

Murray Lake Association Monthly Newsletter

The Murray Lake Association was founded to develop civic and community interest among owners and residents around our lake. The board represents the MLA Members.

Issue: July 2026

Message from the President

The Fourth of July fireworks lit up the sky and reminded us why our lake community is such a special place. Thank you Shane Risner and his team for delivering a spectacular show. The positive feedback from residents says it all!

A special shout-out also goes to Tonja Bogema for organizing the kid's parade. Between the fire truck, ice cream truck, and smiling faces, it was a perfect reminder that some traditions never get old.

But summer isn't over yet! Mark your calendars for two more great lake events:

Poker Run – August 1

Flotilla – August 29

These are wonderful opportunities to meet neighbors, make memories, and enjoy everything summer on the lake has to offer.

While we're soaking up the summer sunshine, we are already planning a fun fall lineup, see the Upcoming Events section.

Although we won't be holding Oktoberfest this year, we do have another exciting fall event in the works. So, mark your calendar for November 7th and wait for the August newsletter to learn more!

Thank you to everyone who helps make our lake community such a great place to live. Enjoy the rest of your summer, have fun, and please stay safe on the water!

Upcoming Events

Date/Time	Event	Location
Aug 1st, 1-4pm	Poker Run	Around the Lake
Aug 29th	Flotilla	SW end of the lake
Sep 19th	Kistler Golf Outing	The Links @ Bowen
Oct 17th	Fall Color Paddle	Around the Lake
Oct 31st	Halloween Trick-or-Treat	Murray Lake Neighbors

Contact the MLA Board

Email: murraylakeboard@gmail.com

Website: <https://murraylakeassociation.com/>

Highlights from June-July

Fourth of July weekend brought lots of family and friends out to Murray Lake to enjoy the holiday! We had a great turn out for the kid's parade around Causeway with a mix of bikes, scooters, wagons, and golf carts as well as walkers completing the loop. The lake was packed with boaters and swimmers enjoying the day and the fireworks show the evening was an excellent way to close out the holiday! The community is looking forward to enjoying the great show again next year from Shane Risner and his team! Donations are being accepted for 2027 to ensure we have another great show.

Lake Updates and Information

Lake Info:

The lake level has dropped about 4 inches since spring which is not too bad considering the heat and lack of rain the last few weeks! The lake temperature is currently a lovely 82°F, perfect for swimming.

Education Opportunities:

MDHHS is reminding residents to avoid foam on rivers, lakes, and streams as it can contain harmful substances including PFAS. More info is available here ([link](#)).

Lots of online learning opportunities through the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership. Check out listings for all the upcoming events including seminars on invasive species and microplastics in our water. Details available here ([link](#)).

General Reminders

If you have not yet paid your dues for 2026, please keep your MLA membership active by paying the \$30 fee via cash, check, or online. Dues can be paid online at our website, at any of our events, or by sending payment to our treasurer, Kimberly Burke (11535 Lally).

REQUEST: We are looking for a volunteer to mow the grass around the sewer pump station on Causeway. Thank you to the community members who have supported this work in the past. Please reach out to Alan Rumbaugh (616-915-8597)

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Poker Run

Ahhh Lake Life - Sunshine, friends, boating, beverages and..... Poker. That's right, the annual Poker Run and gift basket raffle is happening on **Saturday, August 1st.**

The **run starts at 1pm and ends at 4pm.** Visit challenge sites via boats, jet ski, kayak, car, etc., to play games and collect your poker chips. All stops will have balloons attached to their docks.

Challenge Sites:

1. Peter & Jamie James - 3831 Causeway (West side of island)
2. Ashley Eilers - 4107 Causeway (Northern point of island)
3. Todd & Tonja Bogema - 4287 Causeway (East side of island)
4. Scott & Shelly Stephens - 11651 Lally St (Cove on Lally & Causeway)

Help is needed: We are looking for additional challenge sites, another poker dealer, and a hot dog grill master. Please contact Neal if you can help (612-963-3111).

After you visit all the sites, come on over to Pat & Cindy Brenk's (4014 Causeway Dr - West side of the island) starting around 3pm. At the Brenk's, you will hand in your chips and take your best shot at drawing the winning hand. If you don't like your hand, you can do a redraw of up to 5 cards for \$10.00. Friends & family can play for \$30/hand.

Payouts for poker hands:

Winning hand

2nd best hand

Worst hand

In addition to playing your poker hand, we have a gift basket raffle. Don't forget to check out the ML Facebook page for raffle prizes. Bring your cash as we do not accept credit card :) This year will be donating 10% of the proceeds to Grattan Township Fire Department.

Flotilla

The **2nd annual flotilla event is planned for Sat afternoon, Aug 29th** at the southwest end of the lake near the marina. There will be music and snacks to enjoy with your neighbors as you link up with other boats for this event! More details will be shared as we get closer to the event.

Kistler Golf Outing

The Kistler's are hosting a **golf outing again on Sep 19th against our neighbors from Crooked Lake.** Last year, Crooked Lake took the crown, but Murray Lake is coming back hungry and ready to reclaim what's theirs! The event will be at The Links at Bowen Lake, with a 9am shotgun start. Cost is \$80/person and registration ends Sep 1st. Text or email Nancy to secure your team's spot: (312) 961-3484 or nancy.kistler00@gmail.com.

Fall Color Paddle

The fall color paddle event is coming back for the 2nd year! The event is planned for **Sat, Oct 17th from 10am-12pm** with a rain date of Sun, Oct 18th. Come out with your kayak, canoe, or paddle board and enjoy the fall colors as we paddle around the lake before enjoying donuts and cider with you neighbors.

Photos of the Month - 4th of July Fun!

