

ILA Bulletin



INTERMEDIATE LAKE ASSOCIATION

Meet the ILA Board!

June 2023



Meet your Intermediate Lake Association Board of Directors! Left to Right: Matt Gabris, Dave Christian (President), John Bridenbaugh (Treasurer), Stan Yoder (Secretary), Jim Gilleylen (Vice-President), Andy Hickman and Keith Shahan. Not pictured, but also on the Board is Aaron Phelps.

Our Annual Meeting is coming up on August 5th this year. Long time Board member Keith Shahan will be retiring from the Board and as Chair of the Membership Committee. Standing for election to the Board will be Mandy Bush (pictured at right with Dave). Mandy will also assume leadership of the Membership Committee. Dave will also be running for re-election to the Board on August 5th.



Lake Level Studies Update

As previously announced, work is continuing on the development and use of the Hydrology Model of our Elk Rapids Chain of Lakes (ERCOL). This work is a cooperative effort with Antrim County and several ERCOL lake associations, including our association.

The work is being done by Spicer Group, a Michigan based engineering firm with expertise in dams and lake level control structures. Spicer is expanding the model to include the Elk Rapids Dam, thus making the model cover the entire ERCOL watershed, and then using the model to study both the Bellaire and Elk Rapids Dams.

The model will be able to simulate lake levels during significant precipitation events (i.e., 100 year and 500 year flood events) to see if lake levels would rise and overtop the berms and dam structures at either Bellaire or Elk Rapids. Since our last update, surveyors from Spicer have been at the Bellaire Dam gathering more detailed surveys of the dam and surrounding berms for use in the model. We are still anticipating work to be complete by the end of June, 2023, allowing us to discuss results at the ILA Annual Meeting on August 5th.

We will keep you updated on this work.

Dave Christian, Janet Hickman
Co-Chairs, ILA Lake Level Committee

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ILA Coming Events!

On Saturday, June 24th at 4pm in the afternoon at the Thurston Park Pavilion in Central Lake we will have our first member gathering of the year. Plan now to join us! This will be a Pot-luck supper with meat and water provided by the ILA. Those attending should bring a side dish to share (i.e., salad, fruit, veggies, dessert, etc.). We will be sending out an invite to this event in early June for you to R.S.V.P. (your name, number attending & what you are bringing). This will help us accurately plan for the event. Main topic for this meeting will be water quality issues at Intermediate Lake. Time will also be taken for the Board to receive input on topics of importance to you. We want to see you at Thurston Park June 24th at 4pm!

On Saturday, August 5th from 4 to 6pm in the afternoon at the Torch Lake Café in Eastport we will be having our Annual Meeting (we will meet in their private meeting room). In addition to handling business as required by our ILA By-laws, such as election of Directors to the ILA Board, we hope to have enough new information on the Lake Level project to present an update on that key, important work. Following the business part of the meeting we will relax and socialize, with complimentary hors d'oeuvres provided. All ILA Members should plan to attend. Mark your calendar now for this meeting: August 5th @ 4pm!

On Saturday, August 19th at 10am in the morning at the Forest Home Township Hall we will have an informative presentation on our beloved Loons. Our featured speaker will be Damon McCormick of Common Coast Research & Conservation (Common Coast Research & Conservation is a non-profit organization dedicated to the study and protection of Great Lakes migratory birds, including Loons, and the lands and the waters upon which they depend). Light refreshments will be available during the meeting and a time to socialize will be provided afterwards. Note that August 19th is Rubber Ducky Day in Bellaire, so why not attend our presentation on Loons and then spend the remainder of the day in Bellaire for all the Rubber Ducky events! See you August 19th at 10am!

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ILA is a 501c3 non-profit