

Loch Alpine Lore

October 2010



Calendar of Events

Loch Alpine Events

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| October 30 | Autumn Gathering |
| October 31 | Trick or Treat 5 p.m - 7 p.m. |
| November 19 | Poinsetta Order deadline |



Garden Club Meeting Dates Inside

Loch Alpine Lore

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Autumn Gathering in Loch Alpine: A new Event!



Autumn is a beautiful time of the year in Loch Alpine.

The fall color reflecting off the lakes, the cool crisp air and the birds gathering for migration are all familiar and welcome sights. It is the perfect time for a gathering.

The Lakes and Social Committees would like to host an autumn activity at the lakes on October 30th. Possible ideas include a "haunted forest" and marshmallow roast. We need neighborhood participation to make such an event possible.

If you are interested in attending or helping organize such an event please email or call:

Joanne McGinnis
jmcginnis4@comcast.net
253-2380



Your email address needed by LAIA

Neighbor, we need your email address if we don't have it already. Timely and efficient communication is vital for important announcements, safety alerts, and to share the e-newsletter of events, information and issues in Loch Alpine. Sending paper notices is wasteful of paper, time, money, gasoline and personal energy. Help us be more effective, more efficient and more sustainable in keeping you informed.

Send your email address to Lynnette Brice, <lynnette.brice@comcast.net>
Your email address will not be published without your approval.

Loch Alpine Play Group

The play group is scheduled to meet on Fridays at 10 AM at the park. Please contact Dara Beck for more information.
424-1540



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Lakes Report: Where We Go from Here?

by Kathie Weinmann and the Lakes Committee

Greenook (the lower) and Bridgeway (the upper) lakes look clear as September winds down. The weather is still lovely for boating, fishing is reported to be "great" and there may still be some days warm enough for swimming. Savin Lakes Services will be our lakes treatment company again next year. They hope to use less herbicide and algaecide, following their success in getting the weed beds under control this summer.

Two Lakes Committee members were fortunate to meet with Huron River Watershed Council officers this summer. We wanted their expert advice on cleaning up our lakes and how to keep them clean. Much of what flows into Boyden Creek comes from farmlands upstream of Loch Alpine, and there is little we can do to control that. But following are some of the practices they suggested L.A. residents adopt to keep the lakes weed and algae-free.

Riparian Buffers

Our focus needs to be on keeping phosphorous and other plant nutrients from getting into the lakes in the first place. One way to do this is to cut back on lawn fertilization or use zero phosphate fertilizers. (Consult the Lakes Committee guidelines posted on the Loch Alpine web site for more information.) Another is to create riparian buffers encircling the lakes and alongside Boyden Creek.

A riparian buffer is a band of trees, shrubs or grasses that keeps runoff – containing fertilizer, motor oil, pet waste, pesticides and the like – from reaching the water. These plants are hungry for the nutrients in the runoff themselves. When rain or snowmelt rushes downhill, the buffer plants soak up all the "bad" stuff, purifying the water before it enters the creek and the lakes.



In turn, algae and waterweeds have less to feed on, and this inhibits their growth. The better our riparian buffers and the less we fertilize, the less we'll have to rely on chemicals (and the less money we'll spend).

The Lakes Committee urges all creek- and lake-side residents to establish riparian buffers at least 10 feet deep (the steeper the slope, the deeper the buffer should be). Some lakeside residents already have them, but for those who do not, please consider adopting the following practices:

- Do not mow the area between the gravel path and the lake, or within 10 feet of the water. Allow whatever grows there naturally to thrive (but make sure it's not an invasive species).
- If you're concerned about plant growth obstructing your view, plant some areas with low-lying shrubs and grasses. Native plants will take root easily and require the least maintenance.
- The City of Ann Arbor has some good suggestions about which natives to plant. Go to (a2gov.org/government/publicservices/fieldoperations/NAP/NativePlants/Pages/NativePlants.aspx). Or take a look at your neighbors' lakeside buffers. Some of them are great!

Finally, the Lakes Committee would like to plant some shoreline-stabilizing grasses and/or shrubs to help filter runoff along some of the common areas around our lakes. Please call Kathie Weinmann (253-2019) or Lois Maharg (424-1088) with ideas about native plants that thrive on steep, shady slopes.

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Lakes Report continued

Rain Barrels

Rainwater pours over roofs and out of downspouts, carrying grit, fertilizers, gasoline and other pollutants into our lakes. However, when it's contained on yards and gardens, storm water is filtered and turns into cleaner ground water before it enters the lakes. Rain barrels can assist in this process, by capturing some of the storm water and keeping it from running directly into the lakes. Later the rainwater can be drawn off and used to water gardens. This lowers water bills and promotes thoughtful gardening. Rain barrels can be purchased commercially for around \$100.00 or less (Lowe's, Builder's Square, online). They can also be built very easily for under \$25.00. Next spring, a member of the Lakes Committee will lead a rain barrel construction workshop! Look for emailed board bulletin and The Lore for date and location.

Boat Storage

Beach boat storage is offered with residency but requires owners' maintenance in the spring and autumn: pull weeds, rake out dead leaves, remove sticks. This is not done by paid grounds workers or volunteers. If you have a boat that you don't want anymore, you may put it up for sale via our website in the classified ads. Be sure to notify the L.A. office if ownership of a boat changes.



Country Club News

by Tony Bonino



Ann Arbor Country Club is continuing to serve food and refreshments at the clubhouse, which is open to the public.

The Ann Arbor Country Club invites you to try our new menu with offerings from our new Executive Chef Lori Shepard of Simply Scrumptious Catering.

RESERVATION SPECIAL: If you make a reservation and dine with us this week -- and mention this special offer -- you will receive a FREE DRINK! Call 426-4693 ext 2 for reservations.

Only the finest, freshest ingredients are used in our scrumptious dishes. Flavorful meats are roasted in-house; we never use preservatives or prepared foods. Delicious desserts are made from scratch!

Specials are offered daily; new items are being added to the reasonably priced menu regularly.

Dinner is served Wednesday-Sunday 4-9 PM. The Pub is open for drinks until 11 PM on Fridays and Saturdays.

Stay tuned for details about our HALLOWEEN celebration!

We are now taking reservations for holiday parties, birthday parties, school events, business meetings, baby/bridal showers, christenings, dinner parties, bar/bat mitzvahs, confirmations, graduation parties, weddings, retirement parties.

Please let us show you our beautiful banquet rooms with panoramic views of the golf course and majestic oak trees. We will make your event extra special!

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All Grown Up

by Nona Credille

This spring's eight cygnets have been whittled down to four nice feathered, flying birds. This morning, Sept. 23, presented a thrilling sight as six large swans flew over Greenook Lake for several minutes. Three of the four fly very well however, there is one runt but he has plenty of time to mature.

This spring the lakes were treated chemically to tame the excessive growth of invasive weeds by a new company and they did a fine job. The lakes looked great but I worried a little as there were ten swans to feed and little visible vegetation. I guess I don't give nature's creatures enough credit for knowing how to survive because they hustled around, traveled to new places, and made do with what we had to offer. The birds matured quickly and will be able to migrate as nature intends.

I googled Lochalpine. Org. in June and saw among the listings, "Washtenaw County Photo Contest Finalists". I clicked and found five selected photos and one was titled "Loch Alpine Swans Have Eight Egrets."



The word should be "cygnet" but the photo (above) was lovely and I don't think Mrs. Egret would mind the misnomer.

Missing!



Have you seen me?

My name is Rosie and I am a blue point Persian. I've been missing from my home on Sunderland Way in Loch Alpine since Wednesday, September 22nd. I have long gray fur and a very small face. I am a bit shy, but very friendly. I am declawed in the front and am blind in my right eye. My family misses me very much and is very worried!

Could you please look for me?
If you find me, please call
424-0067 or 972-1505
Thank you for your help!

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2010-2011 Loch Alpine Garden Club Program

The Loch Alpine Garden Club is a great way to meet new people, encourage civic beautification, and share gardening ideas. Our club donates scholarships to young students interested in horticulture science along with ways to develop and nurture conservation programs in and around our community.

The L.A.G.C. meets the second Monday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

If you would like more information about our club please call Chris Rochman at 734-426-5736 or Judy Gerl at 734-426-2934.

October 11	Techniques on how to properly prune and propagate flowers along with tips to planting fall bulbs will highlight our October meeting.
November 8	This month L.A.G.C. will be making a Harvest Centerpiece. A table arrangement of grains and wheat will celebrate the bounty of fall with a luxurious satin bow! Turkey name tags for your Thanksgiving table will be made to!
December 3	December is our annual Poinsettia Sale Month. Our annual Holiday Pot Luck dinner will be held on December 13th -- this event is always a festive occasion!
January 10	Guest Carol Brodbeck, an Advanced Master Gardener, will instruct us on arranging a dish garden plant w/ tropical foliage. Each will make your own for you to take home!
March 14	Speaker Donald Wild will speak on the care of conifer trees. Donald has 10 yrs. experience @ Hidden Lake Garden-State Botanical Garden and is past president of the Conifer Society.
April 11	As a former science teacher, Gordon Sheill has worked with workshops through the National Geographical Society on wetlands/watershed issues. Gordon will have tips on plants that can capture and absorb storm water in your yard.
May 9	This month is our Clubs annual clean-up of the Loch Alpine Butterfly Garden along with planting annuals. A pot luck lunch follows the planting and clean up.
June 13	We will tour Nancy Berg's wonderful gardens and discuss antique gardening tools. Nancy is a Quester and a long time gardner
July 11	Tour guide Faye Stoner will walk us through beautiful open field habitats and perennial gardens in Ann Arbor's own County Park located on Platt Rd. in Washtenaw County.

DID YOU KNOW?

Funds raised within the Loch Alpine Garden Club serve many needs. For example, the Club donates monies toward school scholarships through the auspices of the WORLD GARDENING organization. Additionally, in the past years our Club has contributed over \$1,000.00 to needy services in our local community. All are welcome!

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Classifieds

The Dexter Art Center is just getting started offering Art classes for Elementary through High School age students.



This is an exciting new venture and includes: Ceramics, Junk to Art, Collage, Art for Home Schoolers, Fun with Fimo, Jewelry, Sculpture, Mosaics, Beadwork, Acrylic Painting, and more!

Classes are scheduled to begin next week We may also be offering adult classes and classes for the senior center.

For more information you can contact:

Rowyn Baker
734-408-1DAC

www.dexterartscenter.org

Yard Care

A retired scientist is seeking help in snow removal and other tasks on his property.

A snow blower, other tools, a fair salary, hot chocolate and cookies are provided. Call 426-2403.

**LNJ Landscape
and
Lawn Care
426-0846**



Loch Alpine Improvement Association Board

Title	Name	E-mail
President	Peter Logan	log4155@comcast.net
Vice President	John Reidel	jr190emb@yahoo.com
Secretary	Joanne McGinnis	jmcginnis4@comcast.net
Treasurer	Lucy Cohen	cohenl@umich.edu
Board Member	Gregg Heidebrink	gregg@wccnet.edu
Board Member	Sandra Stewart	sbstewart100@aol.com
Board Member	Jeff Miller	jmiller@huronvalleyfinancial.com



Loch Alpine Garden Club
2010 POINSETTIA SALE
FLORIST QUALITY PLANTS!

Large original Poinsettia 8 1/2" pot (3 plants per pot) for \$22.00
 Medium Poinsettia 7 1/2" pot (2 plants per pot) for \$15.00

Plants may be picked up on Saturday

December 4th between 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. at the Ann Arbor Country Club.

PLEASE PICK UP NO LATER THAN 1:00 P.M.

TO ORDER

Mail or drop off your check to:
 Kathy Landeck
 4748 Aberdeen Dr.
 Ann Arbor, MI 48103

QUESTIONS?

Call: Kathy Landeck
 426-7741
 Pat Lee
 424-9849

MAKE CHECKS OUT TO: LOCH ALPINE GARDEN CLUB

ORDER DEADLINE: **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2010**

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

INDICATE QUANTITY ORDERED BY COLOR:

RED = LRG _____ MED _____

WHITE = LRG _____ MED _____

PINK = LRG _____ MED _____

BURGANDY = LRG _____ MED _____

JINGLE BELLS (red with pink specks) = LRG _____ MED _____

Total # _____ @ Large \$22.00 each = \$ _____

Total # _____ @ Medium \$15.00 each = \$ _____

Total Amount Due: \$ _____

Hold order I will not be able to pick up on December 4th _____

PART OF THE PROCEEDS FROM THIS SALE WILL BE USED TO BEAUTIFY OUR SURROUNDING COMMUNITY. THE LOCH ALPINE GARDEN CLUB WISHES TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT. HAPPY HOLIDAY'S TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES.