOURNAMENT

The date for the 3rd annual FoPL Ice Fishing Tournament is Saturday, January 21, 2012 – ICE PERMITTING. The starting time is 8:00 A.M. and ends at 2:00 P.M. All fish must be in and weighed by 2:15 P.M. You will be allowed to go out on the ice earlier than 8 A.M. to get set up but no lines will be dropped until the horn blows at 8:00 A.M.

Cost of the tournament will be \$15.00 per person. For an additional \$5.00 you get an entry into the side pot.

Prizes are as follows:

(YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO COLLECT YOUR FISH CATCH WINNINGS.)

\$300.00 for the largest pike
\$300.00 for the largest walleye
\$300.00 for the largest pan fish

Side pot prizes will be awarded as follows:

(YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO COLLECT YOUR SIDE POT WINNINGS).

20% for the first legal Walleye
20% for the first legal Pike
20% for the first pan fish over 8 inches
20% luck of the draw
20% to be retained by FoPL

There will also be a 50/50 drawing and a donation jar for the 2012 Walleye stocking program.

There will be door prizes awarded by drawing; however, YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN THE DOOR PRIZES.

We hope to see all of you at the tournament again this year and make it even a bigger success than we had last year!

“RUMBLE STRIPS” UPDATE

As most of us have discovered to our dismay, the lovely U.S. 31 highway project through our community took a decidedly ugly turn when they aggressively carved the new rumble strips into the asphalt. The noise from these strips has certainly detracted from the serenity of the neighborhoods flanking the highway and can be heard at quite a distance in all directions.

Thanks to efforts spear-headed by Kathy Walsh, a petition drive was launched, and signatures were collected to protest the noise created by the rumble strips. She submitted her petitions and a letter to MDOT. They recently responded to Kathy and agreed to meet with her in the spring to survey the situation “in person.” They are very receptive to some of the suggestions she put forward.

Possible solutions include creating a “no passing zone” from the Carp River to Wheeling Road; relocating the white “fog lines” further from the rumble strips; filling strips near intersections. We hope to strike some reasonable balance between safety concerns for those passing through our community and the quality of life for those who reside within it.

On behalf of your friends and neighbors, Kathy, we thank you for your efforts to negotiate a solution!

(PLIB MEETING UPDATE—Continued from page 1)

NEW BUSINESS:

Jennifer Jones: 3 vendors were contacted for the Laminar Flow project, and the only one that responded was Lake Savers – she feels that their costs were very fair.

She proposed that the Board accepts John Tucci's (Lake Savers) proposal. Board will make that decision at the next meeting. She has been working on the assessments and work for the public hearings. The permit to start work next spring has to be filed by 11/30/11.

John Tucci: There is a lot more sediment in the West Basin than was expected; they did not have long enough probe to find the bottom of the lake. Average depth of the bottom muck is 10 – 12 feet with several areas exceeding 20 feet. They had a 20 foot pole and could not reach the bottom with it. They will be back in the spring with much longer pole to get a more accurate measurement. They found considerable weevil damage to a lot of the milfoil but not enough to make a dent in the amount we have.

The pilot project will be done in the western basin incorporating 400 acres. There will be 2 – 11.5 H.P. compressors and 1 – 10. H.P. compressor, 57 diffusers and 77,000 feet of airline used. Airlines come from Ohio, and Jim Kilpatrick has volunteered to see if he can get a truck and go get the air lines to save on delivery costs. John & Rosemary have volunteered to use their trailer to go to Pennsylvania to get the three compressors to also save on shipping.

Lake Savers will be using 1 pound per acre of bacteria and one gallon per acre of enzyme spread over a two year time frame.

If any damage is done to the equipment by whatever means all costs will be covered by Lake Savers as long as we are under the lease period.

Costs for the pilot project will be over \$100,000.

One compressor will be placed on the Marina property and one will need to be put somewhere in the Carlton Cove area and one on Pachy.

Jennifer Jones: Next steps:

1. File for the permit. The permit costs \$500. The PLIB approved this expense.
2. Get the SAD set. They are now considering going back 1,000 feet from the lake instead of 500 feet.
3. Set the date for the Public Hearing and Practicability Hearing. These meetings will probably be done on the same day – maybe on a Saturday in January. This will be decided at the next meeting. Everyone in the SAD area will get a letter about the meetings.

Next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 13, 2011.

**“Give a man a fish, and he will eat for a day.
Teach him how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.”**

~Author Unknown

(From the Desk of the President—Continued from page 1)

Regarding terms for Board of Directors; some have justifiably asked what happened to this year's scheduled election of officers. We made a decision to defer elections and turnover for what we thought was going to be a short vital timeframe as the Lake Improvement Board (LIB) was presenting treatment for public comment. In hindsight, this was a miscalculation on our part, as the LIB has yet to hold either of the legally mandated meetings before initiating treatment.

As a result, we will be quickly moving to elections for 2012. Having served their terms, this season two Directors are stepping down and we are seeking replacements. You will be getting instructions soon for voting on directors for 2012 via absentee ballot. Voting slips will be supplied to all active FoPL members with a self addressed stamped envelope for mailing. I would like to personally thank Dick Drago & Dick Moster for their support these past two years. Being the seniors of the group, we will sorely miss their wisdom, foresight and leadership as well as their dry witted humor. Robin Westfall has also stepped down but will thankfully continue pulling together our newsletter for which she does an *Awesome Job*.

The delay in treating our weed problem for another year has been the single most disappointing part of this role, and I know it has been frustrating for you as well.

In 2008, we organized after the PLA refused to support hiring a limnologist. Through donations from our members, we partnered with the Township to contract Jennifer Jones for a full weed study which reported 497 acres of EWM, proposing a treatment plan cost of \$200,000 over five years. Since then, we have gone thru a myriad of events during which neither the PLA nor the PLIB would accept Jennifer or her report. As a result, we lost two years, the Township funded two additional weed studies and we now have 700 acres of EWM with a proposed treatment cost of over \$1,000,000. This estimate only holds if the pilot test proves successful. If

unsuccessful, we'll be looking to fund another full blown treatment--incurring several hundred thousand of incremental spending.

I keep thinking where we would be today had the PLA accepted our offer to co-advocate hiring Jennifer and then jointly, ask the PLIB to give serious consideration to Jennifer's proposed Laminar Flow Option. ***The only green option that shows promise.*** Now, after more than three years, Jennifer was brought onboard as Lake Manager just a few weeks ago—*Hope does Spring Eternal*. Talk is now underway to try and hold both mandated public meetings on Saturdays in January so seasonal residents might attend.

The laminar flow pilot being discussed would treat 400 acres at a cost of over \$100,000. With Laminar Flow being a very new technology, there is some risk in the level of success we will experience (the reason for doing a pilot). On the flip side, laminar flow would almost certainly reduce bottom muck and improve overall water quality. So even if EWM is not miraculously reduced, this would not be a total waste of money—folks just need to be aware laminar flow is not a guaranteed solution and has some potential to fall short of our weed control objective. A smaller scale pilot might be able to alleviate the risk at a much lower investment.

The higher RISK is if this board decides to use substantial tax dollars for supplemental weevil stocking in other areas of the lake in parallel with the laminar flow pilot and/or chooses to supplement weevils vs. herbicides in the event laminar flow does not completely eradicate the EWM, which has been highlighted as a distinct possibility. Simply stated, success of weevils on a problem as significant as ours has been a complete failure; yet it has been in use for over fifteen years. Moreover, Jennifer has gone on record as stating that using weevils for EWM control in the western basin carries significant risk due to heavy boat traffic in the area (prop chop) and the fact that a significant area of the shoreline has cement causeway which hampers the bugs ability to survive the winter in sufficient numbers to come back strong the follow-

ing spring. So, while studies confirm a healthy population of weevils is present, the lakes eco system has never been able to support a weevil population that can be used for EWM weed control. As much as we would like to see a biological-only solution, weevils should never be considered as a viable weed control option in the western basin and should only be considered in other areas of the lake (as a test pilot) that has both a natural shoreline and limited boat traffic. Of utmost significance, we would be totally behind this effort if the PLIB would simply accept for a moment, that using herbicides as a secondary treatment option in the Western Basin is about the best we can hope for and be receptive to adopting this key element as part of the feasibility reports recommended solution.

Unfortunately, we are but one voice in these meetings. We continue to see the promotion of biological-only solutions regardless of warnings by hired experts. This has elevated to a level where a Lake Manager must temper their science-based recommendations with catering to personal agendas that we are seeing played out here. If spending tax dollars on weevils does not sit well with you, I urge you to make sure you are heard in public meetings, or through a letter as a last resort because once the plan is approved via these public meetings, your ability to influence treatment options is gone forever.

On a final note, in September we made the PLIB aware that if a formal plan is not sanctioned by January 10, 2012, we would begin work on and submit a Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) permit to allow riparian's to treat their lake bottom in order to get some treatment initiated come spring. That said, the impetus is now on the LIB to wrap this up quickly.

May you and your family have the merriest of holidays, and we all hope for an even better 2012 with the start of a EWM weed-free Paradise Lake!

Best regards,

—Rick Schweller

FRIENDS OF PARADISE LAKE 2012 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Family Membership:	\$25.00
Business Membership:	\$50.00

Just A Reminder

Business members will have their business listed on our web site *and* on the new village "Welcome" sign!

(Please Print)

Type of Membership (select one):

- Business Membership
 Family Membership

Name: _____

Off-Season Address: _____

Summer Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please make checks payable to:
Friends of Paradise Lake

FoPL Membership Year Runs From April 1 to March 31

Please mail membership application and annual dues to:

Friends of Paradise Lake
PO Box 27
Carp Lake, MI 49718

Please invite your friends and neighbors from the Carp Lake Area to join!

Thank You For Your Continued Support!



FRIENDS OF PARADISE LAKE
PO BOX 27
CARP LAKE, MI 49718



BASS FISHING TOURNAMENT

You asked, and we have listened! Over the last 3 years FoPL has received many requests to hold a Bass fishing tournament at the Paradise Lake Marina. We have been reluctant to do so because of the condition of the lake and because it seemed that the only dates that were not full of tournaments elsewhere in the area would be late August or early September. By August and September the EWM would be in full swing making it a huge challenge for boats to get across the lake without damage to motors and running the risk of getting stuck in the middle of the lake. However, an early summer slot opened, so the FoPL has decided to move quickly and notify fishermen that we will be holding a Bass Tournament in June.

The date for this new event will be June 16, 2012

Over the next few months we will be busy working on rules, getting sponsors and making sure all bases are covered for a successful, smooth-running tournament. We look forward to holding this event with the hope that it will be as successful as our other functions.

We have already had some input that a lot of fishermen would rather have smaller cash payouts and receive trophies or plaques as well. Please let us know what you think of this idea.

If anyone has any suggestions that would help with this process, please contact either John or Rosemary at 231-537-4714. We would appreciate any input and suggestions.

