

Alligator & Inspiration

Glen Lake: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow



Glen Lake/Fisher Lake Channel

A Message from the President

It was the type of Christmas holiday up north that most of you remember with snow starting to fall about December 20th. By the 25th there was plenty of fresh snow for skiers and snowmobilers. However, shortly thereafter warm temperatures and rain melted the base significantly.

January is one of the prettiest times of the year at Glen Lake. As you can see in the pictures that Gerry and June Powley took on January 6th, it is also one of the most peaceful times.

If you miss being here during these winter months, just click on the GLA website www.mlswa.org/gla-916/ and catch up on committee activities. We are updating the Water Level link to reflect daily lake levels and cubic feet per second flows down the river from the dam. You will also have the ability to log on and record your input.

Currently we are reviewing committee budgets for 2005 along with programs for spring and summer. It is our intent to increase Rob Karner's schedule of water quality testing and shoreline restoration programs.

See you in the spring!
Charles Ofenloch



Crystal River



President's Message	1
Dues Increase	2
Water Level Committee	2
Land Owners Handbook	2
Development Fund	3, 4, 6
Beach Changing	5

Feb.'05

Water Level Committee

Help us monitor the lake levels year round. Incidences of high water damage (ice) as well as low level problems should be reported. All input will be provided to the court appointed Technical Committee for consideration regarding future adjustments to dam settings. Should you have anything to report, please call the GLA office 231-334-7645 and leave a message, log on to our website www.mlswa.org/gla-916/ or contact one of the Water Level Committee members.

David Haughn	334-4769
Jack Laitala	334-6156
Charles Ofenloch	334-4638
David Stockman	334-4627
Mike Sutherland	334-6177
Bruce Lichliter (Non-Voting)	334-4128
Gerald Powley (Non-Voting)	334-4704

Board Approves Dues Increase and Business Memberships

The increase in Glen Lake Association programs and activities and the associated costs have resulted in the decision by the Board of Directors to increase riparian and associate Annual Membership dues to \$50.00. Benefactor Memberships will remain at \$100.00.

The Directors also approved the establishment of new business memberships. A basic \$50.00 business membership includes a listing in the 2005 GLA directory. A \$100.00 membership includes a directory listing plus a second listing in the new business section. A \$ 150.00 membership is available for a business to be listed on an insert in the new Landowner's Handbook.

In an effort to increase GLA membership and involve more residents in the work and activities of the Association a membership drive is being planned for early summer. The membership drive will be held in conjunction with the distribution of the Association's new Landowner's Handbook that will be published this spring and distributed to all property owners in the Glen Lake/Crystal River Watershed.

Glen Lake/Crystal River Watershed Now and For Future Generations

A Landowner's Handbook

"The first rule of stewardship is to leave the land and water in better condition than you find it. If you have a younger generation in your family, then this statement needs no further explanation. As we have the privilege to live on the water, so we bear the responsibility to protect the quality of the water."... A few lines from the Glen Lake/Crystal River Landowner's Handbook.

The Glen Lake/Crystal River Landowner's Handbook has been written and is in some of its final drafts. From June through August, 2005 the handbook will be distributed to all of the residents in the Glen/Lake Crystal River Watershed. Your fifty-six-page book contains a large map of your watershed, an explanation of watershed dynamics, threats to the watershed, solution and best management practices for those threats, critical areas and land protection, and community action. In addition there are eighteen pullout pages of specific stewardship actions for you to determine the things you are already doing as a good steward of the lake, river, and watershed. You can set your sights on some of the stewardship actions that you can do now and in the future. Resource lists are included as well as watercraft regulations and safety. Information on permits needed for activities involving land alteration and building is included.

Volunteers are needed to help in the distribution of the handbooks. Each volunteer will call on ten neighbors to personally deliver this guide. If you would be willing to help in the distribution of this publication from the Glen Lake Association please contact Mike or Sarah Litch. (231-334-3612 or email ewl9@aol.com)



New NPS down stream river guage

DEVELOPMENT FUND CAMPAIGN STATUS

We have received gifts totaling \$802,000 as of December 31, 2004. Our goal is \$1,000,000. We continue to ask for your support, especially if you have not previously given or pledged.

The Glen Lake Association Preservation Fund is a 501(c) (3) corporation and therefore a gift provides the donor with a full tax deduction.

Gifts of publicly traded stock also provide a tax deduction. By supporting the Preservation Fund in this manner, you can deduct the full market value and not have to pay a full capital gains tax on the gift. Your financial planner can give you complete details.

Your Board approved an Endowment Fund and Gift Acceptance Policy in November. When discussing estate planning with your attorney, mention the Glen Lake Endowment Fund. Gifts to this fund in the amount of \$5000 or more can also be restricted to certain programs.

We are very appreciative of you who have supported the Development Committee efforts. Donations to the Preservation Fund provide resources to promote, preserve, study, provide education and complete projects important to the good stewardship of our lakes and watershed. GLA Preservation Fund, P.O. Box 551, Glen Arbor, MI. 49636

Listed below are those individuals who have given to date; new donors in 2004 are recognized with an asterisk(*).

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(continue on page 4)

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(continue on page 6)

Why is my beach always changing?

“You can never step on the same beach twice.”

Our beaches were brought to us by the glaciers, the last of which receded 10,000 years ago leaving us with sand that is made up primarily of quartz, a little feldspar and even less magnetite with a sprinkling of garnet, calcite, ilmenite, hornblende and epidote. Our sand consists of rocks, crystals and lakeshells that have been eroded over long periods of time by wind, water, and ice.

□ Your beach is a dynamic landform, constantly in motion, ever changing, altered by wind and waves in a continual process of beach building and erosion. Seasonal cycles of sand deposition and loss dramatically affect the appearance of your beach from summer to winter and even from day to day. Most of the sand removed from winter beaches is deposited in small offshore sandbars and returned from the lake shallows to the shoreline by the gentler waves of summer. Thus the summer beach sand can rest a few hundred feet from the shore during the winter months. In the spring smaller and less powerful waves begin to rebuild your beach by lifting the grains of sand onto the shore while being too weak to haul them back out to the lake again.

□ Besides being transported perpendicularly to the shore, sand is suspended in the water, transported along the coast by longshore currents resulting from the waves hitting the beach at an angle, bouncing back at an angle and picking up sand grains as they rebound. This zigzag action of waves hitting your shore can move sand parallel to the beach. These longshore currents are small but persistent in our lake but can alter the beach over a period of several years. The wind can also transport the sand and deposit it either up or downshore.

□ The prevailing winds, current, and slope of the shore determine the wave's energy. A shorter, steeper slope results in more erosion than a long slope, which dissipates the energy before it reaches the land. If the slope is shallow the waves will break before reaching the beach, decreasing the erosive power of the waves. The direction of the prevailing winds determines which shoreline around the lake is most affected by erosion or sand deposition. Shorelines

with natural vegetation having deep-rooted plants help to protect the shoreline from the energy of the waves and the ice slabs that may bombard it after the spring breakup of the ice.

□ Sand replenishes the shore from eroding uplands, streams, underwater springs and longshore drift.

□ Strong waves tend to carry away sand and anything attached to sand. So sometimes jetties are built to form a barrier to the natural river of sand created by longshore current. Sand piles up at the jetty and beaches downstream of the jetty are robbed of their sand.

□ Seawalls, which are rigid, tend to deflect all of the energy of the waves, which increases erosion and accelerates the speed of the longshore current. Once waves reach the shoreline it bounces off the seawall with more energy than a wave washing back from a normal beach. More sand is carried offshore, promoting beach loss. Sand depletes in front of the seawalls and as the shore in front of the seawalls gets deeper, the waves get larger.

□ The width of your beach is also affected by the water level of our lake. The amount of snow and rain we have during the year and the amount of evaporation resulting from variations in temperature throughout the year determine our lake level. Another factor is the regulation of the dam. Water levels of Glen Lake are lowered in the fall and winter months to prevent beach and shore erosion by waves and ice slabs after winter ice breakup. Homeowners can be deceived about lake level when observing their shorelines. The factors mentioned above all contribute to how much beach we see at our properties. The lake levels at the USGS gage at the Narrows can be above the nominal reading and because of shifted sands at a given location in the lake can appear low.



Enjoy the ever changing and unique character of your beach!

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Chormann*

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Big Glen - February

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