

March 16, 2014

## **CLARK LAKE ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION WINTER/SPRING, 2014**

I am passing the “mantle of leadership” of CLAA to Bob Kufirin. The CLAA board voted at the September 27, 2013 board meeting to accept my resignation as President and nominate Bob to assume the duties of President. The vote confirmed his nomination by a unanimous vote. I’ve served as President of CLAA for about 20 years, and have enjoyed the job and the accomplishments we’ve made over that period. I am very confident that Bob will do an excellent job in serving in this role. I will stay on the CLAA Board in a science/water quality capacity. As I edit this letter on February 28, the snow is coming down where I can’t come close to seeing across to the east side, and the ice is about 3 feet thick. What a winter. Folks may consider taking snow off roofs. Green Bay was -21°f last night – without the wind chill. Ice cover last year was the longest in recent (30-40 years) history, with ice-out on April 24, 2013 and ice back on November 27, 2013. The ice has thickened since that time, with no open water through the winter. We are all looking forward to spring.

### **2014 MEETINGS & EVENTS:**

Director meetings are held at the Jacksonport Town Hall on May 10, June 7, July 12 (8am), August 9, and September 20. Unless otherwise noted, meetings start promptly at 9AM, and are open to members. Our **Annual Meeting** is scheduled for **July 12 at 9AM** at the Jacksonport Town Hall. Agenda items for the Annual Meeting include voting on new updated bylaws, whether to pursue an ordinance for slow-no-wake times around the lake, and election of several directors. We will also receive an update on Clark Lake fisheries by DNR. The **picnic** will be on **July 12, the same day as the Annual meeting at the Jacksonport Lakeside Park**, with fun starting at 11AM, and food served at noon. Check the website for details. The fall dinner is scheduled for September 20. On September 13 we will be holding our 7th consecutive “Phragmites Fest”. We are also planning another lake-wide rummage sale weekend – if we can find two volunteers to organize it. Please join us at as many events as you can.

**2014 ANNUAL DUES & UPDATES: Please see page 4.**

### **WEBSITE:**

Our website (<http://www.clarklakewi.com>) is available for keeping current on lake activities, including a buy/sell section for CLAA members. Please forward website updates to Kirby Bouthilet ([kbouthilet@yahoo.com](mailto:kbouthilet@yahoo.com)). Check out the new “Lost/Found” and “**Volunteer Opportunities**” sections – **learn how you too can help.**

### **VOLUNTEER HELP:**

Our lake association is successful because of the care and interest of volunteers in maintaining and improving conditions on Clark Lake. Your CLAA board can’t do it alone – we need additional volunteers to help on 2014 lake activities, such as the rummage sale, picnic and phragmites control. Please see the website for more details.

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**INVASIVE SPECIES:**

We continue to battle the invasive plant (Phragmites) along the far northeast shore and around East Bay. A work party in early September 2013 made good progress towards controlling the plant. Our 2014 work party is scheduled for September 13<sup>th</sup>. Please help us in this effort. To prevent bringing more aquatic invasive species (AIS) into Clark Lake, or moving AIS from Clark Lake into other lakes, please remember to clean and drain your boat prior to launching into and upon removal from the lake. It is also crucial that the Town of Sevastopol maintains screens and bar racks in place at the dam to prevent invasive fish from getting into Clark Lake. We will continue to stress the importance of proper placement of these screens with the Town.

**SWIM BEACH TESTING:**

Water samples were collected weekly during summer at the Clark Lake public beach for E. coli bacterial analysis. 2013 results were within guidelines.

**GOOSE CONTROL:**

At the 2012 Annual Meeting, CLAA voted to control the goose population on Clark Lake. High population levels are impacting our bulrush population, and contribute to higher than normal E-coli levels at the swim beach. Geese also impact lawns, docks and rafts around the lake. CLAA received a permit to oil goose eggs during spring, 2013. A limited number of CLAA volunteers searched for goose nests, but, due in part to high water conditions, failed to find any. Consequently, no goose eggs were oiled. Since the permit was only good for 2013, no similar action is planned for 2014. We will monitor goose populations during 2014 to determine whether population control is appropriate.

**LAKE HISTORY:**

A small team (Ginny Haen, Bill Hebal, Don Hinnenthal, Mike O'Brien and Paul Schumacher) worked through fall, 2013 to collect pictures and interview folks on the early (1880-1940ish) history of Clark Lake. We have developed a DVD, which can be purchased at Welsings in Valmy and Jacksonport Craft Cottage in Jacksonport. We will make a similar DVD for the period 1940's to the 1980's, so please forward any pictures, stories and other historical memorabilia regarding that time period on Clark Lake to Kirby (kbouthilet@yahoo.com) for possible posting on our website and for this new DVD.

**FISH SURVEY:**

DNR fisheries staff performed a fish survey on Clark Lake in spring and summer, 2013. The results of the survey will be presented to CLAA at the 2014 Annual meeting, so don't miss it. The results of the survey help to determine whether further actions such as enhanced spawning reefs for walleye spawning will be appropriate

**AQUATIC PLANT GROWTH:**

We all noticed an unusual abundance of rooted aquatic plant growth in the lake and especially the north end last summer. The plants have very long stems and infrequent, thin leaves. Growth seemed to peak in late June/July. DNR lake specialists came to sample the plants and subsequently sent the samples to experts in Madison. The

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predominate plant identified was sago pond weed – a native plant used by geese and ducks for feeding on and one that we have seen in much lower abundance in Clark Lake as far back as 1992. DNR staff believes that growth has been enhanced due to the increased water clarity caused by Zebra mussels, and perhaps increased levels of nutrients (phosphorus and nitrogen).

The CLAA board directed a water quality study be conducted to determine whether nutrients have increased from the 2006 period and identify possible sources for these nutrients. Samples taken from Mid-July to mid-September, 2013 were generally consistent with samples taken in 2006, with the exception of a sample taken after a heavy rain, which had higher nutrient levels than in 2006. At its September, 2013 board meeting, the CLAA board directed further sampling and analysis of Logan Creek and Clark Lake during 2014. The board also determined that we should seek DNR grant funds to help defray the cost of this work. We await the DNR determination of whether we will receive the grant funds.

#### **FORMATION OF A CO-OP FOR CLARK LAKE RESIDENTS:**

The CLAA continues its efforts towards “Cooperative Purchasing”. This consists of the consolidation of similar individual purchases into a larger group purchase to achieve greater value at significantly reduced prices. The first application of the co-op is targeted towards the purchase of propane for the 2014/2015 heating season. If you are interested in participating in a propane co-op, and have not filled out the survey, please fill out the survey on our web site: <http://www.clarklakewi.com/surveys> by June 1, 2014.

If you do not have access to the internet but would be interested in participating, please call Chuck B. at 920-948-8167 for the survey.

#### **LOST AND NEW MEMBERS:**

Lake members who died this year include:

- Louis Rapp. 5445 North Cave Point Drive. Louis was a long-time summer resident of Clark Lake.
- Ann Virgili. 5549 Quiet Cove.
- George Boyce. 5566 Quiet Cove Lane. George was a long-time seasonal resident of Clark Lake, active in our lake community.

Please remember them in your thoughts.

Moved Away:

- Richard Szczygiel – 5642 Clark Lake Drive.
- Mike Cassidy – 5543 Clark Lake Drive
- Tom Jr. & Jane Frawley – 5585 Clark Lake Dr.
- Tim & Lori Kneeland – 5513 & 5515 N. Cave Point Drive
- Johnathan Groessl, Meg Peterson, Joseph & Jane Quinn, Jim & Amy Wenzler – 5303 S. Lake Drive
- Johnathan Groessl, Meg Peterson, Joseph & Jane Quinn, Jim & Amy Wenzler – between 5303 & 5305 S. Lake Drive

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The building of new cottages and turn-over of old cottages to new owners continues, with our new neighbors as:

- Nancy Gerov – 5642 Clark Lake Drive
- Sam & Lisa Kaufman – 5543 Clark Lake Drive
- Michael & Margaret Hsie – 5513 N. Cave Point Drive
- John & Cheryl Zima – 5585 Clark Lake Dr.
- Sean & Claire Reynolds – 5515 N. Cave Point Drive
- Stephen & Shawna Landes – 5303 S. Lake Drive
- James Jr. & Mary Kerscher – between 5303 and 5305 S. Lake Drive.

Join me in welcoming these new neighbors to the lake.  
Please have a safe year while enjoying the beauty of Clark Lake and Door County.

Paul Schumacher  
Director, Clark Lake Advancement Association  
5530 Butts Road, Sturgeon Bay, WI. 54235

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**2014 Annual dues & Updates:     *(as a reminder, tear off and put with monthly bills)***

2014 annual dues remain at \$20 per family. Payment of dues allows membership in the Association, with attendant benefits, including free lake directory, free attendance at picnic and full voting rights (1 vote per home/cottage), plus you are supporting CLAA's efforts to maintain the quality of Clark Lake. **Please take this opportunity to join the Association by forwarding your dues by June 1 to: Paul Schumacher if you mail prior to May 15, and Paul Bouthilet, 3540 Fayette Lane, Green Bay, WI. 54311-7381 if you mail after May 15, 2014.** Please forward any changes in ownership, address, phone and e-mail address (optional) directly to Paul. We will update our website with this information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Lake address \_\_\_\_\_

Home (winter) address, if different \_\_\_\_\_

Lake phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Home (winter) phone # \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

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**SLOW-NO-WAKE SURVEY:**

The purpose of this advisory survey is to determine if there is sufficient interest by the membership to put to vote at the 2014 Annual meeting whether the Clark Lake Advancement Association (CLAA) should request the towns of Jacksonport and Sevastopol to enact a slow-no-wake ordinance for Clark Lake for specific times and months.

**BACKGROUND:** Currently, Clark Lake has a voluntary “regular boating” time-slot of 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. (10 hours) and slow-no-wake periods of Dusk (7 p.m.) to Dawn (9 a.m.). At the 2013 CLAA Annual meeting, a majority of the CLAA members present approved the action of including an advisory survey in the 2014 Annual letter on a mandatory limit on boating operations through town ordinance. DNR will only enforce town ordinances that are consistent with state water regulations.

Accordingly, please respond to the following questions. Please mail your response to Paul Schumacher no later than May 10, 2014. Your response will be kept confidential. If sufficient interest exists to request the adoption of a slow-no-wake ordinance, a draft ordinance will be prepared and voted upon by CLAA membership at the 2014 Annual meeting.

**1). Should the current voluntary Clark Lake slow-no-wake period be changed to mandatory and enforceable status via a request for a slow-no-wake ordinance from the towns of Jacksonport and Sevastopol?**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
No \_\_\_\_\_ If no, skip question 2.

**2). If yes, which months should the ordinance apply?**

Apr.     May     June     July     Aug.     Sept.     Oct.

For detailed information about lake use ordinances currently in place in the State of Wisconsin, please access the following links:

- <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/boat/ordiances.html>
- <http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/boatingordiances/>
- <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/boat/>