

A Message from Our President

We are in the third week of September as I write this letter and we have had beautiful weather this month at Glen Lake. Some of the docks and boats have been put away but most are still out. We all hope this weather will continue and there will be more good boating days ahead. In prior years, as some of you, we have made the mistake of waiting until November, with temperatures in the forties, to put the dock and boat away. Not a fun experience.

In any event, I wanted to update you on several issues before your Glen Lake Association Board. Rainfall this summer was slightly above average and temperatures were cooler than normal allowing us to maintain the lakes and river at almost optimum levels. Also, we are at planned levels for this time of year. We have an active Committee with a disciplined approach to water level management. However, we do need additional instrumentation that would allow us to better monitor water levels throughout the year. The cost of this equipment is likely to be \$4000 to \$6000 that will be paid from our operating fund.

We also face new expenditures to continue our program to minimize Swimmer's Itch cases around the lake. The firm we have used for many years

is discontinuing operations and wishes to sell its technology to lakes in our area. Rob Karner's article details this issue and options. In this regard, we are also producing a video that will be available through our website that discusses precautions you and your family can take to limit or avoid exposure to the parasite.



As you know, we ended last year with a slight surplus from operations and we have budgeted to break even this year, despite the general economic challenges. We continue to encourage riparian nonmembers to join our Association and will be sending a letter to these families this fall. We also have included some articles from our Development Committee that I hope you will read. Contributions to our new Glen Lake Association Endowment Fund should be made through the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation with a designation that it should benefit the Glen Lake Association. This will ensure all investment income from the fund accrues to our Association. Contributions for other purposes should be made directly to the Glen Lake Association.

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The Glen Lake Association, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection, preservation and continued improvement of the beautiful Glen Lake area.

Fall 2009

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President's Message, cont'd...

In other matters:

We were informed that the bridge will now be completed by the end of October.

As requested at the Annual Meeting, a letter will be sent to all three townships in the Glen Lake area requesting their support to lower some of the existing speed limits around our lakes. Your Board believes that current speed limits are unsafe given the use of the roadways by bikers and walkers. The Michigan State Police must study and approve any changes. We will ask that this study take place next summer.

Finally, on behalf of the Board, I am sending a letter to all area planning agencies opposing windmills on Glen Lake or the surrounding hills. We believe this proposal, which is now being considered, would damage the beauty of the lake and present other issues that would offset any energy savings.

Thanks again to our Board and many volunteers for their dedicated work. Thanks also to you as members for your continued support. John



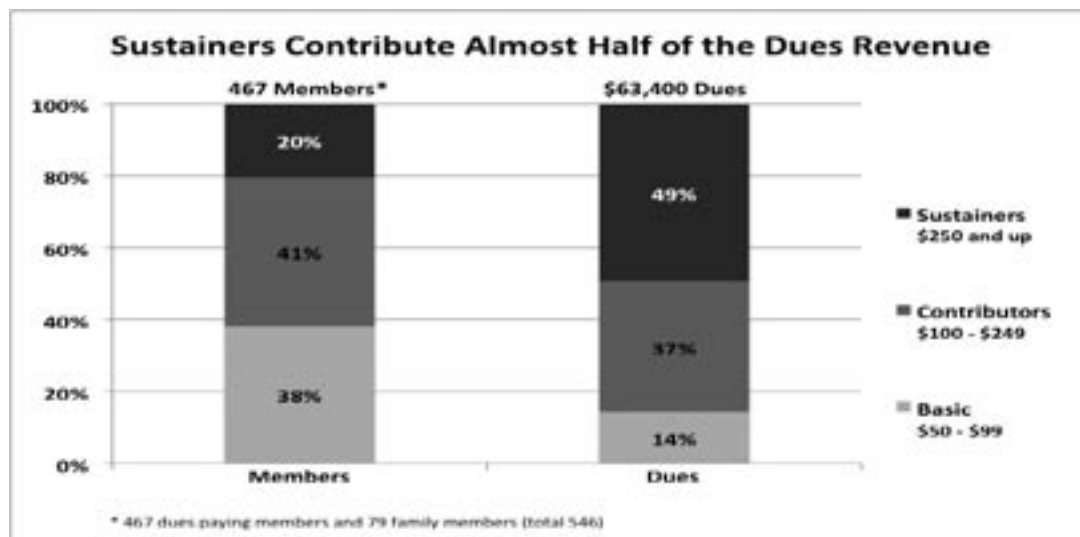
New GLA Board Members: John Kassarian, Anne Davey, and Mike Litch

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Membership Update

As of September, our total membership stands at 546, and we plan to grow it back to at least last year's level of 589 by year's end. The left column in the graph shows how most of our members (61%) have moved beyond basic membership to contributor or sustainer levels. The right column shows that of the \$63,400 raised in dues, 86% came from contributors or sustainers. The association board sends a very big "THANK YOU" to all of you who are

supporting our valuable programs. We are currently reaching out to recent members who did not rejoin in 2009. You can help by checking your mailing address to make sure you are a 2009 member. If your label doesn't have 2009 on it, use the enclosed envelope to get current.

Thanks.



Karner's Korner

New News from Our Watershed Biologist

Changing of the Guard

In 2004 we began a swimmer's itch control program by hiring two scientists who signed a contract with GLA to break the life cycle of swimmer's itch that cycles between one snail species and one duck species. They were a small business called SiCon, Inc. They came every summer to live trap Common Merganser broods, treat them with a medicine, and release them on Lake Michigan for the rest of the summer. The success of the program was measured by the reduction in snail infection rates. The lower the snail infection rates, the lower the number of swimmer's itch cases. For the past six years, we have lowered the infection rates and consequently, reduced swimmer's itch – a fact that no other inland lake in the Midwest can claim to be true!

However, SiCon, Inc., due to age-related issues, is going out of business and GLA needs to continue the progress by keeping swimmer's itch parasite load to a minimum. The key to doing this is to keep spring and fall migrant mergansers off Glen Lake and not allow them to loaf on our shores and seed snail beds with the parasite that causes swimmer's itch. The second part of the program is to live trap the summer resident mergansers and relocate them so they don't spend the summer infecting the snail beds with the parasite.

Since 2004, SiCon, Inc. has done a great job helping us reduce swimmer's itch to the lowest possible level. So now the challenge is to have GLA take on the full responsibility of moving the migrant mergansers in the spring and fall and to live trap and relocate the resident summer mergansers.

There will be some challenges ahead as we seek a smooth transition from having SiCon, Inc. do the work to having our own swimmer's itch control program. Currently, we plan to hire a new GLA staff



person trained to keep the merganser hours on the lake to a minimum. We also will need to purchase the necessary traps, boat, and assistance to run a successful program.



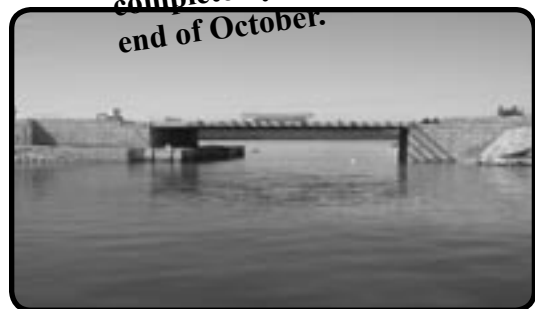
Ideas for funding this endeavor have been proposed and are being considered at the board level. Our goal is to keep our five-year average budget for swimmer's itch at the same level as the last five years (approximately \$15k per year). There will be some elevated costs in the first two to three years of a five-year plan such as the purchase of our own traps and the consulting fees that follow. However, the last two years of the five-year plan should have reduced costs – even below our normal budget levels.

In summary, we need to purchase a set of live traps, secure consulting services, hire and train a person to trap the birds, secure necessary federal permits, secure a suitable boat, and continue to prevent the spring and fall migratory mergansers from spending time on our shores. We hope to do all of this and not have any significant impact on our budget when we average our costs over a five-year period.

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to help finance this endeavor, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Rob Karner

**Word has it that
the bridge will be
complete by the
end of October.**



Karner's Korner, continued

Improving the Glen Lake Fishery

For the past year, GLA has been working on a project that would improve our sport fishery on Glen Lake. The key aspect of the project is to improve the spawning habitat to maximize reproductive potential. Maximizing spawning habitat will yield higher warm-water fish populations such as northern pike, small and large mouth bass, and yellow perch.

Historically, Mill Pond, located on the northwest corner of Little Glen, has been a major fish spawning area for Glen Lake. Currently, the aquatic connection of Mill Pond to Little Glen is defective. To restore the connection, there are plans to deepen the Little Glen water near Mill Pond, and install a much larger and deeper culvert under highway M109. By doing this, Mill Pond water levels will rise, the fish passage will be improved, and warm water species of fish will have expanded spawning opportunities.

There are also plans underway to improve the fish passage between Big Glen and Brooks Lake. Currently, there are two canals/streams that connect Brooks Lake to Big Glen. However, these inlets

are too shallow. Deepening the canals/streams slightly, but not changing the width will improve aquatic connectivity thereby expanding spawning habitat.

Finally, there is some thought that the long stream that connects Little Fisher to Tucker Lake could also be improved for better fish passage and spawning. The length of this stream, the shallowness and its degree of obstruction make this a more expensive project. Therefore it is of lower priority than the Mill Pond and Brooks Lake connections.



To fund these projects, we will be looking to public and private foundations, governments, and individuals. Current estimates to complete the Mill Pond and Brooks Lake projects total approximately \$225k. Several individuals have already joined the effort by making contributions. If you are interested in helping fund these projects, please feel free to contact Carl Oleson, Jr., Chairperson for Fish & Wildlife Committee of the GLA or Rob Karner, Project Manager.

Website Update

glenlakeassociation.org

We hope you have been enjoying our website. Many thanks to all for your positive comments and feedback. The pictures you have been sending for posting are appreciated.

Keep them coming! Please send your pictures and ideas for future articles to :glenlakeassociation@gmail.com

We have added a new feature – a convenient automatic Sign Up for Email Updates. Look for it on the right side bar of the Home Page. All those on the Email list will receive news about important events or issues that are pertinent to the Glen Lake watershed and this Association's activities.

We know you love that Web Camera so that you can literally see a portion of Glen Lake while you are away. Stop by often and take time to dig in to the Committee reports, there is a lot of interesting information waiting for you.

Finance Update

GLEN LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC			
EIGHT MONTHS ENDING AUGUST 31			
		2009	2008
REVENUE:			
	MEMBERSHIPS	63074	67013
	FOUNDATION & GRANTS	10923	10080
	INTEREST	567	6224
	OTHER	2255	3196
	TOTAL	76819	86513
EXPENSES			
	WATER QUALITY	27944	25792
	WATER LEVEL	4952	4841
	RECREATION & WATER SAFTY	18997	18745
	MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS	8269	10747
	SUPPORT SERVICES	12944	14613
	TOTAL	73106	74738
	EXCESS REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	3713	11775

Protecting Our Beautiful Environment

Glen Lake/Crystal River Watershed Management Plan Given Stamp of Approval by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

Good news was received, late August, from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). Approval has been given for the new Glen Lake/Crystal River Watershed Management Plan. The amendment and significant expansion of our original plan approved by the MDEQ in 2003 now meets the criteria for the state Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) Nonpoint Source Pollution Control program and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Section 319 program of the federal Clean Water Act.

This revision of our original plan was crafted by Sarah U'Ren of the Grand Traverse Waterfront Center and funded by the Glen Lake Association, the Friends of the Crystal River, and the Leelanau Conservancy. The plan revision, enhanced to meet the EPA's 9 required elements and the CMI criteria, not only allows us to apply for a variety of Federal and State grants, but importantly better defines our watershed priorities and plans for protecting and preserving our unparalleled natural resource.

The revision process was guided by a steering committee comprised of responsible parties in Leelanau County, thus future plan implementation will be more coordinated and successfully implemented. Local and national officials, major stakeholders, and concerned residents of the watershed have had upfront guidance in the development of the plan.

The steering committee was comprised of the following representatives:

Steve Christensen	Leelanau County Drain Commissioner
Greg Goudy	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Matt Heiman	Leelanau Conservancy
Rob Karner	Leelanau School and GLA Biologist
Mike and Sarah Litch	Glen Lake Association
Vik Theiss	Friends of the Crystal River
Tom Van Zoeren	Friends of the Crystal River
Matt Wisen	Crystal River Outfitters
Steve Yancho	Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore

Our plan partners included the above steering committee representatives and in addition the following entities:

Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Conservation Resource Alliance
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Leelanau County
Glen Arbor, Cleveland, Kasson and Empire Townships

Significant time and effort was expended to develop the revised plan. The planning process fostered coordination in the development, prioritization, and documentation of protection goals. This will enhance future cooperation between responsible parties during implementation of specific planned tasks.

Sustaining Our Beautiful Environment

PLANNED GIVING

“The Glen Lake Association, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection, preservation and continued improvement of its beautiful Glen Lake area.”

As a part of our endowment program we are encouraging Glen Lake Association (GLA) members and supporters to consider planned giving in their estate plan. Your planned gift, together with others, will assure the GLA accomplishes its mission. Planned giving can take many different forms, but the ultimate goal is to provide for the long term financial stability of the GLA and its various programs that help to preserve our watershed. This is an opportunity to leave the legacy of clear water for your children and grandchildren.

Bequests

Bequests can be made by preparing a new will or by adding a codicil to your current living trust or will. A bequest can stipulate a dollar amount or percentage of an estate be directed to the *Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation* for the Benefit of Glen Lake Association in your will or trust. Most bequests provide estate tax savings.

Another way to recognize Glen Lake Association through retirement plans such as IRA's, Keoghs, 401(k) plans, and profit sharing plans. By naming the *Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation* for the Benefit of Glen Lake Association as a beneficiary of the retirement plan, there could be potential income and estate tax savings.

Gift Annuities

Gift annuities could be used as a method to support Glen Lake Association. To create a gift annuity a donor could give cash, stocks, bonds or other securities to the *Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation* for the Benefit of Glen Lake Association today, and then receive fixed income payments for life. Charitable gift annuity

rates are determined by your age. Some of the benefits of a gift annuity are :

- You have a guaranteed income for life, based on a competitive rate of return.
- A federal income tax deduction is available for a portion of your gift.
- Part of each payment is free of federal income tax.
- There is the possible capital gains tax and estate tax savings.

Individuals who include the Glen Lake Association or its Endowment Fund in their estate plan will be known as Glen Lake Association “Legends” and will be listed annually in the newsletter.

All legal documents should be prepared by an attorney and reviewed by your accountant.

Please contact the Glen Lake Association 231-334-7645 or the *Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation* 231-935-4066 with any questions.

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Beginning the “Legend”

The Development Committee is pleased to announce that **Patrick J. Barry, JR** is the first individual to be named a Glen Lake Association “Legend”. Patrick, a Glen lake Association member and a resident of Livonia, Michigan, has been spending summers in the area for fifty seven years. He lives with his wife Cheryl and teaches in Livonia. After attending this year’s annual meeting he said, “I am impressed with the incredible amount of programs and the accomplishments of the GLA Board and its volunteers and I intend to get involved when I retire. Therefore, I am including the Glen Lake Association Endowment Fund in my current estate plan and increasing my annual membership contribution to \$250.00 to cover the member cost of the GLA’s various activities.”

Sustaining Our Beautiful Environment, continued

Donor Recognition

Glen Lake Association members are provided with detailed information about the ongoing programs through articles in the newsletter and the presentations at the Annual Meeting. Protecting and improving the Glen Lake Watershed is the goal of these programs. The financial support of the GLA Membership and other interested persons helps these efforts go forward.

We have published in the winter newsletter, the names of those who have provided financial support to the GLA since the inception of the initial fund raising effort for the GLA Preservation Fund in 2000.

In an effort to recognize all the donors for their LIFETIME LEVEL of support, we will now begin to list donors in categories based on cumulative giving beginning in 2000. Donors will continue to be recognized each year for their annual giving.

\$500 - \$999	Supporters
\$1000 - \$4,999	Dune Climbers
\$5000 - \$9,999	Maritimers
\$10,000 - \$24,999	Alligators
\$25,000 - \$49,999	Sundowners
\$50,000 - \$74,999	Old Settlers
Over \$75,000	Golden Bear

If you wish to remain an anonymous donor, please contact Roy Pentilla, GLA Treasurer.

Your continued interest, involvement and financial support are needed as we work together to fulfill the mission of the GLA.

“The GLA is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection, preservation and continued improvement of the beautiful Glen Lake area in Michigan”

Water Level Committee Update

Your Water Level Committee has been working on a variety of issues.

Three training sessions were conducted for the Glen Arbor Public Safety Department personnel. This training addressed how to place the emergency timbers against the dam structure should one of the dam gate mechanisms fail and the WLC volunteers are not available.

We also briefed the above personnel on our objectives and how we do it. We do not expect the Fire Department to operate any of the dam equipment. However, they are responsible for public safety in this area and their familiarity with our activities is believed appropriate.

Contents of the WLC procedures and metrics (toolbox) were refreshed in September. While the old stuff was extremely useful, it was also complicated and not easily used. The new “toolbox” has been distributed to the entire committee and almost everybody has been schooled on the contents and how to use same.

Note that there are two factors that justify a change in the Crystal River flow: How high the lake level is and how fast the lake level is changing. These factors are believed additive and are now addressed in the new tool box.

We have budgeted funds to acquire a new “weighted-crank” water level reading device that will be mounted on the Narrows Bridge railing and the installation of the piping required to house the automatic level indicator piping/wiring. The “weighted-cranked” level measuring device will eliminate the descent to the lake level when ice and snow make this task treacherous. An alternate/back up lake level measuring system will be set up again this year as we did last year as a precaution.

Bids have been received from two vendors on two different water level measuring systems (4 bids total). A bid was also received on the telemetry system required to send hourly updates on the lake level to the Glen Lake Association web page.

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Glen Lake Water Level

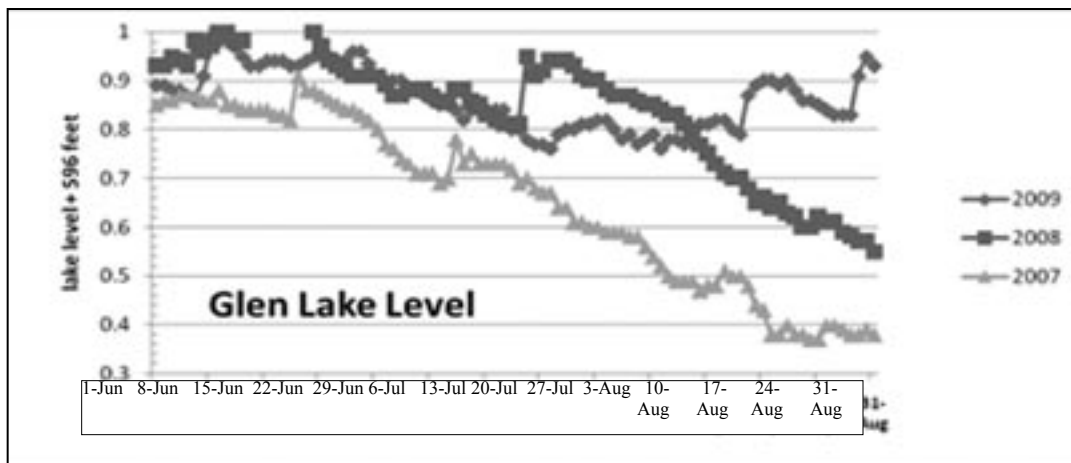
The Glen Lake water level over this past summer has probably met most of our expectations. While it is tempting to claim credit for the results, it is clear that the timely and adequate rain fall was a big factor in the favorable results.

Our strategy has been to keep the lake level around (596).88 from June 1st until September 1st, draw it down to about .75 on October 1st and then to .65 by years end. We can maintain these levels only if there is an adequate amount of rain fall distributed uniformly through out the summer. We are currently just about on schedule. All of the above must be done observing the Glen Lake level and Crystal River flow rate protocols.

Monthly rain fall for the current and two previous summers is summarized below. This data is for the Empire area but is believed indicative of local conditions.

YEAR	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	TOTAL
2007	0.15 feet	0.10 feet	0.21 feet	0.46
2008	0.44	0.22	0.17	0.83
2009	0.21	0.22	0.44	0.87

The Glen Lake water level for the three years summers is shown below.



An interesting observation is that while the total 2008 and 2009 summer rain falls were fairly similar, the September 1st lake levels differed because we had to release most of the June rain fall to control the lake level. Had some of the June 2008 rain occurred later in the summer, the September 1st 2008 lake level would have been much closer to 0.88 feet.

Also note that every ten years or so, we get a serious rain fall coincidental with high water levels. These occurrences can not be avoided and at times drive the lake level above our targeted operating range. Fortunately, these occurrences usually occur when high wind conditions are not prevalent. Our operating procedures are being changed per the tool box refurbishing mentioned above to more rapidly address such conditions.

Association News

The 2009 Annual Meeting was held at the Leelanau School on August 8th. Attendees filled the auditorium after enjoying time to look at all the displays put up by board members Sarah and Mike Litch.

Retiring board members Sarah Litch, Charles Offenloch and Gary Humphreys were recognized for their six years of dedicated service. We are happy to report that both Sarah and Charles will continue to volunteer their time to help with GLA efforts.

Newly elected board members (pictured on page 2) are John Kassarian, Ann Davey and Mike Litch. John Rockwood will serve a second term as President.

A copy of the 2009 Proposed Annual Meeting minutes can be found on the website. You may also ask to receive a printed copy of the proposed minutes by calling or writing your Glen Lake Association office.

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**In case you have
any questions about
why we care for
our environment...**





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Fall 2009

GLEN LAKE ASSOCIATION
2008-2009

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Andy DuPont	Vice President
Joan Kramps	Secretary
Roy Pentilla	Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Ann Davey	Mike Litch
Shirley Hoagland	Sue Meserve
John Kassarian	Carl Oleson
Jack Laitala	Matt Wiesen

Watershed Biologist	Rob Karner
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COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Auxiliary	Ann Davey
Communications	Shirley Hoagland
Development	Charles Ofenloch
Finance & Investment	John Pepler
Fisheries, Wildlife, Recreation and Water Safety	Roy Pentilla
Historian	Carl Oleson
Invasive Species	Joan Kramps
Long Range Planning	Denny Becker
Membership & Records	John Rockwood
Newsletter	Andy DuPont
Nominating	Sue Meserve
Swimmer's Itch	James Dutmers
Water Level	Rob Karner
Water Quality	John Kassarian
Web Site Webmaster	Sarah Litch
	Mike Litch
	Shirley Hoagland

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Sallyanne Morris - Office Manager
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