

## A Message from The LBAPOA Board President Karl-Rainer Hermann:

### **Dear Fellow Association Members,**

A happy and prosperous New Year to all of you with, hopefully, peace in the world.

I am sure you all had a wonderful Festive Season celebrating Christmas with family and friends.

The last year had your Board kept busy with mainly the communication and motivation of the EGLE (Environment Great Lakes and Energy Dept.) authorities in Lansing to obtain permission for dredging. Finally, *we obtained the permit and under the capable supervision of project chairperson Gerry Brown, Inlet # 2 and #3 were dredged and landscaped before the winter.* Let us hope the grass will be growing in spring. We all are grateful for Gerry's seven-year leadership in getting most of the lake inlets navigable for the respective lot owners, thank you, Gerry.

We had a constructive Annual General Meeting and **two new Board members were voted for and then inducted by the Board: Sue Surducan was re-elected as Vice-President and Mark Rodemeyer as a new Director on the Board.** See our website [www.lakebelair.org](http://www.lakebelair.org)

It is interesting and very positive that **eleven new families have moved to the lake in 2025** and thus became new members. They were welcomed heartily by our chairperson, Vice-President Sue Surducan, who advised them on all lake issues and made them feel



appreciated to our lake community; thank you, Sue.

The Board's next objective is the dredging of Inlet#1, the main inlet from Beebe Creek, a large area which has developed into a silt

and sediment "muck" area since the construction of this lake in 1965. These sediments have been moving into the main body of the lake, have reduced its depth by more than half and are endangering the lakes sustained existence. This planned project, firstly, depends on the permitting by the EGLE authorities and, secondly, is a costly undertaking. For this, we will need the full support of the membership and every lot owner. We will keep you informed on next steps.

As allowed in our Bylaws, the Board decided to increase the annual membership fees by about five percent, for which you will receive invoices before end January. Please read the comments below of our secretary concerning your connection addresses.

Lastly, we still need volunteers to organize the Annual Fishing Tournament in June, so please, fishermen or others come forward and connect with a Board member.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank all of you for your support in the past and I wish you a good start of the year 2026,

Sincerely,  
**Karl-Rainer Hermann(President  
LBAPOA)**

## A message from LBAPOA Board Treasurer Laurie Mickiewicz...

The Board is actively trying to keep the contact information for all members current, so if your information has changed, please let us know. It is the beginning of another year, and that means the Association will be sending out assessments. In fact, when you read this you may have already received yours. Since we have been able to resume dredging, the Board has decided to continue the 5 year dredging assessment that we skipped last year. Thank you in advance for your payment.

## **Who loves a garage sale?**

Do you have extra fishing tackle, dock bumpers, grills, jet-skis, linens or coffee mugs piling up in the spare room or garage?

Then you'll want to make sure to take part in the upcoming **Lake Bel-Air Garage Sale**, being organized by some Northview Court residents, coming sometime in May or June. **The dates have not yet been decided**, but the sale will be a Friday through Sunday. Your choice to participate everyday or just the days you would like.

Start getting your excess treasures together now, for others to re-home! Updates will be posted to keep everyone updated and we hope many owners will participate!



**A funny thing happened on Dawn Drive back in October 2025, as a couple of mischievous cows wandered away from their barn in search of greener pastures.**

**To their bovine delight, they were spotted by kind-hearted LBA neighbors Dan and Suzy Cislo.**

**The Cislos' quick thinking led them to grab a coffee can of corn to entice the curious duo. With gentle shakes and some smooth talking, the Cislos were able to woo the large farm animals and eventually corral them into a nearby fenced-in yard. The animals' relieved owner was then able to retrieve them, no worse for the wear!**



## Reminder of a very important issue, where we need cooperation from all LBAPOA Members/Lot owners:

**EGLE** has emphasized that "shoreline management work" needs to be implemented, if we want them to grant permission for navigational dredging needs in future. We would ask all of you to consider some of the following practical, environmental steps to carry out on your lots, in order to avoid the deterioration of shore lines and the spreading of detrimental organisms into the lake:

- Do not blow or rake leaves or debris into the lake. Control your lawn contractor!
- Consider emptying your septic system annually, if it is situated towards the lake. Thus, drain fields are not affected with overflows.
- Do not spray fertilizer or weed control chemicals near your shoreline.
- Plant native plants above existing seawall to avoid soil erosion.

There are some more comments with guidance advice for "buffer zones" to be found in these links:

- [Find Native Plants - Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership](#)
- [Low Energy BioEngineering Illustration \(michigan.gov\)](#)
- And here is a Youtube video with more information on buffer zones...<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I9bjN7xvb2Q&t=57s>

## **Most recent Lake Bel-Air Water Quality....**

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### Conclusions

- Minimum dissolved oxygen is adequate for good fish production.
- pH is within acceptable limits.
- Sample is somewhat nutrient (N and P) enriched. Adopt appropriate lakeshore landscaping and lawn care practices.
- No remedial action recommended at this time.
- REPEAT LakeCheck NEXT YEAR!

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- WARNING. condition requires immediate attention.
- CAUTION. condition requires further evaluation.
- OK. condition within acceptable limits.
- NEUTRAL. condition neither good nor bad.

The PLM Lake & Land Management Corp. results from the September of 2025 samples taken at Lake Bel-Air are in @ [www.lakebelair.org](http://www.lakebelair.org)

## Want to build at Lake Bel-Air?

Before you plan any renovations or building, make sure you know the LBAPOA by-laws, restrictions and regulations!

All information on building can be found in your covenant, and in the by-laws and regulations on our website [www.lakebelair.org](http://www.lakebelair.org).

For questions and permits contact the **LBAPOA Building Committee Chair:**  
**Neil Bendixen:** 517-287-5093

## Here's your 2026 LBAPOA Board and how you can reach us!

LBAPOA email address:  
[LAKEBELAIRPOA@gmail.com](mailto:LAKEBELAIRPOA@gmail.com)

**President:** Karl-Rainer Hermann:  
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**Director:** Melissa Tacolla  
**Director:** Mark Rodemeyer



Please check the Lake Bel-Air Association Web Site [www.lakebelair.org](http://www.lakebelair.org) for LBAPOA Board Meeting Minutes, by-laws, regulations and building requirements, newsletters and updates to lake activities and events as they become available!

This photo is posted on the Lake Bel-Air Facebook page, photo credited to Alex Ignagni.

