

# Higgins Lake Property Owners Association

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**To Protect, Preserve and Enhance the Quality of Higgins Lake and Its Surrounding Watershed**

## Welcome New Board Members

At the Annual Meeting on July 15, members re-elected board members Chuck Brick, Charlene Cornell, Brad Gibson and Herb Weatherly to 3-year terms. Members also elected Fred Swinehart to a 3-year term and Wayne Brooks and Mike Burnside to fill unexpired 2-year terms.

**Wayne Brooks** - Wayne has been coming to Higgins Lake for 60 years. His parents had a cottage in the Camp Curnalia section of the lake. Twenty-five years ago Wayne and his wife, Susan, bought their cottage and became riparians. Wayne is a retired pharmacist. He and his wife split time between their home in Alma and at Higgins Lake. Wayne has been serving on the Riparian Committee and will also be serving on the Environmental Committee.

**Mike Burnside** - Mike, a Higgins Lake resident, has a degree in Architecture and Construction Management. Presently a dealership consultant, Mike was the General Manager of Camping World and Burnside RV Centers. Currently serving as the Treasurer for the Roscommon County Community Foundation, he has served on the boards of many local nonprofit groups and enjoys a variety of outdoor sports.

**Immediately after the meeting, the board elected officers:**  
 President - Charlene Cornell  
 Vice President - Brad Gibson  
 Secretary - Herb Weatherly  
 Treasurer - Chuck Brick

**The board and members thank retiring board members, Ken Dennings and Bill Case, for their years of service, wealth of knowledge and extraordinary talents shared with the HLPOA.**



2017 HLPOA Board: *back row* Bob Hoffman, Herb Weatherly, Secretary, Jim Vondale, Brad Gibson, Vice President, Bob McKellar, Mike Burnside, Chuck Brick, Treasurer  
*front row* Charlene Cornell, President, Dianne Wagner, Fred Swinehart, Wayne Brooks

## Dear HLPOA Member,

We've come a long way in three years of fighting Swimmer's Itch. Identified in a members' survey as the number one lake concern, we tackled our lake's Swimmer's Itch problem with great success by working together with leading experts and other northern lakes. We will continue to be in the fight for the long run. Board members took leadership roles in the fight against Swimmer's Itch. You will find information on this particular focus, as well as the others outlined below, within this newsletter and on our website at [hlpoa.org](http://hlpoa.org).

Additionally, committees of board and non-board members have been working diligently on environmental and riparian matters, the website and directory, membership drives, being a presence at local government meetings, issuing monthly financial statements and publishing the newsletter. As the leading lake association in the state of Michigan, HLPOA members have really stepped up to the plate.

As a lifelong summer resident of Higgins Lake, I am thrilled to have the opportunity to serve as the newest president of HLPOA. I chose to become involved for several reasons. I am following in the footsteps of the generations before me as both my parents and grandparents were members of HLPOA. Additionally, I'm eager to keep the lake clean and beautiful for future generations to come.

**Dedicated to preserving the quality and beauty of Higgins Lake,  
 Charlene Cornell, President, HLPOA**

## Litigation Report

The HLPOA has been defending two lawsuits filed by former board members, Pat Springstead and Marv Bolton. Reports on the two suits are as follows:

Springstead - Former HLPOA President Pat Springstead's lawsuit filed against the HLPOA in January of 2015, has been settled. The HLPOA believed Mr. Springstead's claims of defamation of character and intentional infliction of emotional distress were baseless. The matter was settled with the assistance of an independent Mediator without a retraction of the allegedly defamatory statement and without payment of any money. **Total costs to the Association to defend this lawsuit over two years were \$16,973.**

Bolton - Former HLPOA Treasurer, Marv Bolton, filed suit against the HLPOA in March of 2016 under the Michigan Nonprofit Corporation Act claiming that the HLPOA failed to produce financial records he requested and that changes to the 2014 HLPOA Financial Report made after Mr. Bolton quit as Treasurer and resigned from the HLPOA board were erroneous. Prior to the filing of the lawsuit, the HLPOA engaged counsel, Bill Carey, to attempt to resolve the issues and avoid a lawsuit. Unfortunately, our efforts were not successful and Mr. Bolton filed suit.

The HLPOA responded to Mr. Bolton's lawsuit that it produced all required financial records, including bank statements and checks. The HLPOA further responded that its technical changes to Mr. Bolton's version of the 2014 HLPOA Financial Report were accurate. As Treasurer, Mr. Bolton created the HLPOA financial records from 2014 and earlier and admitted he retained copies of those records. The HLPOA used Mr. Bolton's own records to make changes to the 2014 HLPOA Financial Report, including accurately recording the collection of an additional \$2074 from the Higgins Lake Foundation (HLF) in 2015 as part of a DASH boat reimbursement scheme managed by Mr. Bolton in 2014. The HLPOA was unable to collect additional reimbursements from the HLF for 2013 because we were told their books were closed for that year and we wrote off an approximately equal amount.

The HLPOA believes Mr. Bolton's claims are baseless, all required HLPOA records have been produced and it properly made changes to Mr. Bolton's 2014 Financial Report. The 2014 Financial Report in issue in the lawsuit was approved at the 2015 annual meeting by HLPOA members over the objections of Mr. Bolton. Mr. Bolton has continued to voice his objections to changes in the 2014 HLPOA Financial Report in the 2016 and 2017 Annual Meetings.

The Bolton lawsuit was mediated in June, 2017 with the assistance of an independent Mediator. The HLPOA made a reasonable offer to address Mr. Bolton's concerns about changes to the 2014 HLPOA financial statements hoping to fairly and expeditiously resolve the lawsuit. The HLPOA suggested hiring an independent financial expert to evaluate each of Mr. Bolton's claims regarding changes to the 2014 financial report. The HLPOA further proposed that the cost of the independent financial expert would be split between the two parties based on how each of the claims was resolved by the auditor. But the HLPOA offer was refused by Mr. Bolton and his attorney Scott Hess and the suit has continued, including costly discovery. Discovery has largely been completed now, the factual and legal issues have been identified and the HLPOA will be filing a Motion to Dismiss the case shortly. We expect the HLPOA motion will be heard in October. **Legal costs for the Bolton lawsuit paid by HLPOA members to date total \$13,017.**

Prior to the 2017 annual meeting on June 26, 2017, Mr. Bolton submitted a new request for records to the HLPOA regarding a statement in the Minutes from the 2016 Annual Meeting, "With respect to the Legal Fund, in the past the funds collected and spent were not reported in the Statement of Activities." Mr. Bolton's new request stated, "I wish to inspect any and all documents, books, and records of the HLPOA which substantiate the above referenced statement." Since the statement in the Minutes came from the 2016 Audit Report of the HLPOA's independent auditor, Tina Powell of the CPA firm R F Murray & Co., the HLPOA produced a copy of the 2016 HLPOA Audit Report to Mr. Bolton.

Mr. Bolton followed up on his June 26, 2017 request for records with a new request on July 5, 2017, stating, "Therefor (sic) I request to view the HLPOA documents, book (sic) and records that show in pre 2015 fiscal years at least one example of legal fund (sic) collected that were not reports (sic) in any Statement of Activities and al (sic) least one example of legal funds spend (sic) that were not reports (sic) in any Statement of Activities." HLPOA President, Brad Gibson, responded, "You are asking for documents representing the auditor's opinion. *Continued p. 3*

We are not in a position to speak on the auditor's behalf. Your question is better directed to the auditor herself. We do not believe we are required to pay for your questioning of the auditor. Are you willing to pay any expenses incurred?"

At the 2017 annual meeting, Mr. Bolton questioned the independent HLPOA auditor, Tina Powell, about the sentence in the 2016 HLPOA minutes that came from the auditor's report. Ms. Powell reported it is "inappropriate to report the same activity on both the balance sheet and the income statement. The net income (loss) reported on the Financial Summary does not equal his change in 'surplus' on his Balance Sheet because of this."

Prior to the 2017 annual meeting, Mr. Bolton also mailed a copy of a statement, request for proxies, a motion and a demand that the HLPOA agree to allow an HLPOA member motion to require the creation of a Financial Review Committee. The HLPOA responded to inaccurate claims contained in his letter and provided a legal opinion of Counsel, Bill Carey. Mr. Carey's opinion stated, "The motion to create a financial oversight committee should not be accepted for floor consideration. The Bylaws of the HLPOA do not currently allow for the formation of such a committee. Further, to have a committee of non-board members sit in an oversight position to the Board would render the Board non fiduciary. Finally, the HLPOA currently authorizes a third-party CPA to audit its books at the close of each fiscal year. It would be duplicitous to have both a financial oversight committee and an auditor performing similar functions." Mr. Carey also opined that the proxy ballot prepared by Mr. Bolton should not be used in the counting of votes at the meeting as it would create "voter confusion" due to inconsistencies in the letter and the proxy submitted to members.

At the 2017 HLPOA annual meeting, Mr. Bolton appeared with non-member and former board member Tom Kizer, representing that Mr. Kizer was his attorney. Mr. Bolton first demanded that his proxies be accepted by the HLPOA. HLPOA President, Brad Gibson, followed counsel's legal advice and declined to accept Mr. Bolton's proxies. Mr. Bolton then made a motion during the meeting to form a Financial Review Committee. Mr. Bolton claimed that Robert's Rules of Order required an HLPOA member vote. HLPOA President, Brad Gibson, properly followed counsel's legal advice and declined to accept the Motion. Robert's Rules of Order are procedural rules intended to help run a meeting. The HLPOA bylaws state at Article II, 2.3 "The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, (hereinafter Robert's Rules) shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws or Articles of Incorporation." The procedural requirements of Robert's Rules were not applicable and Counsel's substantive legal opinion was that the Motion was inconsistent with the HLPOA Bylaws.

The HLPOA board will aggressively defend baseless litigation intended to harass HLPOA members and it will resist attempts to add improper and unnecessary burden and expense to its processes that violate HLPOA bylaws. The HLPOA also will continue to attempt to avoid unnecessary litigation and associated costs and fairly resolve any litigation that is filed against it.

## **Riparian Committee Report**

The HLPOA's Riparian Committee has been working closely with the HLPOA board to protect riparian rights on Higgins Lake. The Committee has both board (Jim Vondale - Chair, Chuck Brick, Bob Hoffman, Wayne Brooks) and non-board members (Marge Kik, Steve Rickets, Nick Dewey, Greg Douglas, Fred Koenigbauer, Tom Hoffmeyer.) Our mission is to work under the direction of the HLPOA board to act as a study group and resource, making recommendations to the board on a wide range of riparian issues affecting Higgins Lake. Our strength comes from the diverse views and inputs of Committee members with the power of the HLPOA behind it.

The Committee has a broad range of objectives focused on issues such as the expansion or creation of marinas, road end violations, funneling, illegal mooring of boats, violation of Township zoning ordinances, liability and enforcement of existing laws. We want to educate members and non-members about these issues, act as a resource to help address these issues, help communicate riparian rules and help ensure members get enforcement of violations when they need it. We also want to work with local governments on these issues because of their crucial role in rule setting, communication and enforcement. These are not easy tasks and we are committed to making progress on our objectives. We will use the HLPOA website and this newsletter as important tools to communicate to members.

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Current activities include:

1) Addressing concerns with the West Launch proposed repairs and expansion including boat load, invasive species, pollution, use of copper sulfate by the DNR and illegal parking. We have a meeting with Parks and Recreation Chief, Ron Olson, on August 18 to discuss these issues. We want to start a dialogue with the DNR on how we can partner to address the many important lake issues given the significant access the DNR's state parks and West Launch provide to the lake.

2) Taking necessary and appropriate action with regard to the AMVETS marina permit issued by the DEQ. The AMVETS plan and permit violate the Lyon Township R-1 Residential zoning ordinance. Since Lyon Township has decided not to enforce its ordinance and the DEQ does not consider zoning violations in granting a permit, the HLPOA board has decided to join with adjacent property owners to take action to enforce the Lyon Township zoning ordinance in the Roscommon County Circuit Court. That action will be filed shortly. A more detailed report is contained in the sidebar on this page.

3) HLPOA Members unanimously passed a motion at the 2017 HLPOA Annual Meeting supporting a new marina policy. This HLPOA board wanted member input and support for a clear policy that new or expanded marinas must meet certain criteria including, 1) The use will not cause substantial or significant harm to the quality of Higgins Lake 2) The use will not adversely affect the rights of Higgins Lake riparian owners 3) The use will not cause a significant adverse effect on the use of the waters of Higgins Lake by boats legally using it and 4) The use is legal in all respects. The full text of the new marina policy can be found at [hlpoa.org](http://hlpoa.org).

4) The new HLPOA board and Riparian Committee supported West Shore property owners and opposed the creation of a new marina at the West Launch for numerous reasons, including that it violated the R-1 Residential zoning of the launch property. That's right, the West Launch also is zoned Single Family Residential but it has been allowed to continually expand over the years and is now a major access site on the lake. Lyon Township decided to table the plan.

5) Continue actions to assist HLPOA members in addressing illegal road end activities, including illegal boat mooring. Help clarify and then educate riparians and non-riparians about rules, reporting of violations and obtaining enforcement. Enforcement of illegal boat mooring has been strong in Gerrish Township by the Township police. The County Sheriff has been more consistent lately enforcing overnight mooring violations in Lyon Township. We support strong, common road end ordinances in Lyon and *Continued p. 5*

### **Update - Action by West Shore Property Owners and HLPOA to challenge AMVETS marina:**

The AMVETS Lodge (not to be confused with Camp Curnalia) is located to the south of Camp Curnalia in a residential neighborhood on Thorpe Avenue on the west shore of Higgins Lake.

On July 26, 2016, despite opposition by the surrounding riparian neighbors and the HLPOA, the DEQ approved a permit that had been filed by the AMVETS for a major new "marina". The approved permit reads as follows:

"Authorized activity: "Seasonally place a dock that is 5 feet wide and 457 foot long, with 22 slips for pontoon boat hoists and 6 jet ski hoists; twenty two (22) finger piers placed between pontoon boat hoists shall be up to 3 feet wide. Seasonally place 8 freestanding v-hull boat hoists; six (6) finger piers placed between v-hull boat hoists shall be up to 3 feet wide.

Seasonal placement of permitted structures as described above is allowed beyond the life of this permit so long as the size and /or configuration does not change or exceed the maximum size allowed by this permit. All work shall be completed in accordance with the approved plans and specifications of this permit."

The AMVETS Lodge property is zoned R-1 residential. Historically it was built for and had been used as a lodge for guests. It does not limit use to veterans.

Over the past few years, the scope/use of the property has changed significantly including use for wedding receptions and non-riparians to rent space for seasonal mooring of watercraft on AMVETS property. AMVETS has now indicated it's intention to operate a major public marina.

Even though the property is zoned residential, Lyon Township has decided not to enforce its ordinance. Lyon Township is not required to enforce its ordinance. The DEQ has stated it does not consider local zoning ordinances when deciding if a party qualifies for a marina permit. Construction of the new marina has not started. AMVETS refused our request to discuss the matter. Our only effective recourse to enforce the law continues to be the filing of a lawsuit. The HLPOA board has voted to join adjacent property owners in a lawsuit in Roscommon County Circuit Court.

Gerrish Townships including registration and insurance. Lyon Township currently is working on an ordinance.

6) Act as a resource and information sharing source for riparians on lakefront ownership issues. We can help bring property owners together so they can share common concerns.

7) Use the HLPOA website and this Newsletter to communicate useful information about riparian issues.

There are many riparian issues affecting property owners on Higgins Lake and the HLPOA Board and Riparian Committee cannot address every one of them. Many involve private issues between homeowners or require reporting by property owners to the authorities. However, we will assist where appropriate and reasonable and will focus on major issues affecting HLPOA members where the power of our HLPOA organization can be helpful.

## HLSIO Update

By now you have received the HLPOA/HLSIO/Swimmer's Itch Solutions, LLC interim report on this year's control program. There is much good news in the report showing our efforts have been very effective for a second consecutive year in significantly lowering the lake-wide swimmer's itch infection rate in Higgins Lake. Our future control efforts will be directed at maintaining or further lowering that rate. Over 500 donors have supported these efforts and we want to thank you for your generous contributions.

The HLSIO board, in conjunction with the HLPOA board, is exploring the potential for two new low cost fall programs to further lower the lake-wide snail infection rate.



### FALL 2017 MERGANSER FLY-THROUGH SI INFECTION LEVEL STUDY

Analysis of more than 50 adult common merganser spring fly-throughs lethally taken on Higgins Lake beginning in 2015 have shown that approximately half were not infected with SI and nearly all the rest were only lightly infected. We have no infection level data on common merganser fall fly-throughs and are interested in learning more about their SI infection levels. Unlike the spring, snails are active in the fall and therefore more vulnerable to SI infection. In addition, fall fly-throughs can include heavily infected first year ducks from heavily infected lakes. We currently have no program in the fall to help protect the lake from SI infection. We are exploring the potential to conduct a study using volunteer hunters during duck hunting season, possibly on Lake St. Helen, to obtain these data. We understand Higgins Lake is not well-suited to hunting ducks. We also want to study other duck species to reconfirm that their contribution to SI infection is minimal. That data are quite old and in need of updating. Dr. Curt Blankespoor has agreed to conduct necropsies

**Dr. Curt Blankespoor of Swimmer's Itch Solution, LLC and HLPOA member, Glenn Artz talk after Curt's report at the Annual Meeting. Dr. Blankespoor's Power Point presentation can be viewed on the HLPOA website.**

on the lethally taken ducks to determine infection levels. Decades of research has shown common merganser ducklings are the main contributor to SI infection on Michigan lakes. While we have successfully removed 100% of ducklings from Higgins Lake over the past three years, heavily infected first year ducks born on other heavily infected lakes can fly through in the fall and spend a few days on Higgins Lake. This can cause SI "hot spots" on Higgins Lake even while spending only a short time on our lake. If we want to further reduce the lake-wide SI infection rate on Higgins Lake and reduce isolated "hot spots", we need to explore all possible causes and develop ways to attack any problems found. We plan to work with our MISIP partner lake, Crystal Lake, on this project to increase the amount of data gathered.

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## FALL 2017 COMMON MERGANSER HARASSMENT PROGRAM

HLSIO has consistently advocated for the use of a fall fly-through common merganser harassment program as a potentially effective means of protecting Higgins Lake in the fall and further reducing SI. We believe it could be potentially helpful and it would not interfere with our spring capture and relocation program. We are exploring the potential of conducting a low cost fall 2017 pyrotechnic harassment program on Higgins Lake when the warmer lake waters make snails active and more receptive to SI infection and fall fly-throughs can contain heavily infected first year ducks. Recent experience from Glen Lake has shown that breeding and nesting common mergansers are difficult to chase from the lake in the spring. Glen Lake's very aggressive spring harassment program, where they doubled their harassment equipment and used experienced and trained biologists, saw nests and resulting broods increase from 3 to 8 from 2016 to 2017, demonstrating the lack of effectiveness of spring harassment programs for reducing broods. However, we believe fall fly-throughs are not as committed to staying on the lake as breeding and nesting spring ducks. To accomplish a fall harassment program, we will need to identify a sufficient number of volunteers at locations around the lake who plan to stay until ice forms on the lake. Pyrotechnics can be purchased by HLSIO and used by volunteers around the lake when they see common mergansers on the lake in front of their property. It is essential that we get enough volunteers positioned around the lake to avoid simply chasing the ducks to other parts of the lake. The pyrotechnics are relatively inexpensive and can be safely used. No permit is required to use them. They are sold on the internet and used by farmers, wine growers and others. Crystal Lake and Glen Lake, who are working closely with us on SI control programs as part of the MISIP, have used them. Crystal Lake and Glen Lake have abandoned their spring pyrotechnic harassment programs now that they have obtained permits for more effective capture and relocation of common mergansers to avoid interfering with those more effective control programs. They also plan to test fall harassment programs. We will assess the effectiveness of the fall program at its conclusion and report the findings. **At a minimum, we don't believe the fall harassment program will hurt our capture and relocation and nest finding program like spring harassment programs and it could help.**

We are soliciting volunteers to participate in this fall 2017 pyrotechnic harassment program at no cost to the volunteers. **We would ask that if you agree to participate, you not use them in the spring, to avoid interfering with our future spring capture and relocation and nest finding efforts.** We will let our volunteers know if we obtain sufficient volunteers and we will schedule a meeting to explain the program, train volunteers and distribute pyrotechnic equipment. We are working with Supervisor Nellist from Lyon Township who is a member of our HLSIO board on this pilot fall program. Lyon Township has some unused pyrotechnics from the past that they will be examining for potential use.

**If you are interested in volunteering for this program, please email Jim Vondale at [jvondale57@gmail.com](mailto:jvondale57@gmail.com).**

### Membership

The HLPOA currently has 466 members. Riparians can still join for 2017. Memberships run through December 31, 2017.

**You can help** - do you have a new neighbor who doesn't know about the HLPOA? Why not mention it to them and give the office a call and we can send out information? Do you have a neighbor who hasn't joined in a few years? Invite them to come back and see what's new!

Board members have been knocking on doors for two summers now and it works! Riparians have joined. Help spread the word!

**Don't miss this great evening . . .**

**HLSIO Fundraising Dinner**

**Help fund a 3rd yr of success at Higgins Lake!**

**Thursday, August 24 6-9 pm**

**Hosts: Jim & Laura Witt of Jim's Collision at The Witt's "Barn"**

**Appetizers, Prime Rib Buffet Dinner, Beer, Wine and Pop included - Compliments of Fred's of Roscommon**

**Tickets: \$100 per person, limit 150 tickets, no tickets sold at the door, not tax deductible.**

**Tickets at Jim's Collision, from any HLSIO Board Member or call Dianne Wagner at 989-821-5932, [dwagnerhiggins@yahoo.com](mailto:dwagnerhiggins@yahoo.com)**

**Checks payable to: HLSIO**



**HLPOA NEIGHBORS - ALMEDA BEACH****William C. Miller, Sr.**

- photo courtesy of Dr. William C. Miller, IV

The HLPOA is a gathering of riparian neighbors stretched along 21 miles of shoreline. The Almeda Beach area, beginning north of the Cut River and running up the cove toward Chaney's Point, has long been home to cottages. The origin of the name is elusive. Current residents and HLPOA members, Bill and Marianne Miller recently shared a memoir written by Bill's grandfather, William C. Miller Jr., in 1984.

William C. Miller Sr. was introduced to the property in the winter of 1912 by Mrs. Emma Chaney and her son, Carrol Chaney. The Chaney's had a cottage in the Highland Park Area of Higgins Lake. (The Millers and Chaney's knew each other from the city Highland Park, near Detroit.) At 4:30 am on a cold winter morning, Mr. Miller arrived by train in Roscommon. He travelled by sleigh pulled by a team of horses to the Chaney's cottage. Accompanied by D.S. Lansing, Mr. Miller and the Chaney's walked across the ice to the Almeda Beach area. Mr. Miller subsequently bought 2,000 feet of frontage from the Roscommon Development Company. Returning to the Detroit area, he encouraged friends to join him in building at the lake.

In 1913 and 1914, cottages were built by Mr. Miller, A.E. Crosby, Tom Henderson and Dr. William Kahl. Mr. Miller, the superintendent of the Detroit Edison's electrical system, had the expertise to build a kerosene-powered generator, housed in a stone-house structure, to provide electricity for the cottages. The compound also boasted a gas pump to fuel the automobiles driven north at the beginning of each summer. Wives and children stayed for the summer while husbands

commuted by train to the Detroit area. In the years after WWI, more cottages were built by A.E. Meyer, Harry Hall, Ernie Klintworth, the McClanens, Ida Rudolph, the Mulberrys, C.W. McKinley, Robert Meyer, the Underwoods, the Kushmans, the Helfrichs, Ed Becker, Arch Watson, Jordan Fleming, Joe Artz, Curtis Later, William C. Miller, Jr., John McWhirter, the Cornells, Doug Brown, Bob Dygert, and Jack Holmes. Many of these names are still seen on signposts and mailboxes along E. Higgins Lake Dr.

The Almeda Beach Association was formed in 1920. Bill, (Dr. William C. Miller IV) is its current president. Rules from a 1935 association guide offered suggestions for fire prevention, sanitation and general behavior.

Tips included:

"Courtesy and friendliness displayed to casual visitors will be of mutual benefit."

"Boisterous, noisy "booze" parties are not consistent with the atmosphere of this resort and will not be tolerated."

The fifth generation of Millers is now enjoying Higgins Lake on Almeda Beach. The Millers have a wealth of photos chronicling the years of fishing, swimming, water skiing but especially learning to dive from the swim raft generations of residents have enjoyed. Bill's grandfather, William C. Miller, Jr., brought an expert touch to share with young swimmers, having coached championship winning swimming teams at Highland Park High School

**And an extra note of interest - the first president and founder of the HLPOA, Arthur A. Meyer lived here, too!**

**AIS LANDING BLITZ**

Realizing the dramatic environmental consequences of the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species, (AIS), the HLPOA Board volunteered to participate in the Aquatic Invasive Species Landing Blitz. Manning the Boat Wash near the Higgins Lake North State Park on July 1, 2017, several Board members and their families aided in this statewide collaborative outreach program to increase public awareness about AIS and to assist boaters in taking preventative steps to avoid spreading AIS. Literature was distributed for boaters to become compliant with current AIS-related laws. Participants say it was a wonderful, fulfilling experience and a great start to the holiday weekend! **Remember, it's important - when we move watercraft - "Clean, Drain and Dry".**

## Sincere Thanks

Since the April newsletter, the following have generously donated funds from \$10 - \$500 to support the HLPOA in its endeavors:

### General Fund

Irene Bacsanyi  
 Bob & Suzanne Bennett  
 Randy Bierlein  
 William & Sharon Demmer  
 Evelyn & Michael Dinu  
 Paul J. Duhaime  
 Patricia Emmenecker  
 Timothy & Jaclyn Grocki  
 David & Kay Gugala  
 Random & Patricia Haight  
 Donna Hujsak  
 Mark Janulis  
 Gail Lynch  
 George & Terry McIntosh  
 Tony & Lisa McKerchie  
 Diane Curry Miller  
 Mark & Gail O'Brien  
 Susan Olson  
 Nancy Perry-Albosta  
 Robert Spindler  
 Jay & Bev Trucks

### Environmental Fund

Thomas & Traci Boyda  
 Kathleen Burkhardt  
 William & Lorraine Cheek  
 Neal Cooley  
 Evelyn & Michael Dinu

Dennis & Tina Doyle  
 Lois Gartner  
 Albert Koegel  
 Gail Lynch  
 Tony & Lisa McKerchie  
 Susan Olson  
 Nancy Perry-Albosta  
 Marion Silliman  
 Carolyn Smith  
 Robert Spindler  
 Fred & Michele Walsh

### Legal Fund

Almeda Beach Assoc.  
 Randy Bierlein  
 Evelyn & Michael Dinu  
 Greg & June Douglas  
 Dennis & Tina Doyle  
 Ken & Jan Keeley  
 Albert Koegel  
 Brian R. Lamerson  
 Gail Lynch  
 Tony & Lisa McKerchie  
 Marlo & Craig Peck  
 Nancy Perry-Albosta  
 Robert Spindler  
 John & Ellen Townsend  
 Edwin & Suzanne Voss  
 Fred & Michele Walsh  
 Robert & Clarice Williams  
 Thomas & Margaret Wright  
**AMVETS Litigation Fund**  
 Wayne & Susan Brooks  
 Charles & Martha Dewey  
 Douglas & Marjorie Kik  
 James & Carole Vondale



**Thank you** to the volunteers who came early and stayed late to help at the Annual Meeting. And thanks to all the members who came on a sunny Saturday morning! Thanks to you, the meeting started promptly at 8:45 and adjourned before noon! Well done!

### Did you know . . .

**...the HLPOA Directory generated an income of \$4,435.88?** Thank you Dianne Wagner for *sell, sell, selling* those ads and to Sally Voorheis, Charlene Cornell and Ric Blamer for their skills and frugal ways of getting it done so well.

**... the HLPOA subscribes to *The Michigan Riparian*?** Copies of this periodical are available to read at the HLPOA office.

**... Higgins Lake was voted the best lake vacation destination by a *Detroit Free Press* Facebook vote?**

**... a presentation of the Michigan Swimmer's Itch Partnership is available to view on the HLPOA website?** Jim Vondale was a speaker at the Michigan Lakes & Steams Conference in April. Charlene Cornell also attended.

**... Board Meeting Minutes and Financial reports are available for viewing on the website?** This and much more information can be found at [hlpoa.org](http://hlpoa.org).

**How about visiting the businesses who advertised in the HLPOA Directory? Tell them you saw their ads and extend a "thank you" from all of us!**

**Just in**, on August 24, 2017, 4:30 – 5:30 pm - Michigan Notable Author Bill Rapai at Roscommon Area District Library to discuss the over 180 Invasive Species of the Great Lakes. Call the library for info @ 989-281-1305.

**2017 - 2018 HLPOA Board:** President - Charlene Cornell, Vice President - Brad Gibson, Secretary - Herb Weatherly, Treasurer - Chuck Brick. Directors: Wayne Brooks, Mike Burnside, Bob Hoffman, Bob McKellar, Fred Swinehart, Jim Vondale, Dianne Wagner. Administrative Assistant - Kathleen Barger

**Did you receive this newsletter via USPS?**

Would you consider providing an email address to receive the newsletter and save printing and mailing costs? The HLPOA does not share email lists.

