



Lee Lake Association

President's Annual Report 2026

Dear Lee Lake Residents,

Happy New Year and welcome to 2026! As we look forward to the start of another lake season in a few months, it is with great pleasure that I reflect back on all the incredible accomplishments for our association. 2025 was a year of distinct efforts with regards to Lake Quality Improvement, Social Activities/Events, Financial Stewardship, and the monthly Association Meeting. I am incredibly fortunate to be working alongside a very talented and dedicated Board, as well as with such an involved membership.

2025 was an exceptional season for us and below are some of the highlights:

1 Board Elections

We are very fortunate to welcome 2 new Board Members:

- **Kathy Kile** was elected to be our next Secretary taking over for Sean Etheridge. She has lived on the lake for many years and has been a frequent volunteer at many of our social events. Additionally, she has worked with the Board as a Road Representative. She will bring an enthusiasm and historical perspective that will be vital to our success
- **Rebecca O'Brien** was elected as our new Treasurer, taking over for Cindy Parker. She is relatively new to the lake and Association. Her new perspective will be invaluable. We are very excited to be welcoming Rebecca.

We are incredibly fortunate to have these two individuals join the Board. Please join me in congratulating them both. Plus we give out a sincere thank you to Sean & Cindy for their service.

2. Lake Quality Activities

- We performed another round of spraying for phragmites (our 2nd spraying). Those that granted us permission, had their phragmites sprayed again this year for a nominal dollar contribution. Hopefully, you can all see the results of this spraying all around our frozen lake.



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- We began development of a Strategic Lake Treatment Program, and the summary components of this program was presented to the membership for discussion. As you might surmise, a spirited discussion ensued, with great points and questions.
- We presented and explained the AVAS (Aquatic Vegetation Assessment Site) survey that was conducted by PLM to document the lake's aquatic vegetation. We became more knowledgeable about what are "Good Weeds" and what are "Bad Weeds". A representative from PLM attended our Association Meeting and explained the health of our lake.

3. **Financial Stewardship** – Thanks to all who helped spread the word about our Association. Attributable to those efforts was a 24% increase in membership. As our numbers increase, we only get stronger as an association, allowing us to develop additional services and social events.

We managed tightly to our annual budget, ending our fiscal year with a positive balance in our accounts of over \$3,400.

4. **Social Activities / Events** – We had a very successful season on the social side of things. Our volunteers conducted several popular events, including the boat parade in July and block party in September
5. **Lee Lake Apparel** – We had great participation again this year in our annual Lee Lake Gear Sale. This event is our major fundraiser for the year and it is a great way to spread Lee Lake spirit. Many thanks go out to Kathy Doud and all of the volunteers that worked on this event.



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6. **Updated Directory** – A new and revised directory was created. This version is updated with all new residents, including a new section with all residents sorted alphabetically. Many thanks go out to Cindy Parker for making this happen.

7. **Informative Speakers at our Meetings** – We had several engaging speakers and special topic discussions at our monthly meetings

- Keith terHost from PLM discussed the AVAS survey and the benefits of a yearly Lake Quality Management program
- Chris Gallagher gave everyone a very comprehensive update on the Calhoun County Road repair status. A hearty thanks to Chris for his efforts in this effort. It is a long journey but our roads WILL be fixed.
- Presentation by several of our residents and members who own/run a local business. It was a great presentation and gave those in attendance great options to patronize these local businesses.
- Presentation on the beginnings of a Strategic Lake Treatment Programs – pro's & con's

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

8. **Odds and Ends** – We had **Music on the Lake** once again thanks to Peg and Steve Burkey Peg recruited a musician to play some wonderful music on the lake for our 4th of July celebration. The music was great and memorable to all.

We conducted a **Boater Safety Certification Class** All attendees learned about water safety and Michigan's regulations. Many thanks to Kathy Doud for spearheading this effort.

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.



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2026 Plans & Objectives

1. **Lake Quality Program** – We will continue to invest in a long term lake quality program to address invasive species, like Eurasian Milfoil, Purple Loose Strife, Algae Blooms, 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. If you are at all interested, please let any Board Member know.
3. **Michigan Lakes & Streams Association (MLSA)** – We want to maintain active participation with this organization. They provide newsletters, educational opportunities, networking events, and virtual webinars on a broad range of topics.
4. **Additional Events** – We want to implement additional social and fundraising events for this upcoming season.
5. **Shoreline Management** – We want to develop a Shoreline Management Program that gives lake front owners options to enhance and create sustainable shorelines.
6. **More Speakers & Topics** – We want to continue to have speakers at our meetings as well as discussions on the topics that matter most to our membership.

As you can see, it looks like an exciting 2026. We welcome everyone to our monthly meetings, and hope you will consider volunteering to help grow the association and our Lee Lake community



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On a final note, this will be my last year as President. I have gratefully served on the Board for the past 3 years. It has been an honor and I am proud of our accomplishments. Our association is a living, breathing organization and the inclusion of new volunteers, perspectives, and experiences is vital to its continued growth. Therefore, I think it is time for me to step aside. If you are interested in this role, please let anyone on the Board know.

On behalf of the entire Board, we extend our gratitude to each and every member for making 2025 so successful. It is a privilege to work alongside such a dedicated Board and committed members. Your support, enthusiasm, and dedication are the pillars upon which our Association's success is built. We are looking forward to a great 2026!

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Parker

President