



WEST LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

December, 2004

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

The WLIA Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to wish all riparians a safe and wonderful Holiday Season and a safe and festive New Year. We feel honored and blessed to live on this wonderful lake and to be able to interact with our neighbors and friends. THANK YOU!

NEW FORMAT FOR OUR NEWSLETTER:

As you can see, we have changed the format of our newsletter. Please provide feedback regarding the new format (good OR bad) and any columns or information that you would like to see included so this publication will be more useful for you. Also, feel free to submit articles that other riparians may be interested in reading. Please send feedback to: wliamike@charter.net. THANK YOU!!

ATTENTION WEST LAKE RIPARIANS

We have a special opportunity to learn of alternative ways to treat weeds here on West Lake. Currently and in the past, we have controlled weeds with chemicals. On **Monday night December 13th**, we will learn of another way to control weeds naturally. The West Lake Improvement Association has invited President and owner Marty Hilovsky of Enviro Science to present an alternative way of controlling weeds. Marty's presentation will start at 6:45 pm at the Portage Public Library's lower level in the Long Lake Meeting Room. The WLIA is encouraging any and all residents to attend. A question and answer period will follow Marty's presentation. The Association has also invited representatives from the neighboring lakes to attend. **See you December 13 at 6:45 pm for the meeting.**

FEATURED WEST LAKE AREA MERCHANTS

We will be featuring at least one merchant in our neighborhood who supports the West Lake Association by providing coupons or other items for our welcome packets. **H & B Market** is our featured business in this issue.

H & B has been our local grocery store for many years. Tim Griffieon has worked there for 30 years so is well acquainted with the world of providing goods and services to the neighborhood. A little over two years ago, Tim and his wife Tanya made the decision to purchase the little landmark grocery store. H & B has a city-wide reputation for some of the best meats in town, a wide variety of foods at a good price, and friendly employees whose faces have become familiar to those who have shopped there for years.

Recently, Tim and Tanya have added some very nice amenities to the normal foods you will find at a corner grocery store. The first was the addition of a unique sandwich bar, open from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm weekdays only. And most recently, they began baking their own breads, cookies and other pastries in their in-house bakery. A must try is their new submarine sandwich made with a very special bread from their

own bakery. The price is unbelievable and the taste outstanding!

Make sure you try these new items at H & B.

Thank you Tim and Tanya for your continued support of the West Lake Improvement Association and your neighborhood. The service you provide us, 7 days a week, is invaluable.

Submitted by:
Freelance reporter,
Jane Emanuel

NEW WLIA MEMBERS

(as of October, 2004)

Welcome to the Lake!

Please welcome the following new Riparians to West Lake.

- Mark & Nell Nelson - came from Holland, Michigan
- Brian Somers -
-
- Trisha Saviano - came from Florida
- Peter Croden
-
- Jon & Robin Tullock
- BJ & Leah Predum
- Christopher Pratt
- Larry Allen & Irma Bowden

Have I missed anyone? If so, please contact me at and I'll include you in the next newsletter.

WLIA Website

We are in the process of "reconstructing" our WLIA Website. It will be located at a different address and will have a totally new look.

Our intent is to make it an informational portal that will give riparians "real time" information about what is happening in, on or around the lake.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for content or functionality (chat board, blog, guest book, picture gallery, etc) please email them to:
wliamike@charter.net

THANK YOU!!

IT'S A MYSTERY - CAN YOU HELP US SOLVE IT?

By Jane Emanuel, Board Member

When I set out to write this article for the newsletter, I was unaware of where it would lead. My original intent was to highlight a couple of the merchants who support the Welcome Packets, since I'm the one who collects all the items we put in the goodie bags. I am also the one who calls on the newcomers to the lake.

However, once I started the interview process, I was lead in another slightly altered direction. Jeff Daane, who has served on the Board of Directors of **Pretty Lake Camp** for many years, asked about the beginnings of the camp, which actually got its start right here on West Lake. **THAT IS WHERE YOU COME IN.** We need your help to find the house where it all began.

The information I have been able to find so far is limited, but here is what I've found.

In 1914, **Edward Desenberg** started a "Fresh Air Camp" for disadvantaged & malnourished youth in downtown Kalamazoo. A group of women, including Edward's mother cooked for them until the Upjohn Company furnished food for them at this school. W.E. Upjohn was asked to help and he immediately authorized the cafeteria to supply them with soups, eat, vegetables and potatoes to this group of young boys and girls.

When the summer season approached in 1915, Edward began seeking a place where they could go to enjoy the outdoors and found a place to rent on - you guessed it - **WEST LAKE**. The house was owned by a **Mr. Tolhuisen** (Sorry, no first name or address).

The children were taken in cars to this cottage and although there were not the amenities hoped for, they spent two weeks well-fed and in the fresh air and sunshine. By 1916, Edward had found the property now known as Pretty Lake (having purchased it for \$500.00) and the rest is history.

This is where you come in. Do you know of anyone by the name of Tolhuisen who owned property on West Lake? We would really love to find the cottage or at least the address where the camp started. It is a

possibility that the original structure is gone and a new house has been built in its place.

If you do know or are willing to research this further for us, please call Patrick Duggan or Jane Emanuel.

2004 PAID WLIA MEMBERS

THANK YOU!!

Allen, Larry & Irma Bowden
Barkholz, Chuck & Diane
Barton, Michael F & Adele
Basch, Martin C & M Katherine
Bauer, David & Barbara Sneath
Beer, Bruce & Lois
Behm, Harley & Mary Ellen
Bennett, Tim & Betsy
Beuker, Steven K & Pamela
Blostein, Paul A
Bogatschow, Helen L
Bottenfield, Mary
Brenner, Boyd & Laura
Brink, Kenneth & Jeanne
Brockie, William W
Caley, Mark
Camp, Bill & Sandy
Campagnano, Lawrence
Caporal, MaryLouise
Cekola, Dolores (Dee)
Clancy, Michael C & Julie A
Clapp, Raymond J & Ellen S
Colburn, John & Nancy
Colwell, Ralph & Pat
Coonfer, Gene & Debbie
Cosgrove, Jeff & Tina
Croden, Peter
Cross, Thomas & Heddy
Davenport, Barbara & Nancy Crowell
Dehaan, Greg & Grace
Dehaan, Jonathan J & Christina
Dey, Mike & Mary
Doornbos, Ray & Virginia
Dow, Donald M & Hilda
Dragoo, John & Lynn
Duggan, Pat & Kelly
Duncan, Robert E & Joan
Eldred, Grant & Janet
Eldred, Grant & Janet
Emanuel, Jane M
Erikson, Robert & Sandy
Everett, Dick & Juanita

Fish, Jim A
Flynn, Thomas
Ford, Todd & Stacy
Forrester, Alan & Mary
Foss, Enos & Teresa
Furgason, William & Esther
Gage, James & Gwen
Garber, Amy
Geiger, Evelyn
Granchi, Mike & Denise
Green, Rod & Amy
Grosser, Gerald R & Nellie
Grubka, Debbie
Guichelaar, Philip & Alyce
Hall, Andrew & Evie
Hanchar, Alexander
Haner, Mary
Harris, Judith M
Harrison, Charles & Richard Jager
Hartgerink, Jay & Ruth
Harvey, Dave & Gail
Hobbs, George & Janeene
Imus, Neysa E
Jackel, Jonathan P
Jariwala, Sharad & Adelfa
Jones, Gerald & Sharon
Kaminski, Linda A
Kiker, Karen M
Klinge, Jerome & Dorothy
Kloosterman, Mark & Teresa
Kraft, James M & Janice
Kropf, Rob & Jean
Kucinski, Bob & Debbie
Kuiper, Jane
Kulpa, Mike & Gloria
Lang, Beverley
Lapointe, Judy
Laporte, Larry & Judy
Leedy, Tammy
Lemmer, Paul & Elaine
Liby, Raymond A & Jill
Lincoln, Robert C & Regina

Lindsey, Gail
Linn, David & Karolyn
Lutz, Larry & Tricia
Malz, Donald & Diane
Marks, William J
Marshburn, Michael & Janet
McGavin, David & Janine
Meyle, David & Geri
Miller, Ken & Nancy
Mohanlal, Ramon
Morris, George & Gloria
Morrison, Constance
Murphy, Garnet
Nelson, Charles & Jim Weessies
Nelson, Mark & Nell
Nelson, Norman & Carol
Newland, Mark & Sally
Niedzwiecki, Todd & Julie
Nuyen, Eric & Sandy
Paternoster, Jim & Annice O'Brien
Pelc, Ronald & Diane
Phillips, Thom & Lane
Pochyla, Gerald & Inez
Pratt, Christopher
Predum, BJ & Leah
Reiley, Rodger L
Robertson, Keith & Ardath
Rogenski, Mark T & Linda
Rudge, Craig
Schiafone, Albert & Louise
Scott, Tom & Gay
Semenczuk, Harry & Arline
Simonton, Julia
Slager, Douglas P & Deb
Smith, Al & Becky
Smith, Orville & Linda
Sprague, Al & Shirley
Stickland, Timothy R
Suess, Alan R & Norma
Taylor, Dan & Beth
Taylor, Kyle & Joy
Taylor, Scott & Deb

Temple, Sara
 TerBerg, Joyce
 Thompson, Brad & Susan
 Tullock, Jon & Robin
 Ufkes, Robert & Dorothy
 Vanderbor, Todd & Anne
 Vanderhorst, Tom & Janie
 Vandermay, Bill & Joyce
 Vandermay, Jack & Betty
 VanderWoude, Steven & Margaret

Vandyk, Marvin & Jelene
 VanKlaveren, Rick & Stacy
 VanNess, Timm & Jane
 Vanwalbeck, Craig & Patti
 Vliek, Douglas & Judy
 Wahl, Bill & Elaine
 Warner, Carol
 Waterhouse, Edward & Helen M
 Watson, Bill G & Barbara
 Watson, William Jr

Welser, Fred & Sandy
 Wheatley, Tom & Theresa
 Williams, Barry & Jennifer
 Williams, Chuck & Becky
 Woods, Thomas R & Sharon K
 Wylie, Jackie
 Zull, John & Arlene

2004 WLIA Board of Directors

President	Patrick Duggan		
Vice-President	Ralph Colwell		
Secretary	VACANCY		
Treasurer	Diane Barkholz		
Directors	Jane Emanuel		
	Mike Granchi		
	Phil Guichelaar		
	Janeene Hobbs		
	Chuck Nelson		
	Thom Phillips		
	Tom Scott		
	Fred Welser		