

## STATE OF THE LAKE 2006

The past twelve months have been very busy for our Lake Columbia Property Owners Association. Our lake community continues to grow. There are 840 lakefront lots and now about 730 of those have homes. We have 1,340 off-lake lots and now about 569 of these have homes. The majority of our homeowners now live here year round. We estimate our community's population at about 4,500.

Our Association owns and maintains 16 parks. 9 of these have boat ramps.

The water quality of our lake is always one of the Board's top priorities. Last year the Board hired a well-known firm and committed to a five-year plan. This spring is a critical time in this plan and they began spraying the lake the week of April 16<sup>th</sup>. Everything is proceeding on time.

The 8 bathhouses and office have all been connected to the sewer system. We ask all our members to be observant of the parks during this summer and report any suspicious activities or vandalism to the Columbia police and the office. We have added two more docks to help in launching your boats.

We reported two years ago that the Columbia Supervisors had made a decision to tax all our Association's parks. This totaled about \$60,000.00 per year. The Board chose to challenge this and hired a tax specialty firm to represent us. We are excited to report that we negotiated a settlement and our parks have been taken off the tax rolls.

There are no other pending legal matters at this time.

The privacy or security of our lake is very important and difficult because of the number of parks and lake access. We continue to have our roving security patrols and need the co-operation of all members who launch their boats to lock the chains when they leave the ramp.

Our financial condition will continue to improve and we will be developing long-term strategic plans to continue to improve our parks, water purity, fish stocking, etc. A copy of our financials is available today and on a monthly basis at the office. Our financials are compiled by Randy Purvis of the firm, Drake, Waters and Associates.

We are trying to grow our community activities and Trish O'Shea and her committee are planning some great activities for this year. We encourage you to get involved by calling the office.

The Board has streamlined many functions of your office staff and encourages all the members to be involved in building our Association and Lake Columbia into the premier community in mid-Michigan. Our strength is our commitment!

On behalf of the Board and your Association members, thank you for attending today's meeting.