MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Fremont Lake Association will be to improve the water quality of Fremont Lake and its watershed through research, education and actions leading to lake maintenance and improvements; promote activities which enhance the social welfare of its members & provide pertinent information through its Website, Newsletter and meetings as appropriate.

This 2nd issue of our 2017 Newsletter is sent to encourage your participation in our Annual Meeting which promise to be an informative review of the current condition of our Lake as well as beginning a dialog to improve the water quality & property values of the entire community.

2017 ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, May 13 at 9:00AM at the Sheridan Township Hall. Coffee & donuts will be provided

Our keynote speakers will be Erick Elgin from MSU who authored the Water Quality & Aquatic Plant Assessment in the Spring Newsletter & BreAnne Grabill from PLM to review the 2016 Plant Management results & outline the 2017 program to control exotic plants.

We are expecting Dale Twing, Newaygo County Drain Commissioner will be available to discuss the high water levels that has occurred several years, including 2017. The dam was constructed in 1948. A 1978 Circuit Court Order determined the current winter level be 745.59 feet above sea level must be achieved prior to November 1st. The Court Order also requires that the summer level be 746.59. This one foot increase in the lake level must be achieved by April 15th.

> If the above attractions don't get your attention - -How does donuts & coffee will be provided sound?!?

2016 Annual Meeting Summary

The 2016 Annual Meeting was held on June 11 & attended by 30 people. BreAnne Grabill from PLM discussed the 2014 & 2015 weed control program & explained why the 2015 cost was down by 60% compared to 2014. She indicated the algae increase was due to a decline in the Zebra Mussels (algae eaters) due the hard winter & a 7 year life cycle that reduces their population. This along with heavy nutrients entering the lake resulted in the algae concern. Bre indicated that 2016 costs will probably be substantially higher. Several members spoke very positively of the improvement of the lake & encouraged the Lake Association & the Township to continue with the lake management program. It was reported that the DNR Walleye stocking is scheduled for 2016. Eric Hanson indicated the 2015 Fireworks & insurance cost about \$7,000 & was funded predominately by anonymous donations from a few families, \$900 from FLA Property Owners & \$500 from FLA funds.

European Frogbit Found in West Michigan

By: BreAnne Grabill, Northern Regional Manager, PLM Lake & Land Management Corp.

Another new exotic aquatic plant was found in West Michigan. We all need to work together to keep our eyes open for changes in the plant community in your lake.

In 2016, during a routine vegetation survey, PLM staff found the exotic plant, European Frogbit, growing in two lakes in East Grand Rapids, MI. PLM immediately reported the finding to the DNR through the Michigan Invasive Species Information Network (MISIN). The DNR quickly came out to both waterbodies and confirmed the identification of this invasive plant. This infestation represents the westernmost known location of the plant in MI and the entire Midwest.

European Frogbit (EFB) is native to Europe and parts of Africa and Asia. The plant has small heart-shaped leaves that can resemble miniature lily pads. However, EFB does NOT anchor itself to the lake bottom like lily pads do. Therefore, the plant remains free floating and can move from waterbody to waterbody fairly easily. A small white flower can be found on the plant during peak summer months. The plant can quickly from dense mats in shallow areas of lakes or ponds. EFB is spread by plant fragments and by turion production. Turions are small buds that drop from the plant in late summer and overwinter in the sediment for several years, producing new plants each season. One plant can produce over 100 turions a season. European Frogbit is a popular plant



in the aquarium and water garden industry and was most likely dumped into the lakes or nearby pond by an unaware resident.

Stopping its spread to other water bodies is top priority. PLM has been working closely with the DNR, DEQ and several other entities to develop a long-term action/management plan for this plant. How does this impact Fremont Lake? It is vital that we all work together to protect the lake. Vegetation surveys are very important and having management tools in place for a rapid response are vital. Early detection and Rapid Response will protect the native plant community, the fishery and save money!

Website updated www.FremontLake.net

We are pleased to note that the FLA website has been updated to include copies FLA Annual & Board Meetings, prior issues of our Newsletter. Links to the 2016 MSU & 2010 GVSU reports are now available for your review. Thanks to Erick Elgin of MSU, several historical reports on Fremont Lake are now available.

BASS TOURNAMENT - FYI

Bruce Haveman obtained the Bass Tournament dates that are registered on the DNR website with the sponsor's. 5/27 6AM-12PM - West Michigan Bassers 6/3 6AM-12PM Sportsperson Ministries Int'l 8/12 7AM-3PM Mid Lake Bass Busters. FYI - Bruce also found some "unofficial" information on other tournaments that are not registered, may not be complete or need some corrections. The dates are; 5/31, 6/12, 6/23, 7/16,7/23 & 7/26. The times for these events are 6:00PM-9:30PM. Other dates are; 7/16 & 7/23 from 7AM-2PM. As far as we know, all these events are all held at the Township Launch site.

2017 Membership Drive

The Fremont Lake Association reorganized in 2007 as a voluntary organization. Our Mission Statement defines our purpose is to enable FLA Members to more effectively manage a community asset that we currently share for the common good as well as improve property values & make Fremont Lake a Community Asset.

To this end, we've accomplished significant & numerous projects & activities by using Association funds as direct payments, seed money & matching funds for the projects & grants we've been able to implement. In addition, our communication goal is to maintain a website & Newsletters to about 200 property owners. Our participation in this voluntary effort improves every year. Thanks to all who have contributed & we appreciate that the Membership Form could be a duplicate. The "One-Stop" Membership Form includes your \$25 Annual Membership Dues & a Fireworks Donation for 2017. Your voluntary contribution enables us to continue improving Fremont Lake & help support the Fireworks. Please return your check to Fremont Lake Assoc., Sheridan Township, PO Box 53. Fremont, MI 49412



INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

MONDAY, JULY 3RD

(Please Note: Rain Date for Fireworks & Boat Parade is Saturday, July 8th)

(The 1st Newsletter had incorrectly stated a different date in one article)

We continue to honor, celebrate & enjoy Independence Day with Spectacular Fireworks, Creative Boat Decorations with Enthusiastic Crews, & Patriotic Parties.

In prior years, the Karnemaat & Vogel families added to the celebration of Independence Day with fireworks at their homes. They're combining their efforts this year with the programs that Eric Hanson & Scott Crandell organized & have been supported by FLA funds, member & community contributions. This combined effort has resulted in this year's Fireworks being shot from the center of the Lake, weather permitting. The 2017 collaborative program promises to be even more spectacular & visible to the entire community.

The reason for the Saturday, July 8th Rain Date is that a licensed contractor is required. Eric Hanson volunteers to shoot the Fremont Lake Fireworks at no charge. However, he does have a contract on July 4th & needs the time to reset the Fireworks & equipment in the middle of the lake. We're expecting Eric &/or Tom to attend the Annual Meeting to discuss this year's program.



Boat Parade "Redneck Yacht Club"

At 7:30PM the "Redneck Yacht Club" regatta will gather at the VanBoxel Point. All Redneck yacht captains should inform your decorating committee that the Starboard side of the boat will be seen by the folks on the shore as we circle the lake. In other words, that's the same side of the boat most of your kinfolks probably right with!!

We continue to seek judges of integrity & high standards. We're pleased to announce that some of our residents has indicated they qualify & will be utilizing their sophisticated artistic skills on this prestigious event. Good luck.



Fremont Lake Association

c/o Sheridan Charter Township Hall

PO Box 53

Fremont, MI 49412

www.FremontLake.net

Facebook: Fremont Lake Association

Annual Meeting

Saturday, May 13, 9:00 AM **Sheridan TWP Hall**

Boat Parade & Fireworks –

Monday, July 3, 7:30 PM

Rain Date - Saturday, July 8

Theme - Redneck Yacht Club

Board of Directors

Bruce Haveman - Chair Nels Johnston – Vice-Chair Norm Knorr – Secretary/Editor John Sella - Treasurer David Landheer Doug Nieboer



FREMONT LAKE ASSOCIATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS & ACTIVITIES

- FLA reestablished & By-Laws adapted 2007 Present Member conducted Water Sampling sent to DNR/DEQ
- 2008 2009 Water Rescue & Safety Demonstrations Co-Sponsored with Gerber Memorial Hospital
- Chris Caris Memorial Fishing for Kids Activity started with FLA member volunteers 2008
- 2009 Purchase & Install Signage at City & Twp. Launch Sites
- GVSU/AWRI Survey of Water Quality & Lake Inlets Funded FACF Grant & 2009 **Association Funds**
- 2009 MSU / DEQ Survey of Deep Water Sediment Core Samples
- Website established *** fremontlake.net *** By-Laws amended 2010
- 2010 DNR stocking of Walleyes restarted (Usually about 40,000 Walleyes in the even years)
- Property Owner Weed Control contracts began with Professional Lake Management (PLM) 2010
- 2011 Shoreline Restoration Planting with Muskegon Watershed Assembly Funded by FACF, Muskegon Watershed Assembly & FLA funds
- 2011 Swan Control Project implemented in cooperation with USDA
- 2011 Professional Lake Management evaluation of Weed Problems – No charge
- PLM contract to recommend actions needed for weed control- Funded by Twp, City & FLA funds 2012
- 2013 Reestablish a Special Assessment District (SAD) to control Aquatic Nuisances Funded by City, Twp, Property Owner Assessment & FLA funds (Similar to SAD in 1980's)
- 2nd year of SAD Funded by City, Twp, & Property Owner Assessment 2014
- 2015 3rd year of SAD Funded by Twp & Property Owner Assessment
- 2016 4th year of SAD Funded by Property Owner Assessment
- 2016 MSU Survey of Water Quality & Aquatic Plant Evaluation Funded by City & TWP

