



2017
THREE LAKES ASSOCIATION
51ST ANNUAL MEETING

AUGUST 24, 2017

5 – 9 P.M.

NORRIS-FIELDS FARM
5860 AARWOOD RD NW
RAPID CITY, MI 49676

Featuring a presentation by Linda E. Greer, Ph.D.
“Mercury in our Fish: A Global Threat
with a New Global Solution in Hand”

Three Lakes Association
2017 Annual Meeting Agenda

August 24, 2017
5 – 9 p.m.

- I. Gathering – 5:00 p.m.
- II. Dinner – 6:00 p.m.
- III. Business Meeting – 6:45 p.m.
 - a. Approval of Minutes of Annual Meeting 2016
 - b. Reception of Treasurer’s Financial Report for 2016
 - c. Election of Board Members
 - d. Ratification of Actions of the Board
- IV. Program – 7:00 p.m.
 - Presentation by Linda E. Greer, Ph.D., Director – U of M Biological Station
 - “Mercury in our Fish: A Global Threat with a New Global Solution in Hand”
- V. Adjournment – 9:00 p.m.

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Greetings from the President

August 24, 2017

Fifty-one years ago, a small group of concerned, environmentally conscientious, citizens, began the work that we carry on today. We are the ones who now wear the mantel, and we shoulder the responsibility of stewardship for the health of our waters and our land. Thank you all for being part of that worthy effort.

This evening, we gather to look back over the year just past, and look forward to the coming season. Included in this document are a few of the accomplishments of the past year, as well as a peek at the projects that remain in progress.

The minutes of last year's meeting are presented for your approval, as is the financial report for 2016.

We also acknowledge those who have willingly served on the TLA board during the past year.

Finally, we offer a special Thank You to those whose generosity allows us to expand our capacity to carry out this all-important stewardship.

Please enjoy socializing with one another, perhaps playing a round of Croquet or Corn Hole Toss, electing your board for the coming year, and sharing a meal together – followed by a very informative presentation, by Dr. Linda Greer, on Mercury in our Fish.

With gratitude,
Tina

Three Lakes Association
50th Annual Meeting – August 11, 2016

For this 50th annual meeting of the Three Lakes Association, the celebration was held in the Bellaire Room of the Shanty Creek Resort. Sign-in and social hour began at 5:30 pm, with appetizers, cocktails, display booths, silent auction, and photo opportunities in Ed Gourley's classic bright red 1965 Mercury Parklane convertible. Dinner was at 6:45 pm, served "family-style," simulating a 1960s summer picnic menu: fried chicken, ribs, green beans, corn on the cob, bakes potato, and salad, with pie for dessert. The food was excellent.

At 7:30 pm, our guest speakers, Bill Weiss and Tom & Casey Clement, respectively, presented a look back on the last fifty years and thoughts on moving forward for the next fifty years. It was worth noting that several of the suggestions that Tom and Casey offered echoed ideas that had been offered by other TLA members earlier, and tried, but with little success at the time. It appears that the right time has come to try those ideas again. For example, bringing environmental education events into the school classrooms. We have long thought this was a good idea, but we have lacked the tools for implementing it.

Call to Order:

President Tina Fields called the business part of the 50th annual membership meeting of the Three Lakes Association to order at 8:00 p.m.

Executive Director Report:

Executive Director Leslie Meyers gave her report on the activities of the past year, and presented this year's interns to the gathering. The high school interns are Donn Stone, John Sabins, and Hailey Casillas; Rachael Horn is a college intern, serving as an advisor; Kyle Russell is a former high school intern who has returned to us for three years and is serving as an advisor.

Leslie recognized the co-chairs of the event: Sandy Gourley and Cheryl Lynn Fields, without whose dedication and hard work this event could not have taken place. She also recognized our administrative assistant Lois MacLean, who keeps our routines running smoothly. As Leslie commented, it is worthy to acknowledge those who make our work possible.

Approval of Preceding Year's Annual Meeting Minutes:

MOTION Made by KC Babb and seconded by Cheryl Lynn Fields to approve the minutes of the 2015 annual meeting of the Three Lakes Association. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer's report was included in the commemorative booklet given to each person attending.

MOTION Made by Cheryl Lynn Fields and seconded by Rick Doornbos, to receive the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

Election of Officers and Board of directors:

The proposed slate of candidates was placed on every table. President Fields read the names of the nominated candidates and called any nominations from the floor. There were no further nominations.

TLA Annual Meeting Minutes of August 11, 2016

The candidates standing for election are as follows:

Two-year terms ending in 2018

President.....Tina Norris Fields
SecretaryNancy Hanson
Zone A (Clearwater)Cheryl Lynn Fields
Zone B (Milton)Rick Doornbos
Zone C (Torch Lake)Steve Laurenz
Zone D (Central Lake)Todd Collins
Zone E (Forest Home)Phil Weiss
Zone F (Helena)Bonnie Robbins
Zone G (Custer)Bethany Hawkins
Zone H (Kearney)Duane Drake
Directors at Large:Norton Bretz, Becky Norris, Patricia Roush

One-year terms, fulfilling unexpired terms ending in 2017

Zone B (Milton)Debbie Craig
Zone G (Custer)Mike Bertram
Director at LargeMarge Drouillard

MOTION Made by KC Babb and seconded by Judy Oswald, to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate of candidates for officers and directors as presented by the nominating committee. Motion carried.

Announcing the Winners of the Silent Auction

Following the election of the Officers and Directors, the winners were announced for the items of the silent auction and also of the competition to guess the number of goldfish crackers in the container. The winner of that competition received a Naturopoly game and a special gift of a blue hand-painted TLA jacket that had belonged to Martin Hilby, and was donated to the celebration by his daughter Lucy McArtor.

Adjournment:

As we adjourned, Driecka Bloom was recognized for being a fifty-year member of the Three Lakes Association. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Norris Fields
President & Secretary pro tempore

**THREE LAKES ASSOCIATION
INCOME STATEMENT (UNAUDITED)**

	December 31, 2016			2015
	Operating Fund	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
Revenue:				
Memberships	27,520	6,000	33,520	25,830
Contributions	21,334	540	21,874	21,906
Grants	-	6,568	6,568	8,134
Fund Raising Events	-	928	928	246
Other Revenue	181	-	181	120
Releases From Restrictions	12,124	(12,124)	-	-
Investment Income	8,424	-	8,424	12,401
TOTAL REVENUE	69,583	1,912	71,495	68,637
Expenses				
Program Expenses:				
Water Quality	23,875	-	23,875	18,508
Education	11,012	-	11,012	14,136
Membership and Other	6,129	-	6,129	6,059
Total Program Expense	41,015	-	41,015	38,702
Administrative Expenses	32,303	-	32,303	26,090
TOTAL EXPENSES	73,317	-	73,318	64,792
NET INCOME (LOSS)	(3,734)	1,912	(1,823)	3,845
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	99,118	118,555	217,672	232,829
Gain on Investments	11,668	-	11,668	(19,002)
ENDING FUND BALANCE	107,052	120,467	227,517	217,672

**THREE LAKES ASSOCIATION
INCOME STATEMENT (UNAUDITED)**

	June 30, 2017			2016
	Operating Fund	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
Revenue:				
Memberships	12,860	2,000	14,860	15,380
Contributions	20,154	1,175	21,329	20,340
Grants	-	-	-	-
Fund Raising Events	-	-	-	-
Other Revenue	60	-	60	57
Releases From Restrictions	8,448	(8,448)	-	-
Investment Income	3,481	-	3,481	3,734
TOTAL REVENUE	45,003	(5,273)	39,730	39,511
Expenses				
Program Expenses:				
Water Quality	6,661	-	6,661	12,570
Education	10,034	-	10,034	5,521
Membership and Other	2,861	-	2,861	3,318
Total Program Expense	19,556	-	19,556	21,409
Administrative Expenses	11,547	-	11,547	14,271
TOTAL EXPENSES	31,103	-	31,103	35,680
NET INCOME (LOSS)	13,901	(5,273)	8,627	3,831
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	107,052	120,467	227,517	217,672
Gains on Investments	7,709	-	7,709	7,168
ENDING FUND BALANCE	128,662	115,194	243,854	228,672

A Few of TLA's Accomplishments for 2016

1. **Fish Shelters Project:** We wrapped up this 5-year project in the fall of 2016 with the installation of a final set of fish shelters in Torch Lake. Each of the 80 authorized sites on the five participating lakes (Intermediate, Bellaire, Clam, Torch, and Elk) received two or three hand-made fish shelters; wood crates filled with brush, or slab trees, which significantly increased the fish habitat. Many thanks to dozens of volunteers and discounted commercial contributions.
2. **TCE Plume:** For the last 12 years TLA has been the catalyst for an informal group of stakeholders (Antrim County United Through Ecology = ACUTE) to engage the community and units of government regarding the funding for two construction projects to shield the Mancelona public water system from TCE contamination. The construction projects were based on multiple consensus-building meetings with the lead engineering firm, DEQ, the Mancelona public water system, and area stakeholder organizations. The two projects were installing a connecting water main & pressure pumps, and building a large storage tank so the Cedar River Well Field can be pumped slowly from a deep aquifer. Additional construction projects may be needed by 2024 or 2025.
3. **Large Woody Debris Project:** In response to TLA's multi-year investigations of sedimentation in Grass River, a collaborative pilot project was cosponsored with TLA, the County, and several private firms to determine if strategically placed Large Woody Debris structures (secured whole trees) could redirect enough of the river current toward the main channel to scour some of the accumulated sediment from the channel, and to encourage the depositing of some sediment downstream of the structures. This is a slow process, but preliminary findings indicate some success. TLA purchased new laser-based survey equipment to more accurately measure changes in the river channel.
4. **Golden Brown benthic Algae:** TLA is blazing a research trail to determine the root causes of this benthic algae (assemblages of diatoms) growth on the near-shore rocks and sand around most, if not all, lakes in NW Michigan. Based on a viable hypothesis suggested by an MSU professor, TLA is coordinating a collaborative project this summer with volunteers and funds from TLA, Elk-Skegemog Lakes Association, Lake Leelanau Lake Association, and Torch Lake Protective Alliance to track the monthly trend in soluble reactive phosphorus in the groundwater. A decreasing concentration of this critical nutrient during the summer would be consistent with this hypothesis, i.e. that the naturally occurring diatoms growing in sand start growing on sand & rocks in response to their consumption of too much of the available phosphorus just below the near-shore lake bottom. Samples of groundwater are being collected using dialysis bags filled with distilled water and then analyzed at U of M's Biological Res. Station in Pellston.

Thanks to the Board members who served 2016-2017

Officers:

President – Tina Norris Fields
Vice President – Fred Sittel
Treasurer – Ed Gourley
Secretary – Nancy Hanson

Directors at Large:

Norton Bretz
Becky Norris
Patricia Roush
KC Babb
Stanley Dole
Marge Drouillard
Art Hoadley

Zone Directors:

Zone A [Clearwater] – Cheryl Lynn Fields & Tina Norris Fields
Zone B [Milton] – Debbie Craig and Rick Doornbos
Zone C [Torch Lake] – Arlene Westhoven and ****Vacancy****
Zone D [Central Lake] – Todd Collins and Steve Laurenz
Zone E [Forest Home] – Fred Sittel and Phil Weiss
Zone F [Helena] – Bonnie Robbins and Nancy Hanson
Zone G [Custer] – Bethany Hawkins and Mike Bertram
Zone H [Kearney] – Duane Drake and Ann McClelland

Committee Chairs:

Water Quality – Becky Norris
Education – Patricia Roush
Lake Monitoring – Duane Drake
Water Safety – Art Hoadley
Membership – Todd Collins
Public Relations – KC Babb
Finance – Ed Gourley
Bylaws – Tina Norris Fields
Grants - ****Vacancy****

Executive Director: Leslie Meyers

Office Assistant: Lois MacLean



A Special Thank You to Our High-Level Donors and Life Members

Over \$1,000

*Richard J. Bingham
Norton & Mary Lee Bretz*

\$501 to \$1,000

*Rebecca M. Norris, M.D.
Leonard & Karen Franseen
Caroline & T.A. Jacob, Jr.*

\$200 to \$500

*Margaret & Brad Baxter
Virginia Griffis
Richard & Connie Claar
Ralph & Euphemia Kondal
H. Peter & Suzanne Keller
Michael & Sharon Root
Michael & Mary Haley
Lysle & Agneta Johnston
Hugh & Janice McDiarmid
Edward R. McDuffie
Charles & Judith Stuart*

Life Members

*Willis G. Ashby
Richard J. and Susan Bingham
Reg & Ann Bird
Mr. & Mrs. J.A. Blanchard, III
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John & Marianne Boukamp
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Susan Sarin
Albert & Amelia Scaglione
Carl Schiele
Dr. John N. Sheagren
Todd & Jennifer Stone
Charles & Chris Ward*

The Three Lakes Association is supported primarily by the contributions of its members. We are deeply grateful for those members who are able and willing to contribute more than the basic membership amount. Your generosity expands the capability of TLA to pursue its mission to provide leadership to preserve, protect, and improve the environmental quality of the Elk River Chain of Lakes Watershed for all generations with emphasis on Lake Bellaire, Clam Lake, Torch Lake and their tributaries.