



Bills Lake Association July 4, 2018



Officers

President:	Brian Kersey	616 402-5237
Vice President	Jim Innis	616 690-2002
Secretary	Sherry Moline	616 813-6364
Treasurer:	Lynda Fox	517 930-0618
Trustee:	Jim Hribal	248 535-5790
Trustee:	Denny Miller	616 366-1517
Trustee:	David Behnke	231 652-2096

Zone Representatives

Apache	Doug Moline	616 466-8785
Blackhawk	Holly Sosnowski	231 652-4829
Cherokee & Dakota	Dave Gabrielse	616 450-1490
Erie	Wendy Poel	616 481-5591
Fox	Lynda and Bryan Fox	517 930-1419
Geronimo 1	Nancy Waits	231 652-2629
Geronimo 2		
Hiawatha	Jeff Schut	616 510-3129
	Donna Elenbaas	616 433-6645
Iroquois	Pat Crow	231 652-7871
	Judy Hicks	231 652-5708

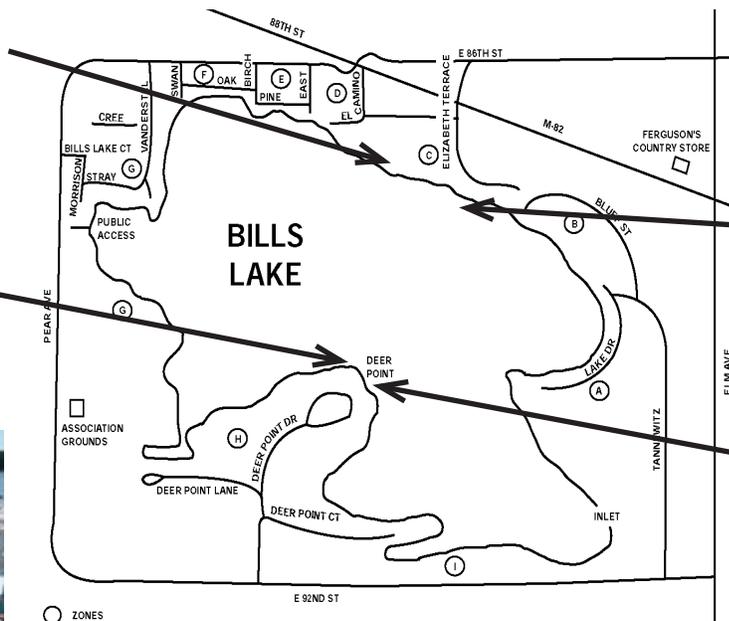
Website: www.billslake.net

Fourth of July celebration to be held on Saturday, July 7th

Rain date is Sunday, July 8th. Circle of Fire starts at **9:59 p.m.** (a concession to those who find it difficult to restrain themselves). Flares -- **\$2.50 apiece** -- can be purchased from your zone representative who may ask you to come to his/her house to pick them up. Extra flares can be obtained from Doug Moline 616 466-8785

Boat Parade - 7:30 p.m.
Preregistration during the day at the Martin dock (north side, just east of Camp Trotter) would be appreciated. Details on next page.

Paddleboat Races
LaPenna-10:30 a.m.
652-7812. They will also sponsor games for 12 and Under after the races.



John and Dorothy Mulder Memorial Regatta
(652-2983)
Race starts at 2:30 p.m. Please arrive at 2:15 p.m.

Canoe, Kayak and Paddleboard Races
Nash-- 10:00 a.m.
734 673-7000



Details, Details

The **cost of the flares** for the Circle of Fire is still \$2.50. Hopefully the improved economy has enabled you to save a few pennies for this half-hour-plus spectacle. Gas prices, not so much.

In addition to the kayak and canoe races, Brian Nash will once again offer a stand-up paddleboard race this year. **He is adding a junior division to these races** (three more trophies).

The paddleboat races will commence after Brian's events. They are offered in the same area and will keep contestants from having to wait until 11:00, as in the past.

Reminder: As you are buying your flares, it would be a good time to pay your **\$15 association dues**. The money pays for this newsletter and the website domain name, the association property taxes and insurance, lake testing, and the Fourth of July trophies, among other items.

Jerry Gerloski, who sells **flags and flag poles**, has donated new flags for display at the association grounds for years. If you need a flag (or pole), he can be reached at 652-1218. The poles are quite remarkable: no need for a rope, no tangling of the flag as it waves in the wind.

During the July 4th weekend, we may receive visitations by **boaters who don't know the laws and rules**. For instance, some go clockwise around the perimeter, not counterclockwise. Some tow tubers and skiers without a spotter. And some allow children to ride beyond the front rail of their pontoons with feet in the water, a very dangerous practice. Be on the lookout. Be extra careful.

Heads up: Residents are reminded that tragedy can occur on land as well as in the water. In this case, we are talking about **golf carts and four wheelers** which are often operated by overconfident (read: speedy) but inexperienced drivers, particularly in the Hiawatha and Geronimo 1 zones.

Information about Bills Lake doings can be found both on our website and on Facebook. For information about the latter, contact Sherry Moline at 616 466-8785 or moline819@charter.net

Directory updates: As your zone representative goes around selling flares, please consult his/her list of directory information for accuracy. **This is especially important in terms of your e-mail address.** A hard copy of the directory will be published and distributed by the end of July **to those who request it.**

Becky Martin is once again hosting the boat parade. The event starts at her dock -- located four cottages east of Camp Trotter -- at 7:30. **It would be helpful if you preregistered** during the day (not a requirement).

Becky's cottage has a yellow swim platform and a red MC Boat on a lift. On Saturday, she will be on the swim platform periodically to check in participants. She needs your name and the title of your entry. You can also call or text her at **616 450-3089**.

Please put your entry title on a sign to be placed on the right side of your boat in letters large enough to be seen by people on shore. Votes will be taken from lake residents using your entry title -- **one vote per dock**. There is only one category: there are no separate junior and senior divisions.

Please arrive 10 minutes early to line up. Also, please remain until the votes are counted and the trophies are awarded. **Please do NOT take a speedy victory lap** that might swamp and ruin fireworks that are being set up on docks.

The Bills Lake Yacht Club wants to remind residents that **several buoys will be placed in the lake on the morning of the annual John and Dorothy Mulder Memorial Regatta**,

Boaters are asked to steer clear of them during the day and to give the sailboats a wide berth during the races.

There has been a problem with regard to this in the past. Please stress this to the boaters in your family, especially visitors. The buoys will be removed immediately after the event.

Also, the club wants to remind you: you can't put a trophy on your shelf unless you enter the race.

In the midst of the frivolity, it would be very appropriate to thank certain folks for what they do to make July 4th at Bills Lake memorable. If you received a trophy, it didn't just appear by magic: **Gord Hicks** was responsible. **Jim Hribal, Becky Martin, the LaPennas, and Brian Nash** organized the contests. The acknowledgement in this newsletter shouldn't be the only one.

The same, by the way applies to **Doug Moline** who procured the flares and the zone representatives who sell them.

A **You Tube video** of our flares and fireworks is available. The link can be found on the bottom left of the Home Page of our website: **www.billslake.net**

Unlike last year, **Wingman** will not be playing in the Howard Town/East Bay cove during the July 7th weekend. However, residents Terry and Denny will perform their nostalgic music at Whitefish Lake Grill (next to the golf course) on Friday July 20th from 7:00 to 10:00.