



BARLOW LAKE

Michigan

Where proper attire is required

Barlow Buzz



Hey Barlow Lakers

It is hard to believe that another summer's end is upon us. It seems just like yesterday we were putting in our docks and boats in anticipation of summer!

Barlow Lake is a special place that I truly treasure and seeing so many people at the spring meeting shows me that I am not alone in that feeling. It was one of the biggest turnouts that we have had in my 10 years on the lake!

We've added Barlow gear to show your Barlow Pride in addition to the annual calendar. Proceeds from these and other events go back into the association.

We have seen the Paddle Poker Run and the Venetian boat parade become an annual tradition on the lake and we are always looking for additional opportunities to have fun and meet more neighbors!

A big thank you to all of the volunteers that devote their time to supporting the lake, we couldn't do it without you!

It is an honor and privilege to represent Barlow Lake.

Ryan

Association Vice President

Thank You!

**To our awesome volunteers
and committee members!**

President - Rick Gannon
Vice President - Ryan Asbury
Secretary - Marilyn Wagner
Treasurer - Lori Ritter
Fireworks - Earl Krol
Boat Parade - Joan Lutke
Buoys - Roger Offringa
Fishing Program - Mike & Bradley
 Moerman, Dale DeYoung,
 Jared Nichols & Alan Hooker
YMCA Camp Day - YMCA staff
Newsletter - Karen Hale
Water Testing - Alan & Cindy Hooker
Welcome Committee -
 Wendy Loveless, chair
Paddle Poker Run - Linda Bensyl,
 Barb Martin & Gloria Pitsch
Venetian Parade - Sherri DeVries

Check our website @
barlowlakemi.com
 for additional
 information and updates!

2023

BOAT PARADE

HUGE
Thank You

to all who participated in the
2023 4th of July Boat Parade!

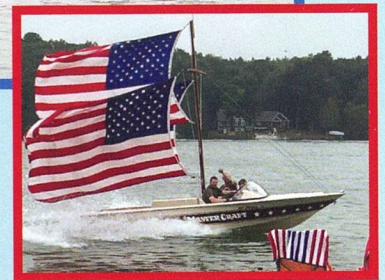
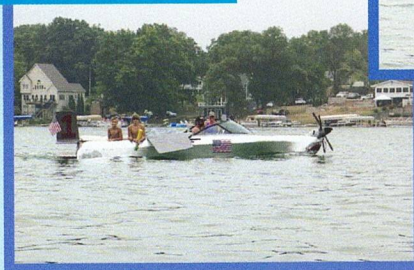
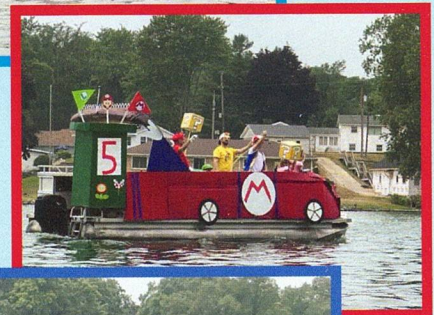
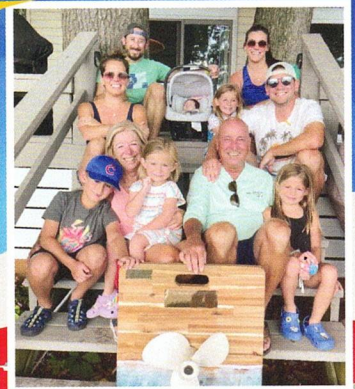
Tons of fun was had by all both in the parade and watching from shore.

The Dressander family has a long standing involvement in the parade and once again has claimed the trophy with their Mario Brothers themed pontoon.

Patty Dressander has a picture of herself in the parade with her grandparents when she was 8 years old!

She and Ron have continued this family tradition with their children and now grandchildren. Their grandchildren have full involvement in choosing the theme and decorating the pontoon!

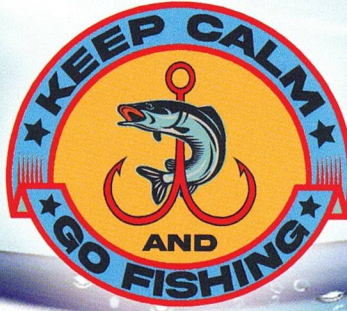
Honorable Mention goes to Ben & Jen Potgeter and sons, who took a very close 2nd with creativity and hard work to turn their ski boat into a World War 2 P 51 Mustang!



2024 Boat Parade Theme: "CARTOONS "

Join the fun and start thinking now about how to turn your pontoon, ski boat or fishing boat into a cartoon!

GONE FISHING on Barlow Lake



The Barlow Lake 2023 Fishing Contest winners will be announced in the Spring 2024 newsletter. Prepare your lines for the 2024 Contest that runs from Labor Day to Memorial Day!

Keep the photos and catch details coming to:
Mike Moerman at mikemoerman@aol.com or 269-986-4689.

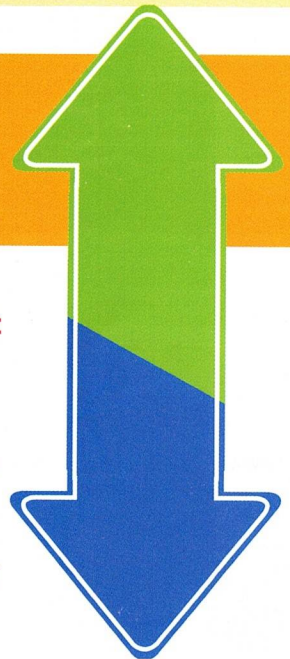
“This Low” Or “This High”



There is a common conversation when you live on a lake... **“I’ve never seen it this low”** or **“I’ve never seen it this high”** referring to lake water levels.

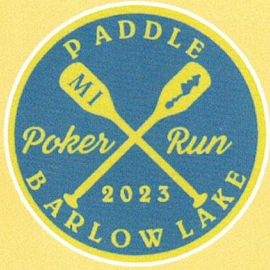
Which got our Barlow Lake resident John Trygier, who lives in Area 5, thinking what is a “normal” lake level. So for almost 2 years now John has been tracking and recording the lake level, monitoring the amount of rain fall, temperature and number of sunny days, reviewing water levels at the Bowens Mill Dam and reviewing other lake level impact events. John estimates it may take up to 5 years to see possible trending patterns.

Over time, John hopes to be able to say “the lake goes up and the lake goes down” with actual data he has been recording. We enjoy reading his lake level updates on the Barlow Lake FB page! Thank you, John for taking time to gather data and share how much the lake levels can change over time with significant changes from rain events, temperatures and other potential impacts to the lake level.



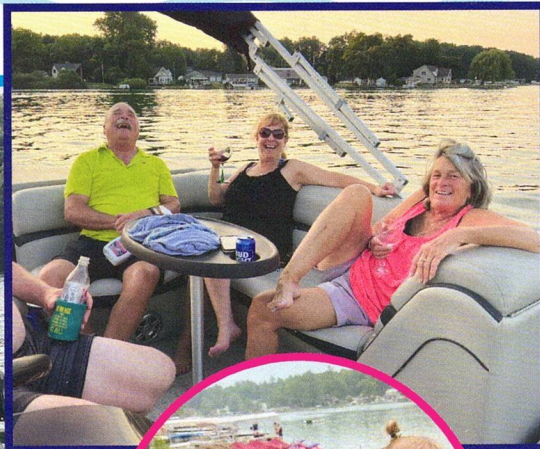
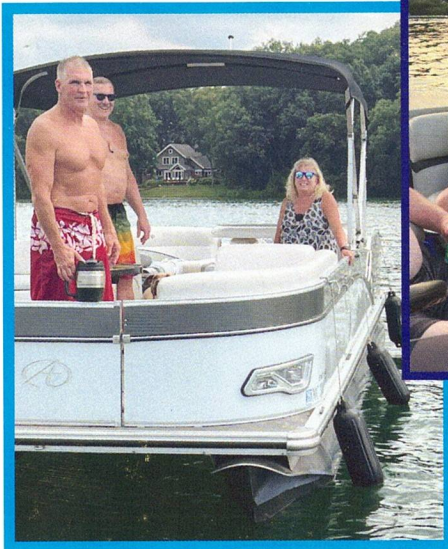
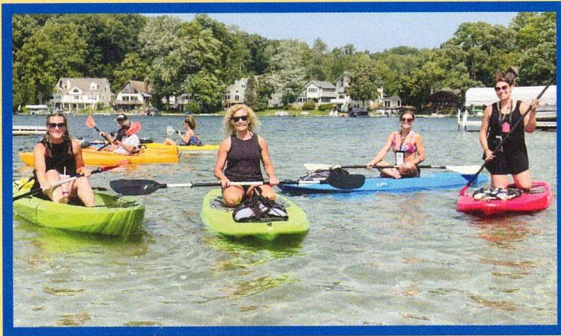
Summer

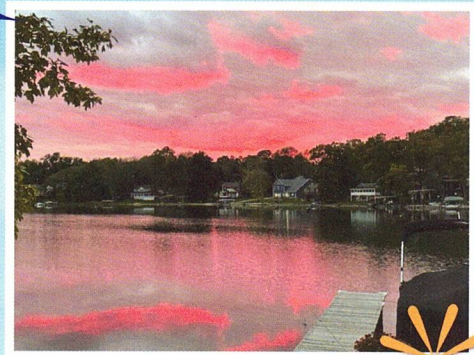
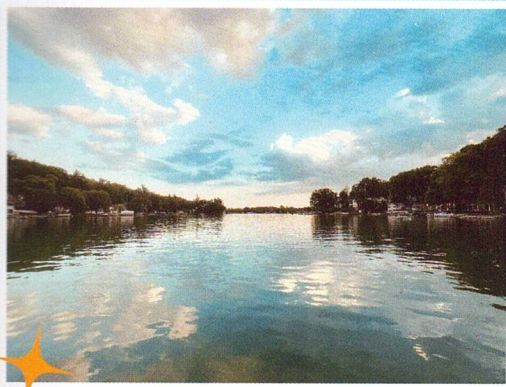
On Barlow Lake



PADDLE POKER RUN 2023

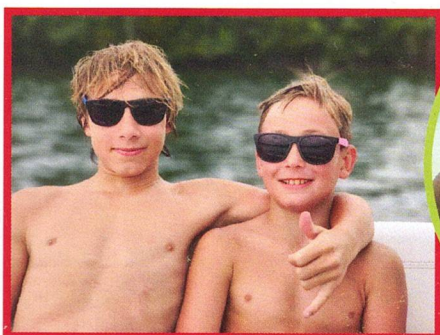
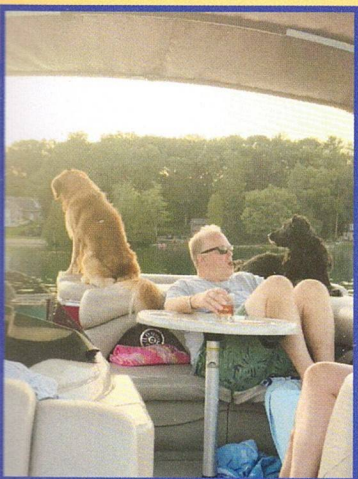
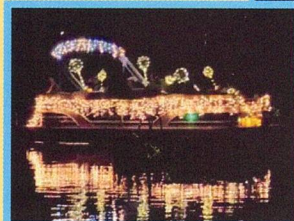
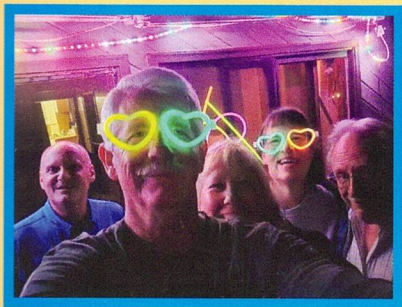
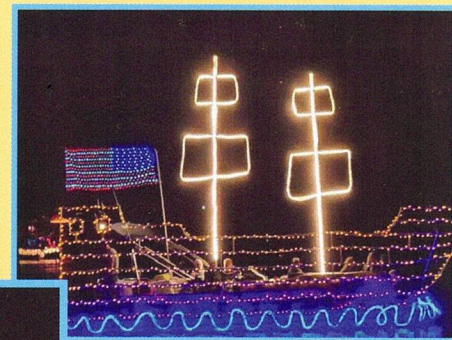
is in the books with 49 paddlers making their way around Barlow to stop and pick up cards for the best poker hand. A huge shout out to The Y-Camp for the use of their beach and bathrooms PLUS the table sponsors – Thirsty Buddy, Premier Boating Sports, Yankee Springs Golf/Blue Wagyu, Tom’s Meat Market, Harrison Marine, Chicago Beef Joint, Yankee Bills and Geckobrand’s Water Proof Accessories!! Such beautiful weather, so much fun and such great prizes!

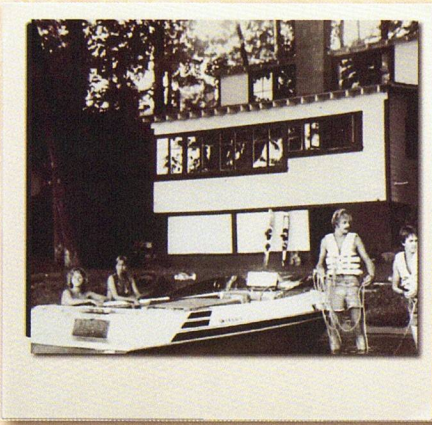




LIGHT UP THE NIGHT - VENETIAN BOAT PARADE

A shout out to those who were in the 2nd Venetian Boat – Light Up the Night Parade. What a fun event from both the water or shore! So great to see families getting involved and making memories at Barlow Lake!





In 1925, at just 17 years old, Ray Tuer bought property on Barlow Lake. That property would become a family cottage. Ray would marry and have three children (Bob, Katie and Tom) with grand children to follow. Like so many families on the lake, the cottage became an important part of their

family's summer tradition. In fact, four generations of the family have created amazing memories on this water.

At just 2 months old, Terri Duff, Katie's daughter and the first grandchild (Ray's favorite - his words, not mine) had her first introduction to Barlow Lake. Her uncle dipped her feet in the lake marking the beginning of Terri's connection to this place/ this water.

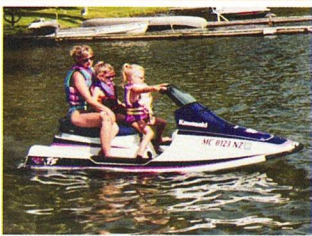
As children, Terri and her 2 brothers (Jim and Mike) spent whole weeks in the summer at the cottage with Grandma and Grandpa Tuer. Grandpa would drop them off, go home to his job in the city and join them on the weekends. Imagine: no phone, no TV, no distractions, just a row boat, a canoe and a lake to explore, friends to make and comic books to read. In these early days Terri remembers her grandpa waking her up to sit with him in a lawn chair simply watching the lake and learning the bird calls. That memory still brings a smile to her face and a tear to her eye.

During one of those visits, at just 10 years old Terri proclaimed, "I need to live here when I grow up."

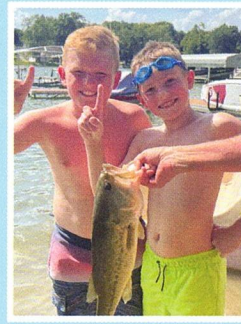
Hanging on the raft with friends was a typical 70s/80s summer day.



And so it was, in 1986 Terri bought the family cottage and began renovation to a year round home. Her daughter Katie, 4th generation was born and raised on Barlow Lake with stories and memories of her own.



Multiple changes to the property have taken place, but changes to her love of the lake never have. A wonderful community of friends, neighbors, family and the water make this a special place to call home.



The Workman's (Bob and Kim) first fell in love with Barlow lake the summer of 2015 when they rented a vacation home on the south end of the lake. It was instantly a family "lake love affair" for sure. Their sons and families loved it so much here they returned

to the rental every year until... November of 2021 they moved from their lifetime home in Grandville to their home on Barlow Lake in the same neighborhood they had come to enjoy for so many years.

New memories are in the making. The grandkids love to fish and swim. Kim said, "Visitors marvel at the color and clarity of our water." They have been overwhelmed by the kindness of their neighbors, the events on the lake and the beautiful views that just don't stop, winter, summer, spring, or fall. They agree, "Gods blessings have been overwhelming."

Kim said, "The road to home never gets old. There is a spot, where I get a glimpse of the lake and my heart is full, I'm home." Many of us can relate to that.

A final word of wisdom. If you are ever at a potluck and Kim has brought a dessert - push people aside if you have to, (hee,hee) to get a piece. She loves to bake and you can taste her love in every bite!

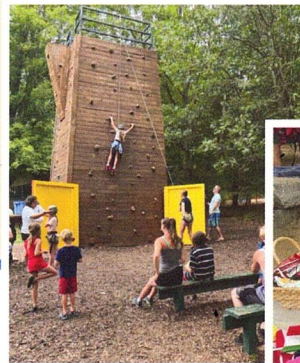
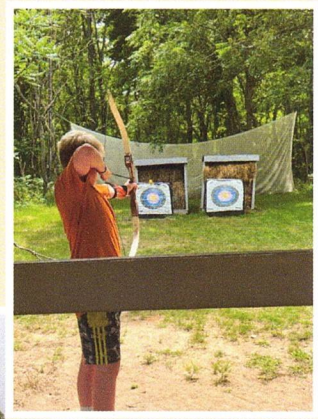
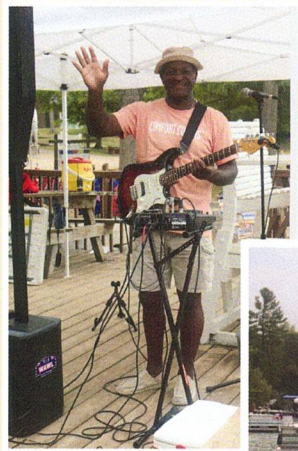


Bob and Kim discovered a sister lake to Barlow while on vacation last year- Lake Annecy .. " It had the same allure, color, clarity and shape as our beautiful Barlow Lake! How special is that, to know our precious Barlow lake in Michigan is just as pretty and beautiful as a mountain lake in France !!

the Camp Day

This year's 2nd Annual YMCA Camp Day was a huge success! Not only did we have great weather on August 5th, we also had 15-20 anchored boats. Over 200 residents along with family and friends swam up, walked up and drove up to enjoy a fun-filled day exploring the camp, doing fun activities, enjoying snacks and slushies, swimming and playing on the inflatable rafts, and meeting new people all while enjoying the beautiful place we are lucky enough to call home. Lew Russ, once again entertained us on the deck with some great music! We are excited to do this again next year. Thanks to our volunteers and the YMCA staff who helped make this a fantastic day!

**See you again next year -
Saturday, August 3rd from 2-5 pm!**



Bunco



Hello, Ladies....

It's time to start thinking about Bunco again! If you didn't get a chance to join us last fall/winter I hope it works out for you this fall.

It's a really fun way to meet people and make some new friends! We play the 3rd Thursday of the month. Starting date and more details will be posted on the Barlow Lake Facebook page.

**Check our website @
barlowlakemi.com
for additional
information and updates!**

Palmer Drive Block Party

Six years ago, a group of ten people on Palmer Drive had an idea of getting everyone on Palmer Drive together for a fun day of food and games. Jump forward to 2023, and we are still getting together for a Saturday afternoon in July. Lives get busy but our group of 40-50 people now plan on this fun filled annual tradition.



Written By Paula Bruinslot

Birds on Barlow Lake



Have you noticed a few new birds that seem to want to live here at Barlow Lake?

Specifically, a couple of black birds—one that soars and one that swims. The large black birds with the bald red heads are common “turkey vultures”, which are actually classified as raptors (kind of like a dinosaur, kids!). The good news is, these large, soaring birds do not kill for their next meal but only eat carrion (dead stuff) In fact, their heads are featherless so that they don’t get sick from all the “junk food” they stick their heads into! The not so good news, as we have seen on Barlow, is they like to roost in larger numbers.

Vultures are protected birds, so what do you do if they become a nuisance? Scaring them off is the best plan of attack. You can make noise, spray water, and hang balloons or flags in the area. Vultures fear owls, so getting owl decoys that you can easily move may help. Removing dead branches and trees is suggested to reduce their roosting options near your home. Another option, though a bit macabre in nature, is to hang a dead vulture effigy near where they roost. What do you say, it’s almost Halloween...just call it décor!

The swimming black birds are Cormorants, a sea bird that has migrated to Michigan. These birds are similar to the loons we see and hear from time to time, but these super fishing birds are not beneficial to Barlow. Cormorants are invasive birds that will create competition on our lake for other bird species and reduce overall fish population and fish variety if left undeterred. The Cormorants can swallow a nine-inch fish in one bite and have been known to decimate young fish populations causing serious decline in future years. These birds are also protected by law: however, special permits are available to reduce numbers where necessary.

Consider discouraging Cormorants from beginning to colonize on your property at Barlow Lake. Reduce their nesting options where possible and install bird spikes or a bird spider (which looks like a large wire spider). You can also use the same methods mentioned above for scaring off these birds, but you won’t need to hang fake birds in your trees, this time!

By: *Brenda Holtrop*



**The Perfect Place to Relax,
Unwind, and Savor a Night Out.**

Lounge ♦ Four Season Deck ♦ Outdoor Patio

Enjoy a unique dining experience with family & friends featuring hand-crafted cocktails, tantalizing shareables, wood-fired pizza, artisanal charcuterie boards, and expressive entrées.

Private Parties ♦ Weekly Specials ♦ Hand-Crafted Cocktails ♦ Live Entertainment

12850 W. M 179 Highway Wayland, Michigan 49348
Phone: 269-397-1210 ♦ ThirstyBuddyGunLake.com

Follow Us:

