

## REMINDERS: IMPORTANT 2020 DATES

[www.myglpa.com](http://www.myglpa.com)

**X FIRST WEEK OF MARCH**  
DUES AMOUNT WILL BE POSTED ON WEBSITE

**X MARCH — SPRING NEWSLETTER MAILED IN 2020**  
Membership forms will be included with this mailing. When you fill out the membership cards next spring, please complete all of the data as we use that information to update the directory. If there is information you wish to have “unpublished” indicate this on the card.

**X JUNE 28**

- BARRY COUNTY MARINE PATROL
- BOATING SAFETY CLASS at Shady Shores Club House Saturday at 9 A.M.

**X JULY 4** FIREWORKS - Saturday at 10:20 P.M.

**X JULY 5** RAIN BACK UP DATE - Sunday at 10:20 P.M.

**X AUGUST 8**  
ANNUAL MEETING FOR MEMBERS,  
Saturday 9:30 A.M. at Gun Lake Chapel

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Following were re-elected to a three-year term:

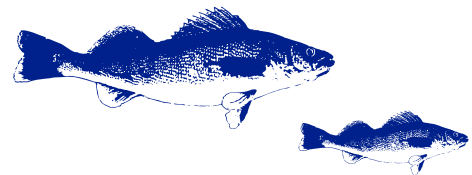
- **Greg Purcell**
- **Jan Schuilling**
- **Ryan Cole**

Special election: Two-year term:

- **Jim Deters was elected to replace Bob Nelson who stepped down**

### GUN LAKE FISH UPDATE

Our fish ponds, under the guidance of Matt Dykstra and his Elmwood gang, **raised and planted 51,000 walleyes**. The DNR added a bonus 21,000 fish for a planting of over 72,000 walleyes. We will plant another 1,000 6 to 9 inch walleyes this fall as a part of a study conducted in partnership with the DNR. Nice catches of bluegills were reported this spring and early summer by fishermen. **Good fishing!**



#### New Residents:

##### Do you have new neighbors?

Please put them in touch with Ryan Cole at e-mail: [rckc1@charter.net](mailto:rckc1@charter.net) so we can add them to the newsletter list. This and additional information can be found on the new GLPA website [www.myglpa.com](http://www.myglpa.com)

#### Keep Us Up To Date

Have you recently changed your mailing address, email address or any other pertinent information that would keep us from getting important information to you. Please remember to keep GLPA current with your information. Each time we send a mailing, we have several returned to us as undeliverable.

**GLPA**

P.O. Box 319  
Shelbyville, MI 49344



Autumn 2019

[www.myglpa.com](http://www.myglpa.com)

[myglpa@yahoo.com](mailto:myglpa@yahoo.com)

### MISSION STATEMENT

TO PRESERVE GUN LAKE THROUGH GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT,  
AND FOR THE LIVING AND RECREATIONAL ENJOYMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION'S MEMBERS.

OVERVIEW OF FISCAL YEAR 2018/2019 GLPA ACTIVITIES WITH PERTINENT EXCERPTS FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GLPA, HELD AT THE GUN LAKE CHAPEL, AUGUST 10, AT 9:30 A.M.

### OPENING REMARKS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

#### Dear Friends of Gun Lake,

At our most recent meeting of the GLPA Board long-time member and President Rob Heethuis announced his retirement from the Board effective immediately. Rob has served the GLPA with distinction and has provided invaluable leadership and experience over the last decade. The GLPA Board thanks him for his dedication and volunteerism working for the good of Gun Lake and its residents.

Rob will be missed, but has agreed to continue to be an advisor to the Board as needed. **Thanks Rob!**

Following Rob's departure, with encouragement from the Board and from Rob, I was elected as your new President. I don't have as long a history on the lake (four years) as others on the Board, but I grew up playing on the lake and have boated on it for many years. I love Gun Lake. Being surrounded with great people with a variety of skills and talents,

## PRESIDENT'S REMARKS, CONTINUED

I look forward to serving the Board with the skills I bring.

By way of introduction, I am a retired educator (like Rob), and former principal. My wife is a nurse and our five children are grown and love to bring the grandkids to the lake. We live year round on the north side of the lake.

I don't come as President with an 'agenda'. I look forward to listening, learning, and serving. One of the first things I hope to do is conduct a

visioning/strategic planning session with the Board looking at where we've been and where we would like to be in the next few years. It's good for any organization to assess itself from time to time. **If you have thoughts, concerns, suggestions, ideas for the future please contact myself or any of your GLPA Board members.** Thanks for your continued membership and support.

Sincerely,  
**Jim Deters**, President - GLPA

## BARRY COUNTY MARINE PATROL

Report by Captain Bill Johnson

### Boater Safety Class and Boaters Safety Certificate

- 30 plus Students and adults attended the class
- All personal Watercraft operators that are at least 16 years of age and born after 12/31/1978 may operate a PWC legally **ONLY if they have obtained a Boaters Safety Certificate.**
- A Drivers License is NOT a substitute for a Boaters Safety Certificate

### Actions as of August 10, 2019

- Patrolled Hours: 650
- Tickets Issued: 30
- Warnings Issued: 350
- Complaints: 15
- Boating Accidents: 4
- Drowning Fatality: 1

**\*\* A Vast amount of warnings were for equipment and Life Jacket Violations:**  
ALL people under the age of 6 **must have** a TYPE 2 preserver.

### How to Contact the Sheriff's Department:

- Non Emergencies: 269-948-4801
- Emergencies: Dial 911

## BOAT WASH STATION

**The three CD3 Boat Cleaning Stations installed this year are seeing lots of use!** As of August 16th, the Allegan County park unit has been used 235 times (it is used for ingress and egress); and the two units at Yankee Springs State Park (1 ingress, 1 egress) have been used over a hundred times each! **Thank you!** to the Gun Lake Tribe, the DNR, Allegan County Parks, and GLIB for partnering with us to make all this happen!

## www.myglpa.com

### GLPA WEBSITE

At our annual meeting on August 10, 2019, there was some discussion with regard to training on our web site <https://www.myglpa.com/>. For many highly computer literate members logging in on the web site and using it to pay dues may be second nature. However, for some of us it may be a little intimidating and of concern.

To try to make access to the web site easier we will be scheduling a **training session this Spring 2020** where you can come in for a "demonstration" on how to log on to the web site and use it to meet your needs. You will be hearing more information about this training session via the web site, and don't worry if you haven't logged in yet – we'll include information on the training session in the Spring Newsletter.

If you go to the web site on any computer just type in <https://www.myglpa.com/> and then click on "join now" in the box in the upper right hand corner and it will lead you to a series of prompts that you can follow to pay your dues, offer a contribution for those Fabulous Fireworks coming the Fourth of July week every year, and enter membership information. Of course, once you have logged in as a member you will receive information and emails on upcoming events and good information about the Lake and activities of the GLPA. **It's your Association and you deserve to be informed!**



# FIREWORKS

**Make your plans for the Fourth of July Now!**

**The show starts at 10:20 p.m. on Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Rain date is July 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:20 p.m.**

We felt that the 2019 fireworks were exceptional, even with the wind that seemed to be getting stronger as we got closer to launch time.

**We would like to thank everyone who donated to the 2019 fireworks.** It would be impossible to put these fireworks on without your generous donation. Also, we need to thank our partners in this event. The GLPA partnered with the Yankee Springs State Park (DNR), Yankee Springs Fire and Ambulance, Barry County Marine Patrol, and the DEQ to make the fireworks event as safe as possible.



## GUN LAKE IMPROVEMENTS

### Gun Lake is looking GREAT this year!

Around-the-lake water testing shows zero e-coli in the lake; there was a low level in the Fawn Lake inlet; a slightly-elevated level in the Payne Lake inlet; and the Cuddy Drain remediation is doing a good job of taking a high level of e-coli at 1st St, and reducing it to ZERO at the Patterson bridge!

The Gun Lake Improvement Board hired a new applicator: Clarke Aquatic Services. They hit the invasive aquatic weeds hard this spring, resulting in a good knockdown of the Starry Stonewort that usually requires (expensive!) harvesting by the middle of summer. The Eurasian Milfoil is well-controlled, too; all spraying is done via visual sightings of invasive weeds, and marked by GPS. Less than 1% of the lake is treated; and the chemical applied the most is copper sulfate – an algicide commonly used in swimming pools, too. **(A side note: nesting fish are generally not affected by these treatments, since both Starry and E Milfoil choke out any nesting habitat and beneficial pondweeds.)**



The GLPA has historically presented the Fourth of July fireworks show as a community celebration and patriotism, uniting the community.

In 2020 we will be looking at some new ideas to raise funds to meet the increasing cost of the fireworks. We would like to give all the people who enjoy the fireworks the opportunity to donate.

Also, you can donate money for a special memorial shell. Depending on the size of the shell it can be anywhere from \$75 to \$300.

The Gun Lake Fourth of July fireworks has been a tradition for so many families in our area for generations. **Thank you for your support.**

## GUN LAKE WINTERFEST

The 2020 Gun Lake Winterfest will be held at the Yankee Springs State Park again, on **Saturday, February 15th**. Last year's event brought people from far and wide with roughly 3,600 people in attendance and allowed us to donate nearly \$4,000 to charities! We'd like to thank everyone who helped make this past year's event such a success. To ensure that monies raised from the event continue to support local needs, we've chosen two charities again this year:

**Sylvia's Place** - Allegan: Sylvia's Place is Allegan County's only domestic violence safe house. They offer secure shelter and supportive services free of charge to survivors of abuse and their dependent children.

**Wayland VFW Post 7581:** The Veterans of Foreign Wars is a nonprofit veterans service organization comprised of veterans and military service members from the active, guard, and reserve forces.

We think these are both admirable charities and we're proud to partner with each of them. Staple events like the Gun Lake Idol Finals, vendor tent, kid's activities, petting zoo, the Polar Dip and the beer tasting tent are planned for the big day as well as other fun and entertaining activities. We're looking forward to February 15th and seeing many of you and your families again. **You are what makes this event special and we can't wait to see you again at Gun Lake Winterfest 2020!**

Sincerely  
Your Gun Lake Winterfest Committee