



# Rush Lake News



## Winter 2015

### New Website Launched!

Introducing.....our new website:

[www.rushlakepoa.com](http://www.rushlakepoa.com)

In an effort to improve communications across our membership, we have moved ahead and developed a new website.

While our website will always be a “work in progress”, we certainly encourage all of our members to access the site as we plan to update the content monthly.

Key features will include: photos and neighborhood news. Please email photos to: [rushlakepoa@yahoo.com](mailto:rushlakepoa@yahoo.com) with details on the photo and the name of the photographer. Photos will be reviewed and added to our site.

In the “About Us” section, you will find PDF copies of recent newsletters, recent meetings, our by-laws, and information on our annual dues.

The “Services” landing page will refer members to information on our lake, roads, and parks. These pages will be especially useful to keep members up to date on special projects such as weed harvesting, dam restoration work, parks, and our roads.

If you need to reach our association clerk, please use the form on the “Contact Us” page.

Our board will continue to expand on the content and information provided on our website to all members.

If you have a suggestion on content, please send it along to [rushlakepoa@yahoo.com](mailto:rushlakepoa@yahoo.com).

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*All people smile  
in the same  
language.*

### Dam Update

As you know, the Board has been seeking bids from contractors for the proposed repair of the dam. So far, the Board has one bid which, unfortunately, is unacceptable. The Board is now working with our engineer to review the engineer’s estimate for this repair. Again, if anyone knows of a contractor who might be a candidate for undertaking this type of project, please contact the Board at 734-878-0430.

### **Road Marker Thanks**

The Board would like to thank all of the members who have placed markers along the sides of the roads. The markers enable the snowplow drivers to easily locate the edges of the roads. If you are able to place markers along the edge of your road, the drivers, are most appreciative for your help. Markers need to be 3 – 4 foot long stakes, which can be purchased from the hardware or even just trimmed from trees in your yard.

## **Upcoming Meeting Dates**

**Monthly Board Meeting  
Wednesday, February 4, 2015  
6:30 p.m.**

**Monthly Board Meeting  
Wednesday, March 4, 2015  
6:30 p.m.**

**Monthly Board Meeting  
Wednesday, April 1, 2015  
6:30 p.m.**

**Semiannual meeting  
Wednesday  
May 6, 2015  
7:00 p.m.**

**Monthly Board Meeting  
Wednesday, June 3, 2015  
6:30 p.m.**

**Monthly Board Meeting  
Wednesday, July 1, 2015  
6:30 pm (if needed).**

**All meetings are held at the  
Hamburg Community Center  
on Merrill Road.**

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## **2015 - 2016 Officers**

**President Lois Pesca  
Vice President Eric Schaufele  
Treasurer Lex Kinter  
Secretary Joe Grech**

### **Board Members**

**Pam Sevonty  
Fred Clough  
Peggy Pietras**

### **Association Clerk**

**Teresa Kinter  
734-878-0340**

## **Water Quality Report**

We recently received a Water Quality report from Lake Pro. They are the company we use to monitor the quality of the lake's water by taking various water samples from the lake. They then test the water using various scientific methods to determine how healthy, or unhealthy, our lake's water is. They then send us an annual report of their findings.

This year they have found our lake "remains very healthy".

Their "main concerns are the nutrient levels, and any lack of transparency".

Increased nutrients lead to increased plant growth, lower transparency, and oxygen depletion in the deep water"

They point out that the "most direct way to manage the nutrients entering the lake is to manage the land directly around the lake". That's where we come in.....

We need to prevent, as much as possible, soaps and detergents from reaching the lake. It is preferable to wash our cars on the lawn where soap ingredients can be absorbed by the grass, rather than on our driveways.

However, fertilizers are the main problem for the lake. They suggest that residents use liquid, rather than granular fertilizer, create a 5-10 foot buffer zone along

the lake which is unfertilized, and try not to spill fertilizer on hard surfaces.

They also encourage lakeside owners to work to keep yard waste, such as leaves and grass clippings, from reaching the lake, where they decompose and release nutrients into the water.

Fortunately our lake is doing well, so let's all do what we can, so we can continue to have a healthy lake.

## **Board Members Still Needed!**

Are you interested in knowing what is going on in the neighborhood, then you might consider becoming a member of the RLPOA Board of Trustees. Several openings on the Board are still open.

Each volunteer position is for a three year term and anyone who is a property owner within the Association is eligible. As a Board member, you would help to make the day-to-day decisions for the Association.

Board members are asked to attend one meeting a month and work on various projects throughout the year. Each Board member is able to choose how much time they can devote beyond the time required by regular meetings.

If you would be interested in becoming a member of the Board of Trustees, please call the hotline (734-878-0340) or come to the spring semiannual meeting on May 6.

**RUSH LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION**  
**2014 Annual Report**  
**1/1/14 to 12/31/14**

Account	1/1/14 Balance	Income	Expense	12/31/14 Balance
<b>Operations Income</b>				
Membership Fees		42,016.37		
Bank Interest		13.66		
Late Penalty Fees		2,161.26		
Status Letter Fee		700.00		
<b>Operations Expense</b>				
Accountant			1,369.00	
Collections			808.00	
Insurance			3,802.00	
Newsletter			2,367.33	
Office Supplies			2,872.04	
Payroll Taxes			5,458.00	
Payroll Wages			17,787.84	
Utilities			2,043.65	
Legal Fees			13,092.11	
<b>Operations Totals</b>	\$ 39,413.87	\$ 44,891.29	\$ 49,599.97	\$ 34,705.19
<b>Lake Income</b>		31,883.83		
<b>Lake Expense</b>				
Management (Lake Pro)			425.00	
Miscellaneous			100.00	
Water Testing			840.00	
Weed Control			22,557.50	
<b>Lake Totals</b>	\$ 7,282.62	\$ 31,883.83	\$ 23,922.50	\$ 15,243.95
<b>Road Income</b>		37,441.03		
<b>Road Expense</b>				
Asphalt Repair			300.00	
Dust Control			9,780.00	
Grading and Gravel			19,748.50	
Miscellaneous			125.00	
Snow Removal			9,770.00	
Tree Trimming			8,870.00	
<b>Road Totals</b>	\$ 23,861.85	\$ 37,441.03	\$ 48,593.50	\$ 12,709.38
<b>Park Income</b>		7,870.38		
<b>Park Expense</b>				
Lawn Maintenance			4,190.00	
Misc. Cleanup and Repair			1,634.75	
Refuse Removal			1,901.57	
<b>Park Totals</b>	\$ 11,028.23	\$ 7,870.38	\$ 7,726.32	\$ 11,172.29
<b>Lake Improvement</b>	\$ 1,149.39			\$ 1,149.39
<b>Dam Income</b>		815.00		
<b>Dam Expense</b>				
Engineering			6,251.25	
<b>Dam Totals</b>	\$ 36,964.21	\$ 815.00	\$ 6,251.25	\$ 31,527.96
<b>Totals</b>	\$ 119,700.17	\$ 122,901.53	\$ 136,093.54	\$ 106,508.16

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Board, and we're sure all members, want to welcome the following new families and businesses who have moved to our wonderful lake during the past year. We encourage all members to get to know your new neighbors, so that we all can have a better community.

Bennett  
Carlson  
Connor  
Coppola  
Donnelly  
Filipiak  
Frosty's Ice Cream Creamery  
Glenn  
Harrison  
Herndon  
Hughes  
Huske  
Kenny  
Mayes  
Steinaway  
Sieniarecki  
Sew Successful Inc.  
Taraskavage  
Vinnakota  
Ward  
Wilkins

**“Thick and blue,  
tried and true.  
Thin and crispy,  
way too risky.”**

Remember this rule of thumb about the condition of ice when considering venturing out on the ice. Always remember that ice is never really 100% safe. No matter how thick the ice, there is always some risk to going out on the ice.

## Please Slow Down!

The speed limit for most of the roads in the Rush Lake area is 25 mph but very few people seem to observe that speed limit. A number of members have expressed concerns over the speeding that seems to be commonplace on our roads. People seem to have forgotten that we have children walking on our roads and we all need to be extra cautious to avoid a tragedy. It has been recommended that if we do observe someone speeding to get a description of the vehicle and driver along with the license plate number and report it to the police. The police won't be able to ticket someone based on your report but if enough people call, the police will be more likely to investigate the complaints. So, please, if you do see someone continually causing a dangerous situation in our neighborhood, don't hesitate to report them.



## Lock Your Vehicle!

Hamburg Township Police recommend that all members be sure to lock their vehicles and their homes. It is also wise to not leave valuables in your vehicles, or at least make sure they are out of sight. Members can help prevent these theft crimes by keeping an eye out. If you should see anything out of the ordinary, please call 911.



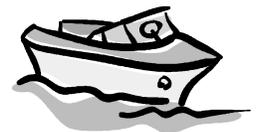
## Sign Up Today!

Nowadays, almost all of us use the internet and email. As you know your Board relies on these services virtually every day. We are able to make your life easier by permitting you to receive both your newsletters and your annual dues statement by email. Also, if you wish, we will email important updates, reminders, and developments as they arise.

Also, members that use this paperless newsletter service are saving the Association mailing costs, which are substantial for such a large association.

If you wish any of these services, please contact the Clerk at 734-878-03450.

## Get Ready For Summer!



The Livingston County Sheriff's Department will be offering three free boating classes this spring. The only cost is a \$10 fee to obtain a state certificate, if you choose to do so.

As yet, the class dates have not been set, but that will be done in the near future.. Contact the Sheriff's Department at 517-546-2440. for information.

# Hypothermia

When your body temperature falls below normal, hypothermia occurs, which can be serious. To avoid hypothermia:

- protect yourself from wind
- keep yourself hydrated
- wear warm clothing, including a hat and gloves or mittens
- stay dry
- do not leave your skin exposed for long periods of time
- take care with areas most affected by hypothermia, nose, ears, fingers, cheeks and toes.

Symptoms include slurred speech, confusion, loss of coordination, apathy and irrational behavior.

# Elderly Neighbors

Be sure and keep an extra eye on your elderly neighbors during the winter season. With the snow and ice, it may be difficult for them to get around and they may need a helping hand. And with the cold weather, you might not see them around as much as you would in the warmer weather. It is always good to check to make sure everything is okay or if they should need something.

# Mailbox Areas Need To Be Cleared

Just a reminder -- it is the homeowner's responsibility to keep the area in front of their mailbox cleared of snow and ice. The Association is responsible for the maintenance of the area roads, but each property owner must maintain the area directly in front of their mailbox.

During the winter, the roads will be plowed or sanded as needed but each property owner must take care to assure the mail carrier has clear access to their mailbox. Mail delivery will be terminated if the boxes are not kept accessible.



**Amazing as it may seem, snow is not actually white but clear! Snow is made up of billions of tiny, clear ice crystals. These crystals act as prisms, breaking up the light into the entire spectrum of color. The human eye is not able to handle that kind of sensory overload so it sees the snow as white, which is the combination of all colors.**



# Boat Launch Keys Have Been Deactivated

All boat launch keys have been deactivated and will be activated when your account balance is paid in full. Please keep in mind, that although we will activate your key as soon as we receive your payment, we do not get the mail every day. During the busiest part of the season we check the post office box at least twice a week with one visit being on Thursday afternoon. Please be sure if you want your key for the weekend that your payment is in the post office box by noon Thursday. Payments are only accepted through the mail or at meetings.

If you have not received a key in the past, you may request one at any time. A key will be sent to you and if you still have an account balance, it will not be active. As soon as your account is paid in full, the key will be activated.

If you have lost your key, for \$15.00, we will provide a replacement. Although these keys are nearly indestructible, if yours should break, return the pieces and we will replace it at no charge.

If you purchased property in the Association and the previous owner left you the key, please include a note with your payment. We do not automatically activate keys in these circumstances until we are certain the new owner is in possession of this key.

If you have any questions, please call the Association hotline 734-878-0340.



**Rush Lake Property Owners  
Association**

**P.O. Box 78  
Pinckney, Michigan 48169**

**Stamp**

**Annual Dues  
Statement Inside**

**Mailing Label**

**Annual Dues Statement!**

**Your annual dues statement  
is enclosed. Payment is due  
upon receipt.**

**If you have any questions,  
please call 734 878-0340 or  
email at  
rushlakepoa@yahoo.com**

**Credit Cards**

**Please keep in mind that the  
Association does not have the ability to  
accept credit cards. Only checks,  
money orders, or cash are acceptable.  
And payments are only accepted  
through the mail or at meetings.**

**Be sure  
to see the front  
page of the newsletter  
for an important article on  
the new website.**

**No Parking**

**Please remember  
cleared area next  
launch gate at**



**that the  
to the boat  
Hillside Park  
is for parents to park while waiting for the  
school bus. During the winter, the parents  
need a safe area to park and wait for their  
children. Please keep this area open for them**