

# MANITOU MESSENGER

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 Contact: [info@lakemanitou.org](mailto:info@lakemanitou.org)

**Send us your favorite photos of Lake Manitou!**

**Recreation, fishing, sunrise/sunset, nature/wildlife are all welcome!**

**Email to: [info@lakemanitou.org](mailto:info@lakemanitou.org)**

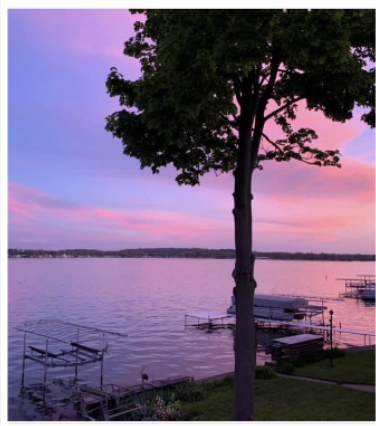


Photo courtesy of Member, Jill Leslie

## Thank You For Another Great Year!

We hope you enjoyed our poker run this year, our Independence Day fireworks show and had a blast with your families and friends out on the lake! We want to thank all of the clubs and businesses on the lake that support our efforts and encourage your support for each. Our annual boat parade, concerts, the ability to golf by boat and having places to eat and socialize make our lake a special place to be.

Most importantly, the LMA board thanks YOU for your support. Without you, we could not implement the necessary maintenance and improvements nor consider future projects. If you are not a member, we welcome any questions you may have and invite you to come aboard.

Our purpose is simple... to promote understanding of the lake and its watershed; the ecosystem of which it is a part; and the protection, restoration and management of our beautiful lake. Achieving these goals is an on going process that includes partnering with our local Soil & Water Conservancy District, the DNR, our local Community Foundation, the City of Rochester, our contractors for appropriate studies and permitting, aquatic plant control and dredging, placement and removal and maintenance of our buoy system and others.

No partner is more important than our members. The involvement and input of our members after all is what we are all about! We have fishermen, skiers, boaters, jet skiers, surfers, sailors, swimmers, kayakers and nature lovers, all of which have specific perspectives and concerns and input. Our job is to listen to all of our residents and balance our priorities based on the input of the entire lake community. Let us know how we are doing at [Info@lakemanitou.org](mailto:Info@lakemanitou.org).



Photo courtesy of Member, Wendy Scobie

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND DIRECTION

**AQUATIC PLANTS:** One of our main concerns is aquatic plants taking over and restricting navigable waterways. We have once again contracted with Aquatic Plant Control to treat our most heavily navigable waterways. The DNR has been reluctant to give us the treatment acreage we would like in the wake of our hydrilla history. Our tier two testing and the data the DNR has collected continues to ensure that we can protect the much needed plants while opening up certain navigation areas. To the right, is a map of the areas we have applied for permitting for 2022 treatment.

**DREDGING:** Our dredging project has come to an end for now. Below is a map showing the locations of the dredging work completed over the last four years. If you cruise through these areas, or live next to them, the value is evident. Areas 1 through 6, A1 and Graham Ditch were completed by the LMA. Areas 7, 8, 10 (and a portion of area 6) were dredged at the expense of private residents.

**BUOYS:** Based on your input, we are adding nine new lighted buoys around the perimeter of the lake. Last year, we received final approval to reduce the size of the Prairie, opening up the navigable area off of Wolf Point. To better protect the Prairie at night, we will be purchasing red dusk-to-dawn lights.

Larger maps available on our website at: [lakemanitou.org/projects](http://lakemanitou.org/projects)

**FISHERY:** Many of our fishermen have reported an improvement in fishing this last year! Adequate plant life returning is one reason for this, but we have much more to consider. The LMA had conducted its own fish study last year and we continue to work with the DNR on a plan forward to speed nature up on balancing our fishery.

**SEDIMENT REMOVAL:** Our long term comprehensive sediment reduction program for Rain Creek and Graham Ditch is being improved. We need to slow down the elements coming into our lake for the health of the water we so enjoy. We are forming a special committee to digest the studies we have participated in and come up with action items that will move us towards a real measurable plan to address this very important long term concern. One of our goals would include the dredging of Mill Pond.



**ENDOWMENT FUND:** The newly established Lake Manitou Maintenance and Sustainability Fund has grown quickly in its first year of existence. It was established through a grant from the Northern Indiana Community Foundation with \$5000 in seed money. A challenge was offered by NICF of an additional matching grant of \$5000, to be awarded on Giving Tuesday, 11/30/21, if LMA could raise \$5000 in donations. The response to this challenge was enthusiastic and generous! LMA has received commitments for contributions in excess of \$7500 from individuals and businesses. Our year-end goal is to secure as many donations as possible for this inaugural year of fundraising for the endowment. Gifts in any amount can be made to this fund by individuals, businesses, or as honorariums or memorials\*. The endowment will be a long-term financial complement to the LMA membership dues, which are used annually to cover the ongoing and immediate needs of Lake Manitou. If you are interested in making a donation, please contact Brian Johnson, Director of Development, Northern Indiana Community Foundation, at 574-223-3223, or [fulton@nicf.org](mailto:fulton@nicf.org). \* All memorial contributions will be placed in the Endowment Fund unless otherwise specified by the donor.



# 2021 MEMBERS

\* List reflects memberships paid as of date of current Manitou Messenger. Please contact us if you see an error in our list.

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Jim Ewen  
Fulton Co. Economic Dev.  
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David & Catherine Hiatt

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Lernihan  
Mooch & Barbara Lewis  
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Max & Jane Borden  
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Dwight Brown  
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Venetia Faulkenberg &  
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Homer & Linda Campbell  
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Bob & Debbie Cannedy  
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Colleen Curran  
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Richard & Joni Lenz

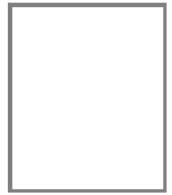
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DECEMBER 2021



P.O. Box 376, Rochester, IN 46975  
[www.lakemanitou.org](http://www.lakemanitou.org)



**Wishing Everyone A Happy And Healthy  
Holiday Season!**

2022 Membership Dues Invoices will be mailed out in January.

If you wish to pay your annual dues online, please visit our website at [www.lakemanitou.org/join](http://www.lakemanitou.org/join)