

**NEWS & VIEWS FROM THE LAKE**  
**Published by the Cowan Lake Park Association**  
**APRIL 2009**

President Larry Nyquist – Vice-president Patty DeMey – Secretary Terry Emily  
Treasurer – Mary Kay Groening Trustee Elaine Salisbury  
Trustee Ed Hawkins Trustee Mike Latchaw

**Notes from Nyquist**

Larry Nyquist, President

What a long winter!! At least it was for those of us that remained by the lake and did not head for warmer climates. But, spring has arrived, the SolarBees are up and running.

**Our Annual Spring road clean-up for 10-Mile is scheduled for April 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00a.m.**

Anyone wishing to participate should plan on meeting at Larry and Sandi Nyquist's house at 8380 Bay Drive. Please give us a call at 691-7934 so we know how many sweet treats we will need for after the work is done. Also this spring we want to remind lake residents on the use of fertilizers, use the white bags, NO PHOSOPHOROUS for around the lake.

Looking forward to a Great Summer on the Lake!

**Association Dues/Cowan Lake Directory** Mary Kay Groening, Treasurer

The updated 2009-2011 Cowan Lake Directories are completed. The directories were printed for dues paying members only and several have been distributed to the 2008 dues paying members. I went out end of March and delivered them personally. If any resident who was not at home when I was dropping them off, I placed the directory in a bag and hung on the front doors. I am aware that some residents who paid their 2008 dues had still not returned from their winter havens and will request them to contact me when they arrive back at the lake.

**Annual Lake Association Meeting**

**The 2009 Cowan Lake Association Annual Meeting will be May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Grattan Township Hall.** I am hoping we will have a higher number of members paying dues in 2009. As stated in the by-laws, all dues should be paid by July 1<sup>st</sup>. As we get dues from members who did not pay in 2008, we will print additional directories for them. I'm looking forward to seeing a good turnout at the Annual Meeting.

The Treasurer's Report is on page 3 of this newsletter.

Please use the form when sending in your 2009 Dues payment. If you do plan to attend the Annual Meeting, please bring the form with your payment to the Annual Meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

**Grattan Township Newsletter UPDATE**

The last note made about the Grattan Township Newsletter indicated that they would be using email.

**UPDATE: Email will NOT be used.** Grattan Township Newsletters will be sent out with property tax notices, in order to save on the costs of postage. The new Grattan Township Newsletters will be a one page (front/back) with no advertisements. Watch for the next Township Newsletter inserted with the July Property tax notice.

**Weed Management Report** Elaine Salisbury, Trustee

**Weed Control**

Professional Lake Management is mailing its annual required notice in April to all lake owners. Note that the dates on it are **suggested** dates only. We will receive chemical weed treatments **only** if the Weed Advisory Committee determines that conditions call for treatment. **The 2009 plan:** Algae treatments will be the same composition as in the past three years. Two harvests are scheduled, probably early in June and late July. We've asked PLM to give us time to notify residents about harvests, so that 1) pontoons can

be moved to allow harvesting as close to docks as possible and 2) residents can monitor what is being done. Bill Ballas and Ed or Sue Hawkins will be available during harvest to communicate with PLM's people as they work. **A little history:** During the two harvests in 2006, over 50 tons of weeds were hauled out of Cowan Lake. We're told that 95% of that was water, meaning that 5%, or **2.5 tons of actual weeds did not decompose on the lake bottoms.**

**The 2009 Weed Advisory Team** consists of Bill Ballas (new), Bob Campbell, Mark Counterman, Mary DeYoung, Sue Hawkins (new) and Elaine Salisbury. We thank former member Marilyn Ziomkowski and point man, Ralph Dixon, who led the team since 2006.

Your suggestions are welcome. Contact the Advisory team member living near you.

## Water Quality

Gentle Reminders....

▶ It's almost time for lawn fertilizer. Be sure there is Zero phosphorus (middle number) in whatever is applied.

▶ If boats are used in other lakes, wash them thoroughly before dipping them in our lake.

▶ Bait from other fishing trips should be left where it came from not brought home to Cowan Lake.

▶ Keep the shoreline free of leaves, weeds, ash from fires

(more phosphorus = weed growth).

Dean Salisbury and Ed Hawkins will do regular Secchi disk readings and monitor dissolved oxygen/temperature. Solar Bee personnel and Harold Bailey will do water sampling for Total phosphorus, pH, and chlorophyll. We will not affiliate this year with the Cooperative Lakes Management Program.

### **Cowan Lake Garage Sales** Patty DeMey, Vice-president

Please save Friday and Saturday, May 29 and 30 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Cowan Lake Garage Sale. Also please let Patty DeMey know if you are going to have a sale so an accurate number of sales can be noted in the advertisement. People won't drive as far for 2 sales as they will for 10. Last year we had a great turn out and participation by many residents. This event proved to be quite a money-maker for several and we look forward to even more participation this year.

Thanks, Patty DeMey Phone: 4506634

### **Condolences To**

Al & Kathy Berry, for the loss of his father. Doug & Margie Smith, for the death of their son. Judy Samrick, for the death of her husband Rich. Chet & Mary Ellen Koziol on the death of Chet's mother.

### **Grattan Township Annual Memorial Day Celebration and Bridge Walk**

Please check the Grattan Township Website for information on the Bridge-walk event and other activities in Grattan for Memorial Weekend. If you have any question about Family Friends & Neighbors sponsored events, contact Dianna Force at 616-826-1872.

[www.grattantownship.org](http://www.grattantownship.org)

### **Other Grattan Township Info**

Bring your newspapers to the recycle trailer parked at Grattan Township.

**Bring used household batteries** for recycle to Grattan Township Office. The container is located in the entryway. Please do not throw batteries in the trash as they are a big source of contaminates. **If you have a faded or torn American Flag**, bring it to Grattan Township for proper disposal. Our flag should not be thrown in the trash. The local Boy Scouts will have a ceremonial event to dispose of any American Flags that need to be retired.

**CLEAN-UP DAY** – Grattan Township Trash pick-up day is scheduled for July 18, 2009 from 9:00am to 1:00pm. **Location: Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Road.** Check the Grattan Township website for details or call the township office for more information.

**Office: 691-8450**

**TREASURERS' REPORT**

**COWAN LAKE PARK ASSOCIATION 2009**

Dear Property Owner,

The countdown is on as we are all looking forward to SUMMER FUN on Cowan Lake. My new duties as the Treasurer of Cowan Lake Association began in June of 2008 as Jill Counterman passed the checkbook on to me. Our present balance is \$5715.18. Our total Expenses incurred for 2008 were \$2137.46, which included costs for refreshments for annual meeting, newsletter, postage, 4<sup>th</sup> of July picnic, corporate dues, directory printing, ad for Cowan Lake garage sales, new sign erected at 10-mile/Bay Dr. and the Christmas Party. Our total income from 2008 dues collected was \$1470.00. I will have a detailed summary to hand out at the upcoming Annual Meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup>. I am looking forward to seeing many of you there and will begin collecting 2009 dues, which will remain at \$35.00. As stated in the bylaws, dues should be paid by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Below is a form to fill out and returned with your payment. Please fill the form out completely as we do need the information regarding the lily pads before the weed harvesting begins. Return form with dues payment (checks payable to: **Cowan Lake Parks Association**) to me at the May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting or send by mail...or deliver to me at home. Looking forward to seeing you on the Lake!

Sincerely,

Mary Kay Groening  
Phone: 691-6318

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**2009 DUES FOR COWAN**

*MAIL TO: Mary Kay Groening 8355 Cowan Lake Dr NE Rockford MI 49341*

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOME ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**COWAN LAKE PROPERTY OWNED** \_\_\_\_\_  
**(IF DIFFERENT FROM ADDRESS)**

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YEAR MOVED TO COWAN LAKE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email address:**

**If you have Lily Pads in front of your property and you DO NOT WANT THEM CUT during the harvest, please sign this and return with your membership information.**

**I HAVE LILY PADS IN FRONT OF MY PROPERTY. DO NOT CUT DURING THE HARVEST.**

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_