

# Alligator and Inspiration

*It's All About the Water*



• Summer 2018 •

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## From Our President, Bill Witler



### Greetings from Glen Lake

Ice is out, finally! Our Water Quality Committee and volunteers are already on the chilly waters conducting the first of many tests to measure, record and compare results with other Michigan lakes and our own

prior year records. To no surprise to our dedicated members, ALL of our lakes rank above average to our peers and show stable or improving trends.

A brief update of our 2018 initiatives starts with Swimmer's Itch control and research. Consistent with our multi-year strategy, we will begin trapping and relocating common merganser ducks with our own boat, nets and staff utilizing new MDNR site and contractor permits, a major and welcomed expansion of regulatory permission. We will share our capabilities with Lime and Lake Leelanau. On the verge of achieving independence and great economics in this 'control' effort, we have not turned our backs on 'research'. GLA will join other Leelanau County lakes in "Project '18" a multi-faceted research project that we expect to lead to even more effective and efficient control practices in the years ahead. We need your help in recording SI incidents using the new SI button on the GLA website.

In late June, we will receive our first planned report from consultant Tony Graves regarding our Watershed Protection Plan multi-year project encompassing a review, recommendations and phased implementation of 'best practices' for local township zoning and ordinances focused on protecting the ground and surface waters within the Glen Lake Watershed. This is a collaboration with Kasson, Empire and Glen Arbor Township leadership.

We are pleased to launch an updated Guardian program featuring Trish Denton serving as our ambassador to promote education of what riparian/shore landers and up landers can do to protect our water quality. 170 people joined this program in 2015 by pledging to maintain and adopt self-selected best practices. Please stay tuned for your opportunity to participate.

We appreciate your financial support and your Association remains sound with good liquidity and a fully funded operating budget for 2018. PLEASE ATTEND OUR ANNUAL MEETING at 10:00AM, Saturday, August 11 at the Glen Lake Community Church. Please bring neighbors and friends who are not yet GLA members. Many have said that this meeting is our best recruiting tool as it illustrates the depth and breadth of what we do to protect our beautiful water resources.

Have a great summer and see you on the water.

GLEN LAKE ASSOCIATION • 1

# Karner's Korner



It is my prediction that the summer of 2018 will be a great swimming season with respect to significant reduction of Swimmer's Itch. Let's hope that we have a nice long season of warm weather and warm water to swim in to test my theory. By live trapping and relocating 99 mergansers on Glen Lake last summer, it should set the stage for my predictions to come true. But the fight to reduce Swimmer's Itch even further is ever before us. We are dealing with a living system. With all living systems there are always twists and turns in the life cycles of three living species involved, namely, common merganser (the warm blooded host of the parasite), Stagnicola snails (the cold blooded host) and the actual parasite that causes the itch (a microscopic flatworm).

To further reduce Swimmer's Itch for the summer of 2019 and beyond will require repeated live trapping and relocating common mergansers. This activity breaks the life cycle of the parasite. The nice part of this is that we do not have to kill mergansers and we do not have to kill snails - we just kill the parasite! Thankfully, we now have a brand new state permit to manage our Swimmer's Itch. So, this summer we will be using this permit and furthermore, it will be the first time we will have our very own GLA merganser trapping crew. In addition, we will be using a special watercraft, new trapping nets, and a trained trapping crew to do the control work. With all this new equipment and crew, we will be doing control work on our neighboring lakes (Lime and Lake Leelanau).

As good as all of this sounds, we still have much work to do. So this summer, in addition to Swimmer's Itch control work, we will embark upon additional research that will further help our understanding in reducing Swimmer's Itch and managing future control costs. I am happy to report that the GLA will join Lime Lake and Lake Leelanau in a research program called "Project 18". There will be four main components of this summer's research led by Freshwater Solutions, LLC owner Ron Reimink and his research team.

This research will be greatly enhanced by collaborating scientists who are recognized as the best in their field. Dr. Patrick Hanington

(University of Alberta) is Canada's leading Swimmer's Itch expert and a world leader in applying new molecular technology, specifically qPCR (quantitative polymerase chain reaction), to battling schistosomes (worms/parasites). Also joining the team will be Dr. Sara Brant (University of New Mexico) to collaborate on the multi-lake research and assessment. Dr. Brant is the manager of the world's largest and most diverse collection of itch parasites and the host snails that harbor itch parasites.

The first component of this year's research will be to include many Northern Michigan Lakes in a research and assessment initiative. For the first time, we will have comparative data on Swimmer's Itch from other lakes! In addition, GLA will receive a water collection kit and training to self-monitor our "worm count" and compare it to other lakes. All collection protocols will have a standard procedure to ensure the accuracy and comparability of the data. Also, by participating in this multi-lake assessment project, we may possibly receive a National Science Foundation grant to continue research for 2019 and beyond.

The second part of "Project 18" will be to develop and refine new water tests that will allow GLA to discover whether we have more than one parasite species that contributes to Swimmer's Itch. If there are more than one species we will want to be able to quantify each species (there are three species that contribute to Swimmer's Itch with their unique host species different than mergansers and Stagnicola snails). The value of this research will be to have a first-time ever water test that will quickly tell us how one or more life cycles of one or more parasites are playing out in our water. Each species of parasite would call for a different control strategy from simply live trapping and relocating common mergansers. The results of this research will be applicable to bodies of water across North America!

The third component of "Project 18" will be to continue the research from 2017 on Glen Lake as it relates to "hot spots". This project will address circumstances where whole-lake infection levels are greatly reduced but there are (or may be???) certain "hot spots" that

...continued



## Karner's Korner, continued

persist. So alternative control options will be developed and may be ready as options to specific riparians as early as 2019. An example of alternative options will include creating "itch-free" segments of shoreline for periods of time for itch-free swimming. Should we say that riparians may be able to create "itch free" zones?

The fourth component of "Project '18" will focus on many unanswered questions about Swimmer's Itch despite the volume of research that has been done over the past 100 years. With the recent development of qPCR (worm counter), new opportunities to answer basic questions can now be realized. Examples of issues for research include but not limited to how itch is affected by stirring up the bottom, affects of wind driven itch, depth of water related to the risk of getting

the itch, and influences of inlets like Hatlem Creek and Brooks Lake with incoming itch. In summary, I am excited for the upcoming summer and beyond. We are in a great position to have a consistent plan for Swimmer's Itch control by combining the new MDNR permit and our newly acquired resources. I am also proud of the financial commitment and leadership role the GLA will again play in the ongoing research needed for further strides in our understanding of Swimmer's Itch including the new and powerful tool of qPCR.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Karner



## Become A Glen Lake Guardian

Two years ago we launched an exciting new initiative called the Glen Lake Guardian Program, aimed at informing and engaging people to protect our surface and ground water. You may have seen the bumper stickers around town from one of our nearly 170 Guardians. Here is your chance to get your sticker and proclaim your love for and commitment to protecting our waters!

We at the GLA have renewed our dedication to this important program and now we are asking you to do the same. Become a Guardian and show your personal commitment to protecting the Glen Lake and Crystal River Watershed. The program is free and anyone can participate – individuals, businesses, schools and even governments. If you are an up-to-date Guardian, thank you! If not, please consider re-enrolling and furthering your commitment to protect our unparalleled and irreplaceable Glen Lake waters.

To help lead our campaign, we've brought on our first Glen Lake Guardian Ambassador, Tricia Denton. We're excited for Tricia to inform and engage everyone who wants to protect and preserve our waters for future generations. Plan to hear more about her soon. We'll be connecting with current and future Guardians through email, Facebook, the GLA website, meetings, special events and much more. Help spread the word as we strive to more than double the number of Guardians this year!

You can take action to become a Glen Lake Guardian today! Spend 15 minutes taking an informative survey about watershed protection at [www.mishorelandstewards.com](http://www.mishorelandstewards.com). Be sure to register and you will automatically qualify as a Guardian!

For more information on the Guardian program, please contact our Ambassador, Tricia Denton, at 231.313.0359 or email [GlenLakeGuardians@gmail.com](mailto:GlenLakeGuardians@gmail.com). Tricia can help you create your individualized path to become a Guardian. With each of us doing our part, big or small, the Guardian Program will be successful in protecting our waters now and for future generations.

See you on the water,

Rob Karner, Watershed Biologist

Glen Lake Association

[rkarner@leelanau.org](mailto:rkarner@leelanau.org)





# Glen Lake Association Annual Meeting

## Saturday August 11, 10:00 AM

### Informative Educational Topics

The Glen Lake Association (GLA) Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, August 11th, 2018 at the Glen Lake Community Reformed Church, 4902 W. MacFarlane Rd., Glen Arbor. The meeting will begin at 10:00 A.M. with educational sessions, followed by the State of the Lake report and member recognition awards. Lunch will be provided for all attendees immediately following the meeting.

Educational topics will include a Swimmer's Itch update by GLA lake biologist, Rob Karner, the Glen Lake Watershed Guardian Program overview and introduction of our new on-staff Ambassador Tricia Denton, plus opportunities for members to make an impact through GLA involvement.

Also at the meeting, members will have the opportunity to vote for new Board members who are filling vacancies for terms that have expired or those seeking a second term. A Nominating Committee has identified qualified members and made their recommendations for the available positions. The GLA appreciates your participation on this important matter.

The GLA encourages you to bring a friend or neighbor, particularly someone who has never attended the Annual Meeting. Free tree seedlings will be available for all attendees.

For additional information, contact the Glen Lake Association office at (231) 334-7645 or visit [www.glenlakeassociation.org](http://www.glenlakeassociation.org).



## Election of Glen Lake Association Directors

We are fortunate this year to consider four incumbent Directors for reelection. While unusual to not introduce any new candidates (because three of these candidates filled interim terms due to resignations), it will provide great momentum without a needed orientation. The candidates include the following:

**Ranae Ihme** – Ranae, standing for her second three year term, is a valuable contributor to our Membership Committee, the Watershed Protection Project Task Force and a consistent liaison with our business community.

**Tom Dutmers** – Tom is running for his first three year term after serving the final two years of a prior vacancy. Tom serves as Co-Chair of the Membership Committee and has championed several enhancements to our membership structure, communication and recruitment.

**Lori Lyman** – Lori is running for her first three year term after also serving a two year partial term. Lori immediately filled the duties of the Board Secretary in addition to co-chairing the Development Committee and leading several initiatives including an update of the website and co-leading the upcoming, redesigned "Guardian" program.

**Edward Lanphier** – Edward is running for his first three year term after filling a vacancy for the past year. Edward has served on the Swimmer's Itch Task Force for several years before becoming a Director where he continues in that role in addition to the Water Quality Committee and the Water Protection Project Task Force.

Please vote your approval of these talented and dedicated volunteers at the August 11, 2018 Annual Meeting.

Peter Anderson, Chairman of the Nominating Committee

Bill Wilter, GLA President and Board Liaison to the Nominating Committee



# Our New Glen Lake Guardian Ambassador

**Name and Occupation:** Tricia Denton, Guardian Program Ambassador

**You live in Leelanau because?** There isn't a better more beautiful place to live, work, raise a family and be part of the community.

**What accomplishments are you the most proud of?**

Finding a way to live HERE, building a home for my family, and being of service to my community.

**What Interests you about your new position?** Getting to know more of my neighbors, working together to protect and preserve our precious waters.

**Why should we care about the Guardian Program?** WATER, we all depend on it for our very survival. The Guardian Program is all about discovering and making a commitment to take actions that will ensure we can continue to have this necessary resource, to live and enjoy it for generations to come. Protecting the watershed ...drop by drop, takes all of us doing our part.

**If you could change one thing in the Glen Lake/Crystal River Watershed it would be?** For everyone who lives, works, and plays here to know what a Guardian is --- and then become one.

**What keeps you awake at night?** People not having enough of what they need: good information, adequate resources, and HOPE.

**Favorite place in the County:** Anywhere I can see or be on or in the WATER!

**If you had more time you would:** Try to do even more to help connect people with what they need.

**Words that best describe you are:** Determined, insightful, sensitive, intelligent, curious, consensus builder, idealist and advocate.

**If you could trade places with one person, who would it be and why:** Rob Karner. Seriously, nobody knows more about the watershed than Rob, 20+ years on the water and counting. And his uncanny ability to identify and foster learning opportunities and connect people is something to behold!

**Share something most people wouldn't know about you:** I was a National Aeronautics and Space Administration Graduate Research Fellow through Langley Research Center and based in Yellowstone National Park the summer that wolves were reintroduced there. I got to develop mapping techniques for stream systems that were used to monitor change. Ever see the video "How Wolves Changed a River"? I'm also a former Olympic class women's archery record holder and I sing tenor in the Leelanau Community Choir. Oh, and I am passionate about anything water related, but I think everyone already knows that!



## Please Report Cases of Swimmer's Itch

The GLA, led by Rob Karner, has invested considerable resources in the Swimmer's Itch battle. We hope to see a considerable reduction in cases this summer, but we know there will be some. And that's where we need your help.

Should you, a family member, or household guest contract a case of the itch, we want to know about it! We have made the reporting process easier for you by placing a link for reporting Swimmer's Itch on the home page of the GLA website. The link is in the left-hand column on the home page below Webcam & Weather and Lake Stats. Scroll down and you will see a big blue button that will take

you to a form to fill out with details of the case. Be sure to click on Send Report at the bottom of the form.

Rob always stresses the need for good data when doing science. The data you provide will help Rob identify any "hot spots" and provide valuable information for further itch prevention efforts and research.

If you prefer, you can email details of a Swimmer's Itch case to [glenlakeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:glenlakeassociation@gmail.com) or phone us at (231) 334-7645.

Thanks!



# Membership and Voting

Enclosed in your printed copy of this Newsletter you will find a complimentary window cling sticker that identifies you as a Glen Lake Association member. We encourage you to display this, perhaps on a car window or house door window. If you have requested to not receive a paper copy of the Newsletter, you can pick up your free sticker at the Annual Meeting. The sticker is intended to be applied on the inside of a window, facing out.

We want to thank all of you who have already paid your annual dues for 2018. In fact, more memberships have paid this year by April than in previous years. Your dues allow us to fulfill our mission. Of the 601 current memberships, 427 have paid their dues as of 5/3/2018. Please take a look at the label on this Newsletter to confirm if you have paid your dues for 2018. If not, please go online ([www.glenlakeassociation.org](http://www.glenlakeassociation.org)) and click on “Renew Your Membership” under the Membership Login menu item. Alternatively, you can mail a check to the Glen Lake Association at P.O. Box 551, Glen Arbor, MI 49636. Your dues must be paid by July 27 for your vote to be counted at the annual meeting, per our By-Laws

If you are eligible to vote, a proxy card is included in this Newsletter. You may fill it out and return it via US Mail, or you may vote online at: <https://gla.wildapricot.org/event-2919822> (or login, click on events, and then click on the “Vote for Board of Directors” event). We encourage online voting as it simplifies our record keeping.

In reviewing our By-Laws, it has come to the attention of the Board of Directors that the By-Laws clearly allow for only one vote for each riparian property or condominium association, even if the property has multiple memberships associated with it. If your property has multiple memberships associated with it, only one membership is allowed to vote and only one proxy is being sent for your property. If you have any questions, please contact one of the membership Co-Chairs: Corinne Cochran, Tom Dutmers or Dale DeJager.

All Glen Lake Association Legends are invited to a reception at Dunns Farm on Thursday, June 28, from 4:00 – 6:00 PM. You will enjoy food and beverage, while receiving an update on current Association events from President Bill Witle and Lake Biologist Rob Karner. Our local historian will also be with us to share a few entertaining stories.

“Legends” are individuals who have chosen to provide for the long-term financial health of the organization by including the GLA in their estate plan. If you would like to consider the prospect and reward of becoming a Legend and ensuring that the beauty of Glen Lake we have enjoyed in our lifetime will continue for many future generations, please contact one of the Co-Chairs of the Development Committee – Lori Lyman, 847-220-1473 or Bruce Alton, 202-262-8250.



**Calling All  
Legends!**



In  
Memorium

Jamie Haley  
Richard “Dick” Schilling  
Elizabeth Ware  
Elva Witle

# 2018 Discovery Boat Registration Now Open

Registration for the GLA's 2018 Discovery Boat cruises is now open to the public! Plan a memorable outing to enjoy a scenic, summertime cruise while also learning about the wonder of our freshwater lakes.

Schedule the date and time that works for you at the GLA Events page. Go to [GlenLakeAssociation.org](http://GlenLakeAssociation.org) and chose *Sign Up for Events* on the dropdown menu at *Member Login* at the top of the page These cruises sell out each year so act now to make your plans to enjoy a Discovery Boat cruise with your friends and family – and they'll thank you for it!

Join the Glen Lake Association's Watershed Biologist, Rob Karner, on a pontoon boat for a two hour scientific study of Glen Lake. Using various scientific equipment, students learn all about plankton, water chemistry, Swimmer's Itch life cycle, hydrology, bottom sediments, aquatic succession, and aquatic plants.

Also learn about and see a plankton net, a compound microscope, Ekman Dredge, sonar devices, aqua view underwater camera, and the hydrolab.

*Note: Children under 5 years not allowed. Children 5-10 years must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. If possible, please bring life jackets for children.*

Download the liability release form, which is required for all participants, at the Events page before you register. Registration price is per person. Please add additional people in your group as "Guests" under the primary registration.

The GLA reserves the right to cancel due to weather conditions. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to starting time.

We look forward to having you and sharing our love of Glen Lake!

It's going to be a great summer.



## Your GLA Board and Committee Chairs

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### OFFICERS

Bill Witler	President
David Hayes	Vice President
Lori Lyman	Secretary
David Herr	Treasurer

#### DIRECTORS

Corinne Cochran	Cal Killen
Dale DeJager	Edward Lanphier
Tom Dutmers	Bill Meserve
Ranae Ihme	Vic Peirce

Watershed Biologist  
Rob Karner

### GLEN LAKE ASSOCIATION OFFICE

Sallyanne Morris - Office Manager

P.O. Box 551

231-334-7645

Fax 231-334-7470

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Auxiliary  
Development  
Finance & Investment  
Fisheries, Wildlife,  
Recreation & Water Safety  
Guardian Program

Historian  
Long Range Planning  
Membership & Records

Newsletter  
Nominating  
Public Relations  
Technology  
Water Level  
Water Quality  
Web Site

Joan Kramps  
Lori Lyman, Bruce Alton  
David Herr

John DePuy  
Corinne Cochran  
Lori Lyman

Joan Kramps  
Jim Dutmers  
Corinne Cochran  
Dale DeJager  
Tom Dutmers

Susanne Meserve  
Peter Anderson  
Vic Peirce  
Cal Killen  
Bill Meserve  
Andy DuPont  
Vic Peirce

### GLEN LAKE ASSOCIATION WEB SITE

- [www.glenlakeassociation.org](http://www.glenlakeassociation.org)
- email: [glenlakeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:glenlakeassociation@gmail.com)



**ANNUAL MEETING**  
**Saturday, August 11, 10 AM**  
(see page 4 for details)

**Discovery Boat cruises still available! Go to our website: [www.glenlakeassociation.org](http://www.glenlakeassociation.org)**

Below are our Business Plus Members who help us in our efforts to protect our extraordinary resources. Please thank them by doing business with them.



Anderson's Market

Art's Tavern

Becky Thatcher  
Designs

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Cherry  
Republic, Inc.

Coldwell Banker  
Schmidt Realtors

Crystal River  
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Dorsey's on  
Glen Lake

Funistrada

Glen Arbor  
Property, LLC

\* Glen Craft Marina  
& Resort Inc.

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Good Harbor Grill

Leelanau Vacation  
Rentals

Northwoods  
Hardware

Riverfront Pizza  
and Deli

Stenback  
Builders, Inc.

Sportsman Shop

\* A special thank you  
for donating their  
resources to the GLA