



Lee Lake Association

President's Annual Report

2023

Dear Lee Lake Residents,

Happy New Year and welcome to 2024! As we bid farewell to another memorable year at Lee Lake, it is with great pleasure that I reflect back on all the incredible accomplishments for our association. 2023 was a year of, among other things, transitioning to a new Board, working on new social events, increasing our membership, and, of course, implementing the 1st phase of our Lake Quality Program. I am incredibly fortunate to be working alongside a very talented and dedicated Board, as well with such an involved membership.

2023 was an exceptional season for us and I want to take a few moments to highlight some of the major accomplishments:

1. **New Board** – we started this year with some new board members and thanks to the involvement of the previous board members, the transition was very seamless.
2. **Increase in Membership** – Thanks to the efforts of our Road Representatives and our push for new members, we were able to increase our membership by almost 31%. We went from 49 households in 2022 to 64 households in 2023. Welcome to all of our new members. We look forward to your involvement for many years to come.
3. **By-Laws** – We were able to develop and approve a set of Association By-Laws. These By-Laws help organize our Association and document the policies and procedures by which we manage it.
4. **Annual Budget/Treasurer's Report** – A fiscal year budget was prepared and distributed to the membership. Additionally, a monthly Treasurer's report is prepared and available to all so that we all understand the financial condition of the Association.
5. **Lake Quality Program** – We initiated Phase I of what is expected to be a multi-year endeavor to ensure we continue to be able to enjoy our beautiful lake. This 1st phase involved spraying for Phragmites and Purple Loose Strife last fall. Some additional spraying will occur in the Spring at the boat ramp and will be coordinated with the Michigan DNR.



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Additional treatments will be needed, and this will be discussed at upcoming Association meetings, but we are off to a great start.

6. **Committee Organization** – We established several committees to help further the mission and objectives of the Association. As you can see, we are in need of a couple of additional volunteers, so if you are interested, please reach out to a board member. These committees are:
 - Lake Quality – Chris Gallagher chair
 - Events – Theresa Humphreys Oswald chair
 - Membership & Welcome – Tom Parker acting chair
 - Fundraising – TBD chair
 - Road Reps – TBD chair
7. **Events** - Conducted several successful and fun events throughout the year:
 - Garage Sale
 - 4th of July Boat Parade
 - Lee Lake Gear Sale (our major fundraiser)
 - Pot Luck / Annual Meeting in October
8. **MLSA** – For a second year in a row, representatives from LLA attended the MLSA Conference in May and continued to network with other lake associations. We anticipate continued involvement with MLSA with further opportunities to learn from other associations.
9. **Newsletters** – Re-instituted the LLA newsletters to inform our membership of activities, fun facts to know, and upcoming meetings of interest. These newsletters will be posted on the Lee Lake Website as well as distributed via email to all active members.
10. **Digital Strategy** – We developed a strategy for communication with our membership which includes Facebook, Email, and our Web Site. Please be sure you check out these mediums so that you are informed about what is happening with our Association and Lake.
11. **Guest Speakers** – We had several interesting guest speakers at our Association meetings during the season. They presented topics of interest to us and were available for Q&A. I



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think these sessions were well received and we hope to continue this into the future. If any of you have ideas for future speakers or topics, please let the board know.

12. **Membership Dues** – Finally, at our annual meeting in October, the membership approved an increase in annual dues to \$35 per household. This increase was long overdue as we had not increased our dues in probably 20 years. This money will help fund our operations and help provide additional services to our membership.

Wow, that was an impressive list of accomplishments, which was made possible by all of our volunteers and committees. Kudos go out to each and every one of them. But as always there is more to do. We have ambitious plans for this upcoming year.

1. **Lake Quality Program** – We will continue to invest in a long term lake quality program to address invasive species, like Eurasian Milfoil and others. We will research funding options for this activity and have multiple discussions about this at our monthly association meetings.
2. **Volunteer Recruitment** – We want to recruit additional committee leaders and volunteers to help grow the association.
3. **MLSA** – We want to maintain active participation with this organization. They provide educational opportunities, networking events, and virtual webinars on a broad range of topics.
4. **Signage** – We are developing a new sign that will provide great information for all boaters using our lake. Specifically, it will alert boaters to the shallow area at the southeast section of the lake (alongside Lakeside Drive). We are working with DNR to get this approved and intend to have it installed at the boat ramp early in 2024.
5. **Additional Events** – We want to implement additional social and fundraising events for this upcoming season.
6. **Shoreline Management** – We want to develop a Shoreline Management Program that gives lake front owners options to enhance and create sustainable shorelines.



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As you can see, it looks like an exciting 2024.

On behalf of the entire Board, we extend our gratitude to every member for making 2023 so successful. Your support, enthusiasm, and dedication are the pillars upon which our Association's success is built. We are looking forward to a great 2024!

Sincerely,

Tom Parker

President