



April 2025

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**KMLA General Meeting Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00**

**Mark your calendar, attend the meeting and to stay up to date**

A Zoom link will be emailed on Friday June 13<sup>th</sup> for remote attendance

Osceola Town Hall-park close to the building or on the east side as this is Dump day

**Active involvement in the Lake Association Meeting empowers you to influence decisions affecting our lake's future. By attending, you gain valuable knowledge about environmental challenges, such as the impact of invasive species on KML**

**Your participation matters!**

*Summer Picnic 2025 Saturday June 28<sup>th</sup>*

*Mike & Stacey Grohall W975 Kettle Moraine Lane*

Boat Parade 1:00 Picnic 2-4 at Grohall's

Meet in front of Grohall's and go clockwise around the lake

Dave & Cindy Katt will donate beer, soda, water and hot dogs

Please bring a dish to pass , your checkbook, cash or Venmo

Park your boat at Mikes pier or park in Rob Lemke's yard

We will have 50/50 raffles and awesome basket raffles

**By participating in this event, you are directly contributing to the preservation of our cherished little gem.**

**Let's make this picnic unforgettable & make a difference for our lake.**

Raffle Donations are needed & appreciated

**Invasive Weed Control**

In the Fall of 2023 KMLA worked closely with the WDNR and Onterra to design a whole lake treatment plan designed to control the Eurasian Watermilfoil. We had hoped this plan would be partially funded with a WDNR grant; however, we were not awarded the grant. In the Spring of 2024 KMLA fully funded the \$80,000 whole lake treatment project. The plan will control the Eurasian Watermilfoil population for 3 years, 2024-2026 with a plan to start again 2027. The weed control process is going as planned and we are seeing the expected results. Our next step is to update the Aquatic Plant Management Plan for our lake. We don't need to update every aspect of the current plan but rather focus on the aquatic plant related aspects. Onterra is working on a formal proposal which will cost approximately \$15,000. If the proposal is approved at the June meeting, Onterra will author a WDNR grant application at no cost to us. Onterra recommends applying for the WDNR grant during the next cycle (fall 2025) to fund the roughly 2-year project beginning in March 2026. We would use the summer of 2025 to design the project and create the foundation for this grant application. This WDNR grant offers a cost share of (67% state share) up to \$10K in funding for this effort. For our lake, the local share may be \$5-\$8K depending on the design of the components. If the grant is approved the condition is that the project will be carried out by Onterra. If the grant is not awarded, we will have no obligation to move forward and we could postpone the project for a year and apply for another grant or move forward without grant funding.

Michelle Harrington, President KMLA

Summer Fundraiser	Income 2024	Expenses 2024
<p>This summer, come together with friends &amp; fellow lake lovers for a special fundraiser at the Tiki Beach Resort. Ryan Menzer, Mike Grohall &amp; Jason Bertram will donate lake oriented items. Raffle Tickets can be purchased at the Tiki Bar over the summer. Buy your tickets, support a great cause and get a chance to win fun lake prizes. Proceeds will go towards invasive weed control on the lake. More information coming at the general meeting.</p>	Donations	\$21,100.00
	Summer Picnic	\$2,355.00
	Refund	\$270.00
	Gun Raffle	\$1,480.00
	Brat Fry	\$345.00
	Chili Cook Off	\$4,450.00
	Logo Wear	<u>\$1,124.00</u>
	Total Income 2024	\$31,124.00
	Alliant	\$332.01
	Liability Insurance	\$2,013.00
Onterra	\$7,249.00	
Tigris	\$73,461.75	
Bank Charge	\$197.75	
Logo Wear	\$674.09	
Annual Report	\$25.00	
Chili Cook Off	\$72.37	
Postage & Newsletter	<u>\$817.29</u>	
Total Expenses 2024	\$84,842.26	

**Winter Aeration**

Thank you Steve Wilke for your diligence in Aeration Testing over the winter months. Steve performs weekly tests on the oxygen levels in the lake to ensure they are maintained at a safe level. He drills holes in the ice at several locations and tests the level of oxygen present. Trees are placed in the holes to mark the testing area. 6 week testing began 1/12/25. Fortunately, this winter the oxygen levels remained high, and aeration was not necessary. This monitor is necessary to ensure proper oxygen levels are present for fish survival. If KMLA stopped testing, we could see fish kill in spring due to lack of oxygen. It is imperative that we continue this testing to ensure a healthy fish population.

Steve is asking for help with testing. Any fishermen that are interested in our lake as a healthy habitat for fish growth should consider helping with this task. If you want to continue to fish our lake, please contact Steve to help us with this important task. This is a relatively easy duty and only requires a few hours each year. You can help impact fishing on our lake in a positive manner. Your help will be genuinely appreciated. Steve Wilke 920.979.1733 Cindy Katt 262.689.1515

**Boat Launch Monitor (Clean Boats Clean Water)**

As many of you know, the DNR established the CBCW (Clean Boats Clean Waters) program to help stop the spread of invasives throughout the state. As we have been battling this problem for years, participation in this program is critical for the future of our lake.

Volunteers conduct watercraft inspections at the boat landing by the Tiki Bar. We need lake residents to volunteer & do their part to help us reach our goal of 240 hours.

Volunteers must be at least 16 years of age. Training is available via YouTube. Dan & Cheryl Rick will oversee this program again this year and a signup sheet will be available online with a Google Calendar. The bin containing the paperwork and forms will be kept in the foyer at Cindy & Dave Katt's house (N3279 Lake Court). Dan & Cheryl will send an email in May with sign up and training information.

In recent years, our organization has received help from grants that subsidized monitoring the boat launch under the Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) program. These grants have played a pivotal role in our efforts to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS) by funding watercraft inspections and educational outreach. However, with the conclusion of our grant funding, we are unable to credit your dues for hours spent at the boat launch.

Finally, if there is anyone on the lake willing to take on oversight of this program, please reach out to Dan and he will walk you through what is involved.

We need your help!

**Goose Control**

Geese have continued to be a source of irritation to many lake residents. In the past, Jim Bertram has coordinated a goose round up with the USDA fish & wildlife to remove geese. Each spring, Joan Kornitz applies for a goose deprecation permit with the DNR which allows KMLA to oil eggs prior to hatching or contract with USDA for a round up.

For many years, Steve Wilke has searched out goose nests and sprayed them with oil to prevent the eggs from hatching.

We will monitor goose families and decide if another round up is warranted for 2025. Date (June or July) is determined by the USDA.

From the Vice President of the KMLA

With the future DNR Grants in question to help with the invasive weeds we deal with in our lake, membership dues are incredibly important to ensure that Kettle Moraine Lake remains navigable in the years to come. We may be tasked with providing 100% of the funding for weed abatement; be it chemical treatments or mechanical harvesting. Both are costly. The board is doing everything they can to procure a grant from the DNR though success may be difficult at best.

While the KMLA has a satisfactory operating balance of funds, this will be quickly diminished if we spend over \$30,000 per year for invasive weed control as we have committed to do over the 2024-27 calendar years. Our fund-raising efforts, including the summer picnic & chili cook off, were strong in 2024. We also had a successful gun raffle at the Coustie Bar and are currently working with the Tiki Bar on future raffles.

It would be great if the fund-raisers generated all of the funds we require but that, unfortunately, is not the case. Yearly dues make up the majority of our operating capital.

My future son in law recently purchased a condo in West Bend. His association dues are over \$200 per month. Our membership of \$100 per year is paltry in comparison. We all have a vested interest in our lake's health. Its condition has a direct impact on the values of our investments but more importantly, we live & play here because we wanted to have the serenity of living on a clean body of water. We need a healthy lake to help maintain our property values and give us the best "backyard" for play & relaxation.

I will be knocking on doors again this year in order to procure funds from everyone on the lake. It is important that we have 100% participation in membership dues and fund-raising activities. Thank You! Rob Lemke

**Establishing a Donation Box and Signage at the Boat Launch: Call for Committee Volunteers**

To help create an uncomplicated support method for our lake preservation efforts, we are forming a committee to oversee the installation of a donation box and accompanying signage at the boat launch. This initiative aims to provide a convenient way for visitors to contribute to the ongoing health and sustainability of our lake expenses.

Please contact Cindy Katt for information on this project.

What a crazy winter! Our lake had a lot of interesting action this year! The weather made for unpredictable ice and not only did the Kettle Moraine Lake Tip Up Extravaganza have to be delayed by a week but we had an ice shanty fall through the ice! Our great team of lake association members pulled together to make sure the area was roped off and made visible so that it was easily avoided and didn't cause any other accidents. It wasn't all bad either, I watched parents, grandparents, and kids enjoy a full season of ice fishing with popups, permanent shanties, and all the gear you can imagine. Those of us that would rather be inside in the winter enjoyed a few super fun evenings of Xtreme Bingo at the Tiki Beach. The ice is gone and I'm really looking forward to the summer season of sun, swimming, and of course, fishing! I can't wait to see you on the lake,

Michelle, President KMLA

**Join Us in Making the Kettle Moraine Lake Association's Chili Cook-Off a Success!**

We are excited to announce our upcoming Chili Cook-Off fundraiser, a fabulous event dedicated to preserving and enhancing the beauty of Kettle Moraine Lake. This gathering not only offers a delightful culinary experience but also plays a crucial role in supporting our lake's health.

**Why Your Participation Matters**

In previous years, the Chili Cook-Off has been a significant contributor to our fundraising efforts. Last year, the event featured 38 entries and raised a record amount of \$4450.00 through raffles, games and sales, thanks to the generosity of participants and donors. These funds are instrumental in initiatives such as invasive weed control and goose population.

To ensure the continued success, we are seeking enthusiastic volunteers for various roles: Event planning & coordination, On-site help at the event and donations of baskets & raffle prizes.

Volunteering for the Chili Cook-Off is a rewarding opportunity to connect with fellow lake members, enjoy delicious food, and contribute meaningfully to the preservation of Kettle Moraine Lake. Whether you have a few hours to spare or can commit to a larger role, your involvement will make a difference.

For more information contact Michelle Harrington or Cindy Katt (Date of the event TBD)

## Free Boat Launch

Great news for members of the **KMLA**! Thanks to a generous agreement with Jason Kowalski at the Tiki Beach Resort, **dues-paid KMLA members can launch their boats for free** at the resort's boat launch.

### Important Details:

- **Who qualifies?** Any member who has paid their annual KMLA dues.
- **Cost to launch:** Free!
- **Trailer parking: Not allowed** for free launch. Please make alternative arrangements for trailer parking unless you pay.
- Tiki Beach Resort has been a strong supporter of our lake community, and this is another way they are helping KMLA members enjoy the water. We ask that all members **respect the resort's rules** to ensure this benefit continues in the future.
  - If you haven't yet paid your KMLA dues for the year, now is a great time to do so!

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See you on the water!

## KMLA Officers & Board Members

PRESIDENT	Michelle Harrington
VICE PRES	Rob Lemke
TREASURER	Laura Mastropolo
SECRETARY	Dan Rick

### Board of Directors

- Jim Bertram
- Jason Kowalski
- Mike Grohall
- Cindy Katt
- David Katt
- Joan Kornitz
- Jeff May
- Ryan Menzer
- Steve Wilke

Jason Kowalski is the new Tiki Beach Resort representative on the Board

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to Lori Wright for her many years of service & dedication to the KMLA board. Your tenure has played a crucial role in fundraising & membership. We know you will continue to be a supporter of KMLA, and we wish you the very best. You will be missed!

## Fish Cribs

As some of you may know, the Long Lake Fishing Association installed a number of fish cribs in their lake this year. Fish cribs are assembled to look similar to a log cabin, filled with brush in order to provide sanctuary for smaller bait fish. These are held in place by a number of cement blocks and are assembled using rebar to hold the shape of the main body of the crib itself.

Drew Wallace, the contact agent for fish & lake structure, was excited to hear that there is interest in installing fish cribs in Kettle Moraine Lake. Fish cribs are considered good structure that provides fishing opportunities for sportsmen. He is inquiring other departments within the DNR to find out if this may help us in future grant requests as the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program does. At the time of this publication, no decision has been relayed to the board.

The cribs themselves are not to exceed an 8' x 8' footprint with a maximum height of 8'. There is also a requirement of at least 5' of water between the top of the crib and the surface of the water. Fish cribs may not be placed within 100' of swimming beaches or swim rafts. The KMLA board has authorized discussion on this matter to be included in the annual meeting in June.

If the vote following discussion permits the board to go forward with further planning and installation of cribs, individual home owners would be asked to give permission for placement directly in front of their shoreline. The cribs will be placed in 14'-16' of water in ensure proper clearance for boating. This means that the cribs will be placed in the eastern end close to the deepest area of the lake.

At this point, the cement blocks & rebar are available to the project from generous donors. Volunteers would be needed in January of 2026 for the assembly of the cribs. The cribs are assembled on the ice and left to fall into place when the ice melts in spring.

Rob Lemke is heading up this project and can be reached at or by stopping in at his house at W985 Kettle Moraine Lane if there are any questions or concerns.