



# Portage, Base & Whitewood Owners Association

*Serving the Lakes Community Since 1940*

SPRING 2021 NEWSLETTER

## A Message from your President

*Mark Teicher*

The Board has been busy over this Covid winter. We have had almost perfect attendance at our monthly Zoom board meetings by our dedicated Board of Directors. We have had many members and guests join our meetings as well. (Members are always welcome - first Monday of the month.) We also welcomed Diane Ratkovich, the new Dexter Township Supervisor and introduced her to our lake front community. We have had ongoing meetings and conversations with Theo and Lauren of Washtenaw County about the Chain of Lakes Improvement Project, which went very well this past summer despite restrictions from the state and other challenges related to Covid. We have high expectations for 2021.

Now is the time to think Spring as we put in our docks and boats. We also need to think very carefully about the spring fertilizers we use and try to use as little as possible or none at all. Most of the fertilizer ends up in the lake and fertilizes lake plants - don't help the invasive lake plants grow.

We can think about the many ways we can naturalize our shorelines - boulders, rocks, native plants. Take a look at the PBWOA.org web site where you will find lots of information on shorelines. For Spring think about becoming a little more educated about our chain of lakes, water quality, invasive plants, muck, pollutants and PFAS. Again, you can start by just taking a peek at PBWOA.org. The PBWOA encourages education across the Chain of Lakes and has a standing policy to reimburse any member for qualified classes and webinars.

Take care and stay safe.  
See you on the water!

## PBWOA partnering with 2 local Conservation District's CISMAs

What is **CISMA**? Well, it stands for **Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area** and our Chain of Lake is part of two different CISMA areas: The **GiLLS CISMA** covers Genesee, Lapeer, Livingston and Shiawassee counties, and the **JLW CISMA** covers Jackson, Lenawee and Washtenaw counties. They are funded through the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program and their focus is on identification and management of invasive species - both terrestrial and aquatic.

We look forward to working more directly with them in the coming months on projects in our Huron River Chain of Lakes.

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## Free Boat Wash

**Portage Boat Access Site:**

**Wednesday, June 30, 2021 11 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.**

As part of the **Clean Boats, Clean Waters** initiative, MSU is once again providing their free mobile boat wash program. Get a free boat wash and learn what steps you can take to prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species. The PBWOA is sponsoring this event.

<p><b>Docks &amp; Hoists</b> Install in Early Spring: Mar / June Remove in Fall: Sept / Nov</p> <p><b>Seawalls</b> New &amp; Repair</p> <p>R.J. Knight - Base Lake 11971 Yankee Lane Pinckney, MI 48169</p>	<p><b>Pontoon Trailering</b> Anywhere - Anytime You Call - "We Haul" 35 Years Experience - Insured</p> <p><b>Snow Plowing</b> Salting</p> <p>phone 734-426-5427 cell 734-646-5619</p>
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# Review of 2020 HRCOL project and Goals for 2021

Jan Arps Prundeanu

Your PBWOA was invited to attend Washtenaw County's review of the Lake Improvement Project Meeting held February 25th, 2021. Representatives from Progressive AE (Paul Hausler and Pam Tying), Aquatic Services (Jeff Knox), Washtenaw County project staff (Lauren Koloski and Theo Eggermont) and PBWOA (Jan Arps-Prundeanu, Dave Willutis and Greg Peter) were in attendance.

Despite Covid Restrictions, the consensus was that the lake treatments were generally effective in managing our invasive weeds. Concerns about algae and muck were acknowledged and efforts in 2021 will focus on preventive earlier treatments. Progressive AE and Aquatic Services have benefited from more experience with the HRCOL and may be able to anticipate some recurring issues. Surveys are being scheduled for early May (weather permitting) with some early treatments scheduled for the canals, Tamarack and other areas with a history of algae.

Progressive AE is proposing increased harvesting in 2021, especially with problem Starry Stonewort. Problems with last year's harvesting efforts were related to equipment breakdown and the inability to repair, given Covid related supply chain issues. Two new harvesters have been purchased and it is anticipated that harvesting efforts will begin in July. Challenges remain with the lack of access to off-loading sites on Tamarack, Strawberry and Zukey lakes, but the County is working aggressively to address that challenge.

Lauren Koloski, project coordinator, will be introducing an improved "mapping" tool (GIS) that will be linked to a home-owners address. This will enable people to accurately report problem areas to Lauren that she can share directly with the contractors. All attendees acknowledged the role that home owners can play in identification of problem areas. Given restrictions on treatment options, it is not always possible to treat all areas, and the goal of realistic expectations was emphasized. The PBWOA Board appreciates being included in these project meetings and we strive to advocate for our members. This year's meeting was especially productive in that all parties worked together to generate what is hoped will be more effective treatments and more pro-active efforts.

# Board Elections

Board Members are elected for two-year terms, with half the Board being elected in each year. If you were a member in 2020 you should have received a ballot card with this mailing where you can vote for 2021-2022 Board members. Board members who are up for election this year are indicated by asterisks in the list below. The ballot also contains spaces for write-in candidates. You can include the ballot in the pre-addressed envelope with your membership renewal. The deadline for voting is May 5, 2021.

## THE PBWOA BOARD

**President:** Mark Teicher\* ..... 248-420-9144  
**Vice President:** Jon Waitz ..... 734-878-9312  
**Vice President:** Dave Wilutis\* ..... 517-349-5232  
**Secretary:** Jane Ollila ..... 734-878-4876  
**Treasurer:** Jay Hale\* ..... 734-878-3535  
**Directors:** Jim Jensen\* ..... 810-599-8125  
Jan Arps-Prundeanu ..... 734-426-5057  
Dave Moody ..... 734-426-0668  
Bob Nester ..... 734-426-2545

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE DAM OPERATOR

Arthur Stauch

I am Arthur Stauch and have been operating the John Flook Dam, commonly known as the Portage Lake Dam since 1997. I welcome the opportunity to provide information about the Dam via this Newsletter and thank the PBWOA Board for including this.

**Boating and Water Safety Near the Dam:** We are entering the *high flow* time of year. This can begin as early as February and continues into March, April, and May and, depending on weather, can continue into June. The high flow condition creates a dangerous situation for boating near the Dam and areas of the river because the flow of the water at the dam pulls watercraft. There is a cable to help stop boats from going over the dam but watercraft with no or little power – kayaks, canoes, small boats or pontoons with small motors – can be held against the cable unable to get free. On a few occasions small boats or canoes have been swept over the falls.

The safest and best practice is to not boat near the Dam any time of the year but especially in the spring. It is understood that paddle sport enthusiasts frequently require portaging to the lower or upper part of the Huron River. The safest practice if you are approaching the dam from Portage, is to stay very close to the left shore where the portage steps are. If you are paddling upstream, the portage shoreline would be on your right. Once portaged, upstream or down, continue to stay close to the shoreline until you are substantially away from the strong current, undertow and torrent of the dam waters.

If you have questions or if you want more information, please call me at 734-216-4009. It has been a challenging year for all, and I hope you and your families are well.

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## Mark Your Calendar

### ANNUAL MEETING

May 15, 2021 9:00 a.m. via Zoom

### FREE BOAT WASH

June 30, 2021 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

### BOATER'S SAFETY CLASS

Not scheduled for 2021

### PIZZA PARTY

Still hopeful check PBWOA.org for updates

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Social memberships available — No monthly minimum  
\*Social membership required for alcohol purchase

## WELCOME 95 NEW WATERFRONT OWNERS

The PBWOA is excited to welcome so many new neighbors! Wonderful adventures and memories await you on this exceptional body of water. Our goal is to help you navigate the transition and get the most enjoyment from your new home over the coming years while at the same time protecting and preserving the lakes. If you have questions please feel free to call a board member, connect with us at a Board meeting and join us as a PBWOA member... the best \$50 you will have spent this year!

## Help Wanted:

PBWOA is searching for someone to assist with the PBWOA.org website. Our website is built on the WordPress platform which is used by over half of the websites on the Net. The main qualification is an eagerness to learn, but familiarity with HTML, Javascript and/or PHP would be useful but not necessary. Previous WordPress experience would be wonderful. If you, or someone you know, would like to explore this opportunity, send an email to mail@pbwoa.org and someone will get back to you. (P.S. If you or your business has a website and you can recommend your web designer, please let us know that as well.)

# WASHTENAW COUNTY MARINE PATROL ACTIVITY REPORT – 2020

	Portage	Baseline	Little Portage
Number of Patrol Hours	240.5	78	3.25
Compliance Inspections	267	62	0
BUI/Drugs	1 warning		
Careless Operation	1 warning	1 warning	
Navigation Rules	19 warnings	4 warnings	
PFD Compliance	6 warnings	22 warnings	
Registration Violations	9 warnings	32 warnings	

## A Sad Farewell

The familiar logo of Klave's Marina, on our Chain of Lakes for so many years, will be greatly missed with the recent change of ownership. The business and family have been a mainstay on McGregor Road and Portage Lake, selling and servicing boats, parts, docks, lifts and accessories for many years. THANK YOU Klave's for your support of the community, your voice in ensuring protection of our waters and your sponsorship of Fourth of July fireworks and other events. We appreciate all that you've done and we will miss you! The PBWOA joins so many residents to wish all associated with Klave's the very best in their future and we welcome the new owners, Wonderland Marine.

## Looking for native plants for your shore front garden?

Register for the Native Plant Expo: sponsored by the WASHTENAW COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT, Saturday, June 5th, 2021. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds. 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Reserve your free ticket to access the Expo. RSVP required and entry limited. [www.washtenawcd.org](http://www.washtenawcd.org) > native-plant-expo.



Stop and see us at the "Big Red" building on Little Portage.



Helping clients buy, sell, or improve their homes on the water.

## Portage, Base & Whitewood Owners Association

### 2021 Annual Meeting

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2021

at 9:00 a.m. ZOOM MEETING

### AGENDA

1. Call to Order, Brief Announcements and Introduction of Board Members
2. Welcome and comments by the President - Mark Teicher
3. Chain of Lakes Improvement Project - Representative of Washtenaw County Water Resource Commission and Public Works
4. Marine Safety Patrol, Washtenaw County Sheriff
5. Election Results for Board for 2021
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Michigan Lake and Streams Executive Director Melissa DeSimone
8. Education, New Boating Laws, Boat Wash
9. Natural Shorelines
10. Wake Boats
11. Water Testing (CLMP)
12. Closing Comments and Questions

### Logging in - Zoom Meeting:

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83995942730?pwd=bi9raG1ZT1pFZOZTZkwxOTBFQWlrdz09>

-or-

Meeting ID: 839 9594 2730

Passcode: PBWOA