



Bills Lake Association July 4, 2019



Officers

President:	Brian Kersey	616 402-5237
Vice President		
Secretary	Sherry Moline	616 813-6364
Treasurer:	Lynda Fox	517 930-0618
Trustee:	Jim Hribal	248 535-5790
Trustee:		
Trustee:	Dave Gabrielse	616 450-1490

Zone Representatives

Apache	Doug Moline	616 466-8785
Blackhawk	Kelly Kovalska	269 720-9256
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

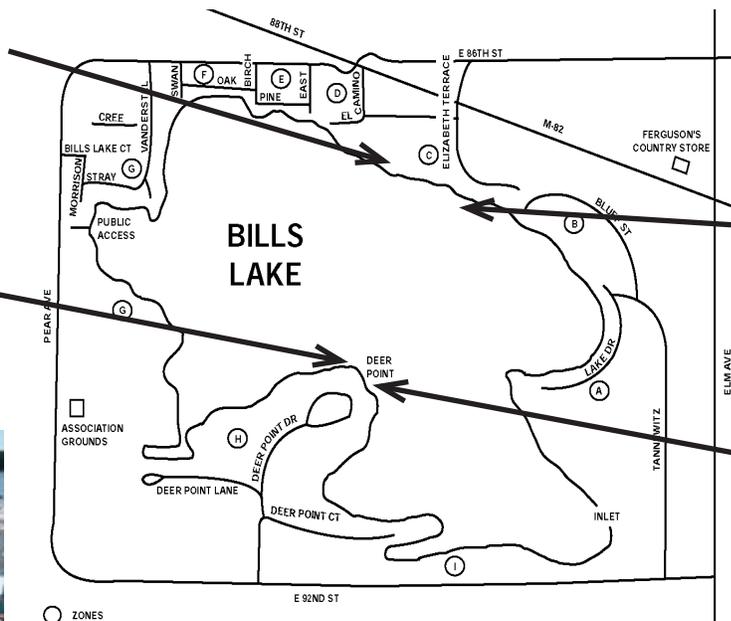
Website: www.billslake.net

Fourth of July celebration to be held on Saturday, July 6th

Rain date is Sunday, July 7th. **Circle of Fire starts at 9:59 p.m.** (a concession to those who find it difficult to restrain themselves). **Flares, for \$3.00 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
(248 225-8047)

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 has gone up to \$3.00 each. Hopefully the improved economy has enabled you to save a few pennies for this half-hour-plus spectacle.

In addition to the kayak and canoe races, **Brian Nash will once again offer a stand-up paddleboard race this year.** As with last 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 **\$20 association dues. Yes, the price has gone up as well.** 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. A complete breakdown can be found in the Treasurer's Report section of our website: above far right.

Shamelessly promoting but for a good cause.

An informal anecdotal survey of six Bills Lake residents reveals that all are very satisfied with the work of JNR Waterfront Services, located south of the intersection of M82 and M37 (close to Cronk Restaurant). More to the point, Ryan Pendergast will rebate 2% of payments made to him *for sale of Floe boat lifts and dock pieces, as long as the payment is made in cash or check.* The money will go to the Bills Lake Association.

Recently, Ed Waits replaced the end piece of his dock for \$2,572 *in product totals* (not transportation, labor, etc.) JNR returned \$51 to our association.

When the flag flying at the association grounds is in tatters because someone forgot to remove it for the winter. **Jerry Gerloski, who sells both flags and flag poles, supplies one free of charge.** He lives on Deer Point Lane and 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. If you wish a demonstration, contact Ed Waits.

The Michigan Waterfront Alliance is sponsoring an Aquatic Invasive Species Landing Blitz on the weekends before and after the actual July 4th. It involves teams of volunteers spending a mere hour at our public access handing out floating key chains, pamphlets, and hand towels. No need for proselytizing, just friendly banter and a bit of awareness. This has to do with the importance of clean boat bottoms entering our lake.

If you are in need of a refresher, the issue was discussed on five pages of our Memorial Day newsletter (to be found at the top of the Home Page of our website). We suggest that you form teams to spend an hour there on Saturday or Sunday of these weekends. Lynda Fox will distribute materials at the June 28th association meeting to volunteers. There will be a sign-up there as well to avoid an overlap.

Parking at the Public Access

Some do a lousy job, **too often blocking the turn-around.** There have been frequent complaints. **If you have guests who use it, please give them a heads up.** Also, it has been said the contact with the DNR about this gets a quick response. There may not be an officer in the area but enough texts and/or phone calls reporting violators might generate more surveillance and awareness on the part of the authorities. According to one resident, they respond almost immediately to **800 292 7800** regardless of whether you call or text. This will most assuredly be discussed at Saturday's association meeting.

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 and remain at the end of the event 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. **More importantly, God does not subtract from your allotted time on earth the hours you spend sailing.**

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, Jennifer (Hribal) Turner, 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**