

# GIFFORD LAKE GAZETTE

June 1996 Newsletter

Another year has slipped by, all our beautiful snow and ice is gone; the beaches and lake have reappeared for our summer enjoyment.

The Memorial Weekend Trustees meeting was held on 5/25/96. The Annual Picnic will be held Saturday, July 6, 1996 at 2:00PM at the Weller/Gardner/Humphrey beach this year. Rain day will be July 7, 1996 at 2:00PM. Please bring a passing dish, table service and lawn chairs, AND don't forget your guests---they are always welcome.

Jim Krupp and Frank and Ginnie Woronko are our picnic committee this year and have planned fun for all. Let's be sure to give them a big THANKS for all their hard work. Also, several people commented on all the wonderful dishes that were brought last year; if you have time this year you might try to include your recipe for others to share and enjoy.

The 96/97 season dues of \$15.00 may be mailed to Ginger Frick at--Rt#1, Box 1412, Baldwin, MI, 49304; or you may pay at the picnic. There are still some dues from the 95/96 season that have not been paid.

We will be updating our mailing list this year and would like to include home and lake phone numbers. There will be a sign-in sheet at the picnic.

Have a Safe, Happy and Healthy summer.....We hope to see you all at the picnic for fun, food and fellowship.....

Terry Couturier

Greg Gowdy, one of two DNR representatives from the Cadillac Branch of the DNR, advised the following suggestions for the control of the algae problem.

- 1.) Probable causes:
  - a.) Colder water temperatures this spring and early summer.
  - b.) The water table is down, and therefore shallower along the shoreline.
  - c.) An increased water penetration by sunlight near shore.
- 2.) Suggested the following:
  - a.) He advised not to use lawn fertilizers or herbicides for weed control on the lawns; this will help to control the increased phosphorus level in the lake.
  - b.) Suggested strongly as a lake association and as individual members to have the septic tanks pumped to prevent the buildup of nitrates, phosphorus and other minerals and to aid in the prevention of leakage of drainage beds back into the lake.

I spoke with the owner of Sam Jackson's septic tank service (616-689-6049) and they stated the normal cost to pump a septic tank in the Baldwin area is \$65-75. If we did it as a lake association where at least two households were pumped on the same trip it would cost between \$50-\$55. The DNR advised pumping the septic tanks out every 3 to 5 years to keep the tanks in good working order and to have minimal problems with the drainage fields. I strongly see this as the proper step to take for the betterment of the lake. It would have to be done on an individual cabin basis but if there are two neighbors that can have both pumped at the same time, it would be cheaper.

- 3.) He did not advise killing the algae; most of the growth is gone now; he said there would be an increased chance of death of the fish due to the lack of oxygen in the lake water if the algae growth was killed suddenly at one time. He advised instead to concentrate our efforts on the cause of the algae growth.

Hope everyone has an enjoyable fall around Gifford Lake this fall. If I can be of any assistance with any concerns around the lake, please feel free to give me a call. One last comment; for anyone interested on the lake, Lightfoot's, Soule's, and Jacobson's cabins are presently for sale on Gifford Lake. Enjoy the fall.

Sincerely,

*Dave*  
Dave Couturier

tlc

# GIFFORD LAKE GAZETTE

## FALL 1996 NEWSLETTER

Please accept my sincere apology for not getting this newsletter out a little sooner to all of you; I don't know where the time slips away to-- Fall is almost over and snow is just around the corner.

The Annual July picnic was held at the Humphrey/Gardner/Weller beaches with a good turnout. The food was wonderful as usual, chicken was prepared by Star Inn. Our thanks to Jim Krupp and Frank & Gerry Woronko (picnic committee) for a job well done. Jim leaves the picnic committee this year and the Jim Marton family will join for the next two years. Thanks too for an excellent Board of Trustees. Bob Galovich and George Stegmier leave this year and Bob Redd and Bob LeMense join the Board of the next two years.

## FALL TRUSTEES MEETING

### Old Business

- 1) Outstanding dues--Please mail your \$15.00 dues to Ginger Frick RR#1. Baldwin, MI 49304.
- 2) Take precautions in transporting boats and canoes to and from other lakes and rivers to prevent the transfer of Zebra Mussel
- 3) Barking dogs are still a problem, please try to be more considerate of others on the lake.
- 4) The private road off Evergreen on the North and East side of the lake has been named Gifford Lake Rd.

### New Business

- 1) Applications for Lake Association Membership and dues will be mailed out with the spring newsletter.
- 2) Fish report was given by Bob Stegmier; bass fishing was good through July, then dropped due to the number of fish being kept. Bluegill population seems to be down. It is suggested that we keep what we want for eating, along with the pike, and release the medium to larger fish for better reproduction. A motion was made to stock Rainbow trout and Flathead minnows early next spring.
- 3) Reminder to ALL---State Fishing Rules and Regulations do apply to Gifford Lake.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season and a safe and fun Winter.. See you all in the Spring.

----- Terry Couturier

### NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

It has been an enjoyable 1½ years as President of your association and wish to thank my Board of Trustees and other elected members for their support and input.

Please be cautious and careful about any boats, canoes or other objects used on any other rivers or lakes and brought back to our lake, especially Zebra Mussels--disinfect with chlorine, scrub and dry all aspects of the watercraft for our lakes sake.

# GIFFORD LAKE GAZETTE

Keep in mind that if your septic tank has not been pumped in the last 3-5 years, it is advantageous to lake owners to have it done to counteract and relieve algae growth in the lake.

Gypsy moths are in the past for now, we will keep an eye on it this spring and make recommendations then concerning spraying.

Have respect for your neighbors for those of you with dogs that might be on the lake; confine to leash or under your supervision and beware of the barking.

Enjoy our lake; it is a great association and we have excellent members. For snowmobilers, skiers and walkers, enjoy the winter and early spring.

We are blessed with good neighbors and friends-----

Sincerely,

Dave Couturier