

THE GLQO WATERSHED JOURNAL



The Gull Lake Watershed includes Gull Lake, Little Long Lake, Grassy Lake, Little Gull Lake, Miller Lake, Bullhead Lake, Duck Lake, Backus Lake, Dake Lake, Elliston Lake, Mud Lake, Wintergreen Lake, and Prairieville Creek.

Aquatic Vegetation Survey Results

By Mike Gallagher, Water Quality Committee Chair

We were relieved to hear the preliminary survey report from Patty Hoch-Melluish of Kieser & Associates at the **GLQO Annual Meeting** on August 18th. After two days of extensively surveying Gull Lake and the channel leaving the lake, Patty and Dr. Doug Pullman of Aquest Corporation, had found no new locations of starry stonewort. They also identified a plant at the 30-foot depth as a species of Nitella, a native non-threatening species. Soon, we will receive results of a DNA analysis of this Nitella sample from the New York Botanical Garden. Nitella and starry stonewort are very similar in appearance and are often incorrectly identified. Managing starry stonewort, one of Michigan's most harmful aquatic invasive species (AIS), at a depth of 30-feet would have been nearly impossible. Both scientists advised the GLQO on the best way to treat the two small areas where starry stonewort is growing. That information was immediately relayed to the lakefront owners who quickly began a management process. The goal is to contain the growth of the harmful plant with the hope of total eradication.

Meeting attendees also learned that there is a healthy diversity of twenty-eight aquatic plant species growing in Gull Lake. The Eurasian watermilfoil and hybrid watermilfoil that was found during our 2013 survey are still present but not spreading. The lake has an abundance of variable milfoil at the ten-foot contour that could become a nuisance if it grows above the surface and begins to flower. The residents of Spring Creek, just south of Wildwood, are very familiar with this nuisance condition. Their final piece of advice for us was to continue annual aquatic vegetation monitoring to document changes or new invasive species. Our thanks to Gull Lake resident, Ed Ihling for observing and notifying us of this unusual weed in 2014. His keen eye led GLQO to contract for this formal survey. Please contact the GLQO if you see an unusual growth in the lake.

FALL 2015

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The Gull Lake Quality Organization is an All-Volunteer Organization. Our mission is to address concerns and provide education regarding the use of natural resources of the Gull Lake Watershed.

Did You Know?

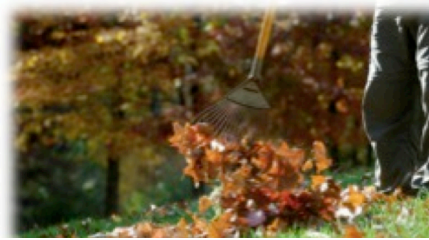
GLQO is a member of the Michigan Lake and Stream Associations, Inc. Their website is loaded with information about lakes and lake living in Michigan.

www.mymlsa.org



Please! Don't dump your leaves into the lake!

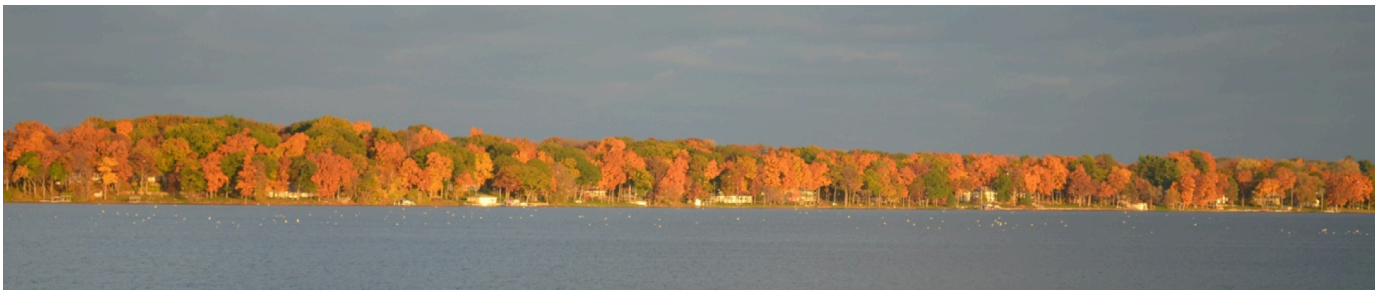
By Gary Mittelbach



Hanging on the wall of my German grandmother's house was an embroidered plaque that read, "Keine Rose ohne Dornen" (no roses without thorns). This marvelous little saying applies to so many things in life, including autumn leaves - so beautiful to look at on the tree, and such a pain to deal with when they are on the ground. What can you do with all those pesky leaves? If you live on a lake, there are two things you definitely should not do with your leaves.

1) **Do not rake or blow your leaves into the lake.** Leaves contain nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorous that promote the growth of algae. Also, as the leaves decay over time, their decomposition consumes oxygen. Both are bad for the lake in large amounts. The few leaves that naturally land in the lake aren't a problem; a small amount of nutrient input is actually good for the lake. But, dumping lots of leaves into the lake can have serious, negative effects on water quality. Likewise, 2) **Do not burn your leaves near the lake.** Burning releases nutrients into the ground and if this occurs too close to the water, these nutrients will find their way into the lake. If you do burn leaves (and there are better options, see below), please make sure your bonfire is at least 100 feet away from the shoreline.

The best thing to do with your leaves, of course, is to compost them – that way the nutrients and organic matter go back into your yard or garden. Mulching mowers are also a good option for moderate amounts of leaves. But, if you have a small lakeside lot and a lot of leaves, composting and mulching may not handle the load. In that case, the "thorn in your side" could be the bill you get from your yard service to haul those pesky leaves away. But, in any case, you'll have the satisfaction of knowing that by keeping leaves and their nutrients out of the lake, you have been a good steward to the environment and a friend to the lake.



Summer 2015 Mobile Boat Wash and Boater Survey

The Michigan Clean Boats Clean Waters Program had their most successful mobile boat wash on August 1, 2015 at Gull Lake. Of the 35 boats that left the lake between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., 26 (74%) were washed. There was not a bass tournament that day and the park was filled with mostly pleasure boaters from Michigan, one from New York and one from Indiana. The MSU interns who washed the boats also talked with and educated 110 people about aquatic invasive species (AIS). There were also 63 boaters surveyed by ten GLQO volunteers. Twenty-one of those surveyed only boated on Gull Lake this summer, while 42 had boated on other lakes.



Photo courtesy of Jo Latimore, PhD., MSU Outreach Specialist in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.
Continued on page 3

Mobile Boat Wash and Boater Survey *continued*

Those 42 boaters had visited 43 other lakes. Lake Michigan was the lake most frequented. On average, each boater surveyed had visited 3.7 other lakes during the summer. We found that most boaters are not aware of the importance of washing their boat. They were concerned and cooperative after learning that 98% of aquatic invasive species “hitchhike” from lake to lake on boats and trailers. Discussions with bass fisherman who visited Gull Lake this summer indicated that they are very aware of the harm that AIS can cause and also, more likely to wash their boats. It is common for a bass fisherman to visit at least a dozen lakes during the summer and sometimes two or three lakes in one day. They have witnessed poor fishing in some lakes that have been forced to treat AIS. As of this time, we are aware of seven permanent boat wash facilities dedicated to specific



GLQO volunteers surveying boaters

lakes in Michigan and eight lakes in the Upper Peninsula serviced by three mobile boat wash units. A similar survey was conducted this summer by our neighbors at Upper Crooked Lake with findings similar to ours. They do have fewer visiting boaters each day but those visitors come from many different lakes in Michigan. Our survey results confirmed what we expected to find. Gull Lake is at great risk of aquatic invasive species being transferred from other lakes by visiting boaters.

2015 Graduates of Michigan Lake and Stream Leaders Institute

Board members, Kathy and Mike Gallagher, recently completed the Michigan Lake and Stream Leaders Institute through the Michigan State University Extension.

According to the MSU Extension website, “Participants take part in classroom and field-based sessions designed to help them better understand local water resource management planning and program implementation. Expert presenters from academia, natural resource agencies, and local communities cover topics including watershed management, lake and stream ecology, environmental education, leadership, and working with local and state government. The Institute is conducted through five in-depth sessions held across Michigan. The Lake and Stream Leaders Institute is a cooperative program of Michigan State University Extension, the Michigan State University Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, and Michigan Lake and Stream Associations, Inc.”



Dr. Steve Hamilton, KBS Professor, lectures members of the 2015 Lake and Stream Leaders Institute while standing in Gull Lake under the pagoda in front of the W.K. Kellogg Manor House.



Thanks to the Richland Area Community Center for hosting the GLQO Board Meetings!



GLQO Board Notes and Updates



At the GLQO annual meeting, members and guests shared a heartfelt thank you to departing board member and president, Susan Houseman. A resident on Little Long Lake, Susan has served on the Gull Lake Quality Organization since 2009. Susan is a Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program volunteer and will continue those volunteer efforts.

GLQO Board Members elected to serve on the executive committee for 2015-2016 are: Jim Collier – president, Vicki Gesmundo-Marcinek – vice president, Chip Garside – treasurer and Jane Bruns – secretary.

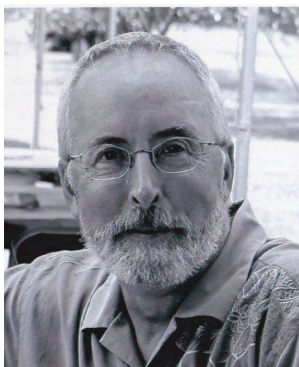
The following new members were welcomed. Pictured (left to right) are Bryan Beck, Kai Free and Don Paulson.

Bryan is an attorney with Honigman Miller Schwarz and Cohn LLP. He lives in Richland with his wife and three children. Bryan shared, "I hold a personal interest in the water quality and safety on Gull Lake as I have fond memories of my childhood summers growing up on Gull Island. I want to help to ensure that my own children have the same chance for enjoying the many activities that Gull Lake has to offer."



Kai is on staff in the food service department at Gull Lake Community Schools. She has lived in the Burlington Beach area for two years. Kai has two children, Shelby (22) and Sydney (13). Kai expressed "I am a firm believer that those who live on the lake and those who use this beautiful lake and surrounding lakes are each responsible for keeping them clean and clear of trash, pollution and invasive species at all costs. I am interested in all things with which we have been blessed by nature. We don't own anything; we are just borrowing it."

Don is a Private Wealth Advisor with Paulson & Associates/Ameriprise. He and his wife have lived on Gull Lake for 35 years, on Willow Beach and now on Hickory Point. "I have always been interested in the Gull Lake environment and doing my part to help the quality of the lake. Most recently, we landscaped our shoreline with a wide buffer of native Michigan plants and flowers. I am offering my time and talents because I would like to do as much as possible beyond supporting the organization financially."



Please join GLQO in congratulating Kellogg Biological Station and Michigan State faculty member, Gary Mittelbach, professor of zoology/integrated biology. According to MSU Today, Gary was recognized this year by the Ecological Society of America as one of 24 fellows for distinguished contributions to ecology.

A KBS colleague, Doug Schemske expressed, "Gary Mittelbach has been a leading figure in the field of community ecology for nearly 30 years. His contributions to research and teaching have been instrumental in building the status of MSU as one of the leading institutions in the world for the study of ecological processes."

GLQO greatly appreciates the expertise and commitment that Gary brings to our board, the GLQO and the Gull Lake Watershed. Congratulations!

GLQO Board Notes and Updates *continued*

There are five standing committees represented on the Gull Lake Quality Organization. They are the Communications Committee, Water Quality Committee, Membership Committee, Boating Safety Committee and the Fisheries Committee. Look for updates from one (or more) of our committees in each newsletter or at www.glqo.net.

Boating Safety Review:

This past summer, the Marine Patrol logged in 411 hours of patrol time. This is down from 635 hours in 2014. This decrease is primarily due to weather. Sgt. Jim DeLaBarre indicated that there were 721 contacts with boaters this summer. The marine patrol spends time educating boaters and promoting safe practices on the lakes. Voluntary compliance with the laws to prevent accidents and injuries is their goal. He also reported that several Gull Lake residents participated in the Sheriff Department's boating course this spring. Below is a summary of their oversight.



Safe Boating is No Accident.

Boater Assists and Support (12)
 Registration/Numbering Warnings (30)
 Not Wearing of Personal Flotation Devices (infant) (1)
 Verbal Warning for Careless/Reckless Operation (87)
 Careless/Reckless Boating Citations (8)
 Drunk Boating Arrests (2)
 Responding to Boat Fire (1)
 Responding to Boat Accidents (2)
 Responding to Previous Warrant for Arrest (1)

Fisheries Committee Update:

The following is a Michigan Department of Natural Resources news release dated October 9, 2015:

“The DNR has been working closely with bass angling groups that have recommended mandatory bass tournament registration. This will allow the DNR to improve its understanding of tournament effort and provide additional biological information about bass fishing tournaments in Michigan. As a result, all bass tournaments held in 2016 will need to be registered using the DNR’s Michigan Fishing Tournament Information System prior to taking place.” (Starting in January 2016.)

According to its website, the Tournament Information System let’s you “schedule a tournament or view scheduled fishing tournaments for a particular water body, ramp and date. This system is designed to help both tournament organizers and recreational anglers and boaters avoid ramp conflicts. In addition, tournament organizers can electronically report their catch data and help the DNR Fisheries Division effectively manage our valuable fisheries resources.”

Did You Know?

You can also visit the Prairieville Township website to view a calendar of registered tournaments:
<http://www.prairievilletwp-mi.org/ParksRec/EventsTournamentCalendar.aspx>

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) cost lake associations and communities in Michigan up to \$20 million annually. The table to the right reflects local expenditures to fight bad weeds. Currently, riparians in the Gull Lake Watershed are fortunate to not have any expenses related to AIS.

Efforts beyond our local communities are necessary. GLQO continues to collaborate with neighboring lake association to learn from their experiences.

To learn more about regional efforts to monitor aquatic and invasive plant species, please visit: www.misin.msu.edu.

Big Prices Being Paid by Neighboring Lakes to Fight Bad Weeds

	Eurasian Water-milfoil	Curlyleaf Pondweed	Starry stonewort	Zebra mussels	Cabomba	Phragmites	Annual Treatment Cost
Goguac Lake	x	x		x			\$ 64,000.00
Pine Lake	x	x		x			\$ 45,427.00
Sherman Lake	x						n/a
Upper Crooked	x	x	x		x	x	\$ 71,000.00
Wall Lake	x	x					\$ 34,280.00
Gull Lake	x	x	x	x			zero*
Little Long Lake							zero
Miller Lake							zero*

*treated by individual riparians, not lake-wide

We thank the individual and corporate members of the Gull Lake Quality Organization for your support in 2015!

GLQO Corporate Members - 2015

Banner Beachfront Equipment
Design for the Mind
Franklin Beach LLC
Gull Lake Marine
Gull Lake Ministries
Ice House LLC
Mac's Garage LLC
Hawks Hollow Builders
Serafino's

Beer and Skittles recently held an Auction Event and Sangria Tasting, selling some of the Historic Bayview Market memorabilia to help raise funds for the Gull Lake Quality Organization. The



local community responded with enthusiasm and generosity, and the auction raised \$470, which was donated to the GLQO.

Beer and Skittles, located at 12448 E D Avenue, is a specialty food and upscale convenience store offering beer, wine, spirits, gifts, snacks, and the essentials for lakeside living.

GLQO Individual and Family Members - 2015

Scott and Holly Allen
Mike and Lou Ann Ambro
Bud and Judy Baldwin
David and Margaret Battjes
Mark and Jeanette Baynes
Bryan and Courtney Beck
Bob and Margie Berres
Margaret Black
Alec E. Borden Family
Dick Boris
Sherwood and Kate Boudeman
Sherwood and Sharon Boudeman
David and Heide Boutell
Jon and Susan Bowers
Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Boyle
Dr. Ronald Reisman and Dr. Sue Ellen Braunlin
Brenda Brenner
Robert Britigan
Nancy L. Brookins
Judith Brown and John Brown

Cleve Brown
Barbara Brundage
Nick and Jane Bruns
Laurie Hanson and Tracy Buck
Fred and Sharon Buckley
Thomas Buell
Robert and Belinda Bullard
Randy and Karen Byrd
Gary and Marianne Caron
Terry and Jane Carpenter

Richard and Joanne Chamberlin
Gary Cirulli
James Clark
Wanda Clawson
Bruce and Donna Cohen
Edwin Cohen
Stuart Verseman and Jim Collier
Bob and Paula Cook
Bob Solt and Anne Couture
Randy and Sally Crockett

Jerry and Sharon Cross	George and Aria Hillebrand	John Mulholland	Bruce and Kathy Shurtz
Randy and Brenda Curtenius	Janeth Hinchman	Mr. and Mrs. Michael S. Murphy	Robert Simon
Robert L. Dahnke	Byron Hodgson	Rick and Sarah Newell	Nick and Abby Skwiat
Jim and Diann Danhoff	Margaret Hogan	James and Kristin Nolin	Gregory and Michele Smith
Ken and Teri Davis	Fred Holt	James O. Nordlie	Doug and Deidre Smith
Philip Dawson	Dennis Hoorn	Kim and Valerie Nuyen	Peter Smith and Diane M Czuk Smith
Jim and Barb Dekruyter	Curtis Hall and Susan Houseman	Mr. and Mrs. Robert O'Boyle	Don and Joyce Snow
Dave and Marge Delano	Bruce Hutchinson	Valerie O'Brien	June and Charles Spelman
Maxine DeVrou	Ed and Ann Ihling	Jeff and Amy O'Brien	Margaret Gloor Spencer
Pamela Dewey	Phil and Carey Isom	Sean and Nicol O'Brien	Joe and Lindsey Splendorio
Larry and Diane Dopp	Nikki Jacobs	TJ and Charlene O'Neill	Carole Stevens
John and Susan Doster	Fred James	Jerry and Max Orum	Charles and Janet Stoddard
Jeree and Donald Drake	John and Judith Jereck	Carla and Jerry Orwin	Harry and Tineka Stolt
Lisa Duffy	Randy Johnson	Craig Osborn	Bill and Stevie Symons
Dr. David Dvorak	Steve Johnson	Dr. and Mrs. Nick Owings	Peter Taft
Claire and Kris Eager	William D. Johnston	Martha Parfet	Carol Tedrow
Ron Elenbaas	Susanne Johnston	William and Barbara Parfet	Gary and Karen Theisen
Dennis G. Elmer	Bob and Val Karam	Don and Ann Parfet	Gretchen Thomas
James Elsener	John Kelly	Preston and Barbara Parish	Bruce and Anne Thompson
George Elsener Family	Sue Markus and Rick King	Donald and Sue Paulson	Ron and Edna Thompson
T.P. Emerson	Rolf and Judith Kletzien	Michael Peikert	Gerald Rapp and Alison Thor
Tom and Carol English	Tim Kool	Karol Peterson	David and Carol Ticknor
William English	Richard Krebser	Stephen E. Pew/Kathleen M. Keelan Pew	William and Carolyn Ticknor
John and Janis Etzcorn	Shirley Kruger	Laura and Gregg Pierce	Mary Lou and Win Todd
Wendy Field	John and Martha Kuch	David and Julia Powell	Michelle and Chris Tracy
James and Alice Fish	Paul and Kathleen Kuchenbuch	Jeff Price	Izzy and Matt Tracy
John and Lorelee Fisher	Richard and Ruth Laninga	Robert Prodingier	Elizabeth Travis
Ron and Judy Flachs	Stephanie Larsen	Allison Pruitt	Jerry and Margaret Trepanier
Rick and Pam Foster	Jim and Linda Lass	Kay Rackiewicz	Daniel and Gail Turluck
Kai Free	Charles and Phyllis Lavene	Martin and Carol Ranly	Gail Turner
Mike and Kathy Gallagher	Jack and Camille Lawrence	Jack Raseman	Roger and Jeanne Turner
John and Ann Gallagher	John and Joanne Lawrence	Robert and Margo Rebar	Tim Tyler
Pat and Deb Gallagher	Patricia Lawrence	Eric and Martha Reid	William Uggen
Dan and Mary Beth Gallagher	Rafael and Barbara Ledesma	Robert and Janice Rensch	Chris Uggen
Joni and Roger Ganger	Carol Lesiow	David and Carol Renz	Tom and Olga Van Dis
Frank Garratt Trust	Christopher Light	Robert and Mary Jo Rial	Amy Upjohn and Brad Vandenberg
John and Sharon Garside	John and Rita Light	Brian and Jackie Rice	Tom and Marty Vandermolen
Chip and Amanda Garside	Howard and Leatha Linders	Mark and Marymarie Rice	John and Cathryn VanderSalm
Judy and Jamie Geary	Ron and Karen Logan	William and Nancy Richardson	Bo VanPeenan
Karen Geib	Pat Long	James and Julie Richter	Dan and Carol Vogt
Jay Gesmundo	Eric and Charlene Longman	Robert and Mary Lou Ringemann	Mary and Henry Von Schreiner
Jack Gesmundo	Faye Luscombe	Jim Ritz	Don and Louise Walbridge
Shahriar and Dhoky Ghoddousi	Judy Maier	Jon Rosenbaum	Jack and Jane Wallner
Susan Gilmore	Thomas Mansager	Robert and Lori Rowe Paradise	Dana Walters
Steve and Elaine Ginsberg	Vicki and Mike Marcinek	William Ryan	Dan and Donna Weaver
Don and Janet Gladstone	Elizabeth McCarty	Brad and Rene Saar	Weckler Farwell Partnership
Bill Goodrich	Ed and Nancy McCarty	Julia Sanger	David and Lee Weiss
Joni Green	Russell and Connie McFee	Tom and Judy Schau	James Westcott
Don and Mary Grimes	Gene and Melissa McKay	Dick and Jean Schmitt	William Weston
Frank and Diane Guarisco	Margaret McKenzie Trust	Gregory and Charlene Schofield	B Joseph and Mary White
Jan Hahn	Ike and Bonnie Mellema	Robert Schuder	David and Cindy Wiedemer
David and Michelle Halley	Bob Mellema	Ken and Pat Schultz	Bruce Williams
Pete and Margaret Hamlett	Joyce and Bill Melvin	Jon and Carolyn Schutte	Brian and Teri Winne
Pamela Harrington	Robert Millard	Jim and Deb Scott	Thomas B. Woodworth
Melissa Hartridge	Kevin and Elizabeth Miller	Sam and Susan Sefton	Ken and Jenni Woolf
Pete and Jo Hawk	Katharine Miller	David Shane	Drew and Rachel Worgess
Henry B. Hawk	Dave Mitchell	Esther M. Shaw	Jennifer Wright
Jim and Marsha Heath	Katherine Gross and Gary Mittelbach	Julie Shaw	Harold and Bonnie Zeigler
James and Patricia Heilenbach	Ron and Joan Molitor	Richard and Johanna Shields	Marilyn Zheutlin
Mal Hickok	Toni Mueller	Linda Shierlaw	Marsha and Bob Zick
			Mrs. Robert R. (Natalie M) Zoeller

Every effort is being made to report members' names as you have requested.

Some members have requested to remain anonymous. If you see an error, please e-mail info@glqo.net.

Thank you to the members of the Gull Lake Quality Organization for 2015!

Your support helps to preserve the beauty of the Gull Lake Watershed.

Please watch your mail for 2016 membership information. Any dues collected between today and December 31, 2015 will be directed to your 2016 membership.

The Gull Lake Quality Organization

P.O. Box 34 / Hickory Corners, Michigan / 49060
Website: glqo.net
Contact: info@glqo.net



Upcoming Events

Wednesday, November 11 at 9:00 a.m.
Birds and Coffee Walk
Kellogg Bird Sanctuary

Tuesday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m.
GLQO Board Meeting
Richland Area Community Center

Holiday Walk and Market at
W.K. Kellogg Manor House
Weekends: November 27-December 19

Tuesday, January 19 at 7:00 p.m.
GLQO Board Meeting
Richland Area Community Center

2015-2016 Board of Directors

Jim Collier **(16-2)**
President
Vicki Gesmundo Marcinek **(17-1)**
Vice-President
Jane Bruns **(17-2)**
Secretary
Chip Garside **(17-2)**
Treasurer

Bryan Beck **(18-1)**
Kai Free **(18-1)**
Kathy Gallagher **(17-1)**
Mike Gallagher **(17-1)**
David Halley **(16-2)**
Pete Hawk **(16-1)**
Ed McCarty **(17-2)**
Gary Mittelbach **(16-2)**
Don Paulson **(17-1)**
Tim Richardson **(16-1)**
Drew Worgess **(17-2)**

*GLQO by-laws allow volunteers to serve as directors for two consecutive three-year terms. After each Director's name are two numbers: the **year** their current term expires, and the **number** of the current term.*

We welcome you to volunteer for committee work (of your choice) and to participate in our board meetings.

The Gull Lake Watershed includes Gull Lake, Little Long Lake, Grassy Lake, Little Gull Lake, Miller Lake, Bullhead Lake, Duck Lake, Backus Lake, Dake Lake, Elliston Lake, Mud Lake, Wintergreen Lake, and Prairieville Creek.
