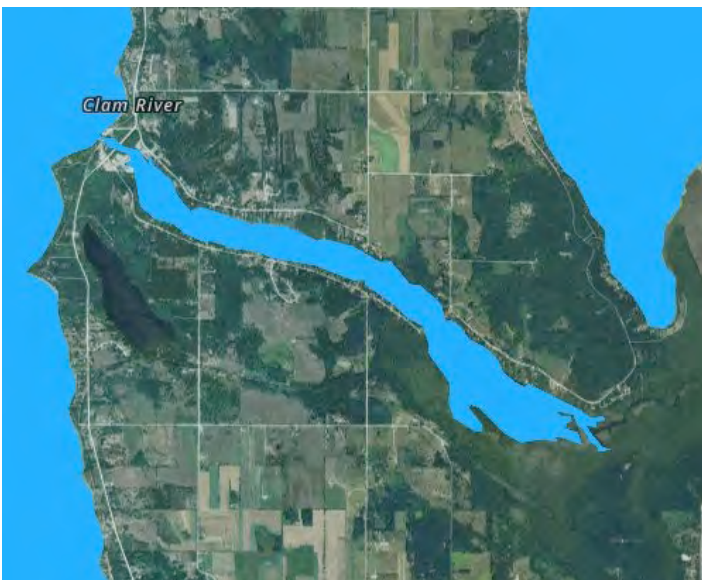


# 54th Annual Meeting



Thursday  
August 6,  
2020  
5 – 6 PM

## Online for the first time!

Annual opportunity for the membership to gather and reaffirm our commitments to water protection.

Featuring a presentation by Jan Stevenson, professor of aquatic and algal ecology at Michigan State university:

**Golden Brown Algae: What do we know?**



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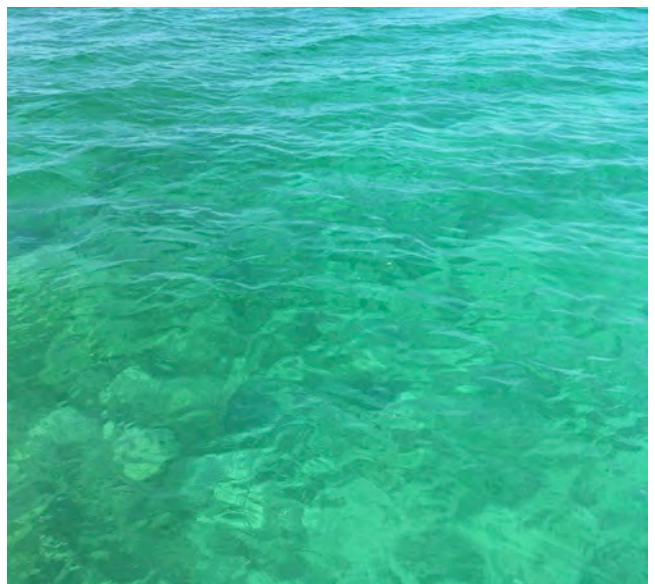
# Introduction to the Annual Report

Being in the midst of a global pandemic has forced us to clarify our priorities and needs. We have had let go of a lot of things that are important to us in order to stay healthy and safe.

One positive outcome is that we have all been reminded of how important it is to enjoy and be near the beauty of the water. TLA has never been more committed to watching the water, protecting it from harm, and promoting responsible riparian and recreational behaviors.

Our dedicated board kept the organization running for much of 2019, until the hiring of our new Executive Director, Jeanie Williams, in October. We look forward to the ways she will guide and support our developing organization in the years to come.

We are ever grateful for the support of our membership. Your financial contributions are essential, but just as important are your enthusiasm and vocal support of clean inland waters. We are proud of our work and we hope this annual report makes you proud too.



# Minutes from the Annual Meeting of 2019

## **Three Lakes Association** 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting – August 1, 2019

The 53<sup>rd</sup> annual membership meeting of the Three Lakes Association was held on August 1, 2019, from 6 to 9 pm, at the Summit Village Beach Club, on Lake Bellaire, in Bellaire, Michigan. The format was a picnic dinner, followed by the business meeting, and a presentation by Ron Reimink on Swimmer's Itch.

### ***Call to Order:***

President Mike Bertram called the 53<sup>rd</sup> annual membership meeting of the Three Lakes Association to order at 6:50 p.m.

### ***Approval of Preceding Year's Annual Meeting Minutes:***

**MOTION** Moved by KC Babb, and seconded, to waive the reading of the minutes of the 2018 annual meeting of the Three Lakes Association (which were included in the meeting packet), and to approve those minutes. Motion carried.

### ***Treasurer's Report:***

The treasurer's report was also included in the meeting packet. Treasurer, Ed Gourley, commented that the Association is financially very healthy and offered to respond to any questions. There were none.

**MOTION** Moved by Fred Sittel, and seconded, to approve the treasurer's report for 2018 as presented. Motion carried.

### ***Election of Officers and Board of directors:***

The proposed slate of candidates was included in the meeting packet. Secretary Fields explained that terms run for two years, and half the Board is elected each year. The officers elected in even-numbered years are the President and the Secretary. The officers elected in odd-numbered years are the Vice President and the Treasurer. Fred Sittel, the current Vice President, and Ed Gourley, the current Treasurer, have both agreed to serve again.

Three of the six Directors at Large are up for re-election: Dean Branson, Art Hoadley, and Gary Knapp.

There are eight zones, by township: Clearwater, Milton, Torch Lake, Central Lake, Forest Home, Helena, Custer, and Kearney. We have two Zone Directors assigned to each township. Current Directors in Clearwater, Central Lake, Forest Home, Custer and Kearney have agreed to serve another two-year term, and we have a new candidate for Torch Lake. We are seeking candidates for full terms in Milton and Helena, and half-terms in Torch Lake and Custer townships.

Nominations from the floor were opened. Fred Sittel nominated Greg Fredrickson to serve as Zone Director for Milton Township. The nominee indicated his willingness to serve.

There being no further nominations offered, nominations were closed.

The final slate of candidates standing for election, is as follows:

Two-year terms ending in 2021

- Vice President .....Fred Sittel
- Treasurer .....Ed Gourley
- Zone A (Clearwater) .....Tina Norris Fields
- Zone B (Milton) .....Greg Fredrickson
- Zone C (Torch Lake) .....Mike Novak
- Zone D (Central Lake) .....Steve Laurenz
- Zone E (Forest Home) .....Fred Sittel
- Zone F (Helena) .....\*\*Vacancy\*\*
- Zone G (Custer) .....Mike Bertram
- Zone H (Kearney) .....Ann McClelland
- Directors at Large: .....Dean Branson, Art Hoadley, Gary Knapp

**MOTION** Moved by Patricia Roush, and seconded, to cast a unanimous ballot for the proposed slate of candidates for officers and directors. Motion carried.

**Special Presentations:**

President Mike Bertram made a special presentation to Todd Collins in gratitude for his dedication to the membership of TLA, and also for his efforts to improve the telecommunication system used to facilitate call-in participation in Board meetings for Directors who cannot be physically present.

Interim Executive Director Leslie Meyers made a special presentation to Fred Sittel for his gracious willingness to house the TLA equipment, after we vacated the space we had been renting from the Antrim Conservation District.

**Program:**

Director at Large, Dean Branson, introduced our speaker, Ron Reimink, who offered a comprehensive discussion on what we know, and what we are learning, about Swimmer’s Itch.

**Ratification of Actions of the Board:**

**MOTION** Moved by Tina Norris Fields, and seconded, that the membership ratify the actions taken by the Board of Directors since the annual meeting of 2018. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm, with the gathering invited to continue socializing in fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tina Norris Fields  
Past President & Secretary

# Financial report for 2019

## THREE LAKES ASSOCIATION INCOME STATEMENT (UNAUDITED)

	December 31, 2019			2018
	Operating Fund	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
<b>Revenue:</b>				
Memberships	25,280	2,000	27,280	29,212
Contributions	25,348	2,275	27,623	27,721
Grants	-	11,125	11,125	1,000
Fund Raising Events	-	-	-	-
Other Revenue	151	-	151	123
Releases From Restrictions	18,590	(18,590)	-	-
Investment Income	9,421	-	9,421	8,697
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>78,790</b>	<b>(3,190)</b>	<b>75,600</b>	<b>66,753</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Program Expenses:				
Water Quality	34,432	-	34,432	24,500
Education	14,383	-	14,383	12,830
Membership and Other	5,319	-	5,319	6,475
<b>Total Program Expense</b>	<b>54,134</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>54,133</b>	<b>43,804</b>
Administrative Expenses	28,337	-	28,337	25,086
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>82,471</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>82,470</b>	<b>68,890</b>
<b>NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>(3,681)</b>	<b>(3,190)</b>	<b>(6,871)</b>	<b>(2,137)</b>
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	116,650	121,243	237,892	256,181
Gain (Loss) on Investments	27,491	-	27,491	(16,152)
<b>ENDING FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>140,460</b>	<b>118,053</b>	<b>258,512</b>	<b>237,892</b>



The TLA Board has been meeting online since March. Here they are at the April board meeting.



# Gratitude for the board members who served 2019-2020

**Officers:**

- President – Mike Bertram
- Vice President – Fred Sittel
- Treasurer – Ed Gourley
- Secretary – Tina Norris Fields
- Immediate Past President – Tina Norris Fields

**Committee Chairs:**

- Water Quality – Becky Norris
- Membership – Todd Collins
- Education – Tina Norris Fields (current)  
Patricia Roush (2019)
- Water Safety – Art Hoadley
- Lake Monitoring Program – Duane Drake

**Executive Director:**

Jeanie Williams

**Office Assistant:**

Lois Maclean

**Zone Directors:**

- Zone A: Clearwater Township**  
Cheryl Lynn Fields, Tina Norris Fields
- Zone B: Milton Township:**  
Rick Doornbos, Greg Fredericksen
- Zone C: Torch Lake Township**  
Mike Novak, Vacant
- Zone D: Central Lake Township**  
Todd Collins, Steve Laurenz
- Zone E: Forest Home Township**  
Fred Sittel, Phil Weiss
- Zone F: Helena Township**  
Vacant, Vacant
- Zone G: Custer Township**  
Mike Bertram, Vacant
- Zone H: Kearney Township**  
Duane Drake, Ann McClelland

**Directors at Large:**

Dean Branson, Norton Bretz, Art Hoadley, Gary Knapp, Leslie Meyers (2020), Becky Norris, Patricia Roush (2019)

# A selection of TLA activities in 2019 and beyond

- Science Education and Outreach Program awarded over \$6000 in grants to local schools for environmental education experiences and materials.
- Swimmer's Itch rack card created with the help of our partners in the Elk River Chain of Lakes, to educate the public on the causes of swimmer's itch and how to avoid it. Distributed to over 3,000 people.
- Annual monitoring on all three lakes to track, phosphorus, chlorophyll a, and water clarity.
- Four stellar high school interns in 2019, and one high school volunteer doing independent research in 2020.
- Ongoing study of Golden Brown Algae in Torch Lake and Lake Bellaire in association with Dr. Jan Stevenson at Michigan State University.
- Participation in regional groups and conferences: Elk River Chain of Lakes groups, Freshwater Symposium, qPCR workshop, Swimmer's Itch Winter Conference, and more.

Volunteer

Membership Chair Todd Collins



Golden Brown Algae Sampling in Torch Lake



2019 Intern Angel Shaw







# Our members make the work of TLA possible. Thank you for your annual commitment to water protection. *2020 Members*

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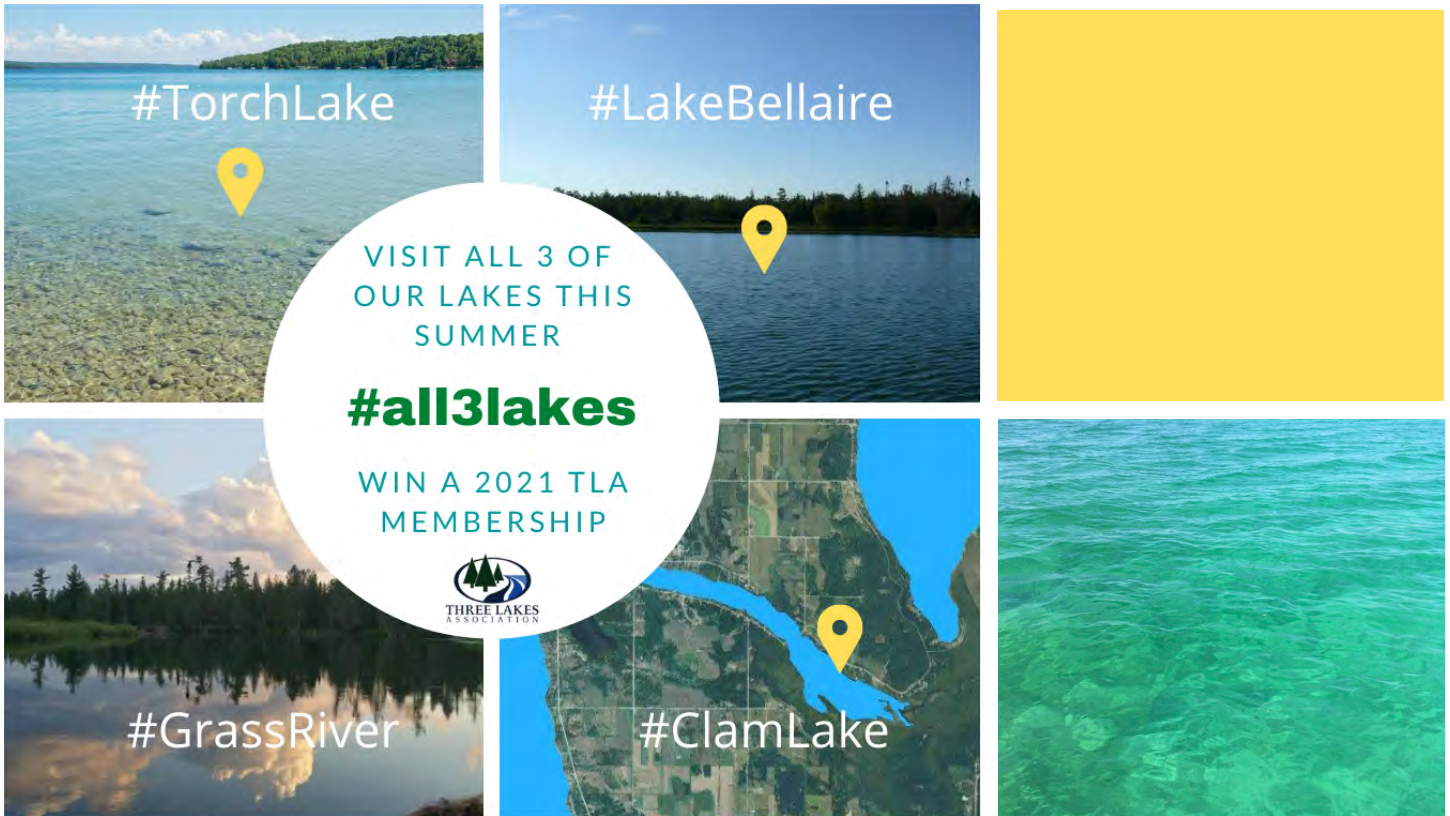
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## Memorial Contributions: Lynn Collins, Hugh McDiarmid, and Hazel Johnson



We are also so grateful for the continued support from the **Dole Family Foundation**. In July they awarded us \$1,500 so we could complete a full year of study on the phosphorus deposition in Torch Lake. This photo shows the June 2020 deployment of a pair of sediment traps, which are suspended in the deep basin of Torch Lake. They will collect all particulate that falls to the bottom of the lake. We will analyze this material for its phosphorus content.



Join our Facebook Campaign:

1. When you visit Clam Lake, Lake Bellaire, or Torch Lake, post about it on Facebook with the hashtag **#all3lakes**.
2. Visit all three lakes by Labor Day and get entered to win a 2021 TLA Membership.
3. Post about how you or others can care for our lakes while visiting them for **3 additional** chances to win.

**TLA Mission Statement:**  
provide leadership to preserve, protect, and improve the environmental quality of the Elk River Chain of Lakes Watershed for all generations with emphasis on Lake Bellaire, Clam Lake, Torch Lake and their tributaries.

Three Lakes Association  
P.O. Box 689  
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