

# CLARK LAKE ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION

## Annual Letter & Membership/Dues Notice (2024)

### President's Message

First of all, I want to thank those who volunteered for the Association Activities, all those who worked on the various committees, our Board of Directors and Officers and all those who made monetary donations to the Association. Without all of you we would not have had such a successful 2023. I look forward to working with all of you in 2024.

Because CLAA dues are for the calendar year, the annual letter is being distributed to coincide with the dues notice.

Welcome to our new members and Clark Lake residents. For those new residents that are not members, please consider join our Association. A good way to meet members is to volunteer on our various committees, it is a great way to meet other members. Farewell to those that have left, we hope that you take great memories with you. Please review the list of 2023 volunteers on the website on member recognition and Volunteer Opportunities under the Member Page. Donations (including boat launch) continue to increase annually as well. The donations help us fund the many projects we have on our agenda. Again, thank you all very much.

CLAA continues to move the Association toward more Electronic Communication to save printing and mailing expenses. The CLAA website (and Clark Lake Facebook/META) is becoming our main communication tool. Along with News and Notices, we are added detailed information about our existing committees and work groups, Officer and Director Duties and other training tools to be used by our members. CLAA has the option for paying dues electronically with credit cards. CLAA hopes use of the website and the bulletin board at the boat ramp will encourage more of our membership to participate in the many Association's Activities. Please use "Contact Us" on the Clark Lake Website to forward any changes to your home address, phone numbers or email addresses. In order to receive electronic notices, check "Subscribe" on the bottom of the Home page.

Electronic communications have a few disadvantages. One is that they are susceptible to hacking and phishing. So please, be careful, of strange e-mail requests from Board members that want immediate responses (like buying gift cards) and personal information. CLAA does not request or collect gift cards for other groups. It is possible to check email address of "sender" to see if it is legitimate. Do not click on links in these emails. Please call a board number at the number in CLAA book to verify/alert them about the request.

In 2023, CLAA re-elected board members, President and Secretary. CLAA is welcoming newer and next generation families to be Board members and get involved with our committees. CLAA has a new Treasurer and Vice President for 2023/2024 terms. This year, CLAA will elect/re-elect Treasurer and Vice President. A current list of the Officers and the Board of Directors can be found on the website. Here is the link from the website URL: <https://www.clarklakewi.com/board-of-directors/>.

The schedule for the 2024 events and Board of Director Meetings (second Saturday, May thru September, 5/11, 6/8, 7/13, 8/10, and 9/14) have been posted on the website and have been added to our new Calendar that will be available to current members. Go to the website and then click on the down arrow of the events button and select the event. Here is the link to the website URL: <https://www.clarklakewi.com/>

CLAA suggests members make contact with members in the area of their Clark Lake home that are living year-round at Clark Lake to do a walk around to check for property damage and downed powerlines.

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable 2024. I am looking forward to seeing you on and around Clark Lake.

Mike Brunet (President CLAA)

## Committee and Work Group Reports

### Social Committee (Richard Martin)

We are working on the following four events this year:

Fire and Ice – CANCELED - due to weather.

Kickoff to Summer Picnic – Tentative date June 22, 2024 Island Fever (outside), Time TBD – more information to follow.

Annual meeting - Saturday July 13, 2024, Jacksonport Town Hall

July Boat Parade – Sunday, 7/6/24 - Jerry Voelker Band playing from a pontoon boat, Time - TBD.

Kayak Poker Run – Tentative date Saturday, August 3, 2024, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Fall Dinner - Lodge at Leathem Smith, Sunday 9/15/24. Second Saturday not available.

If anyone has comments/concerns please contact one of the board members.

### Water Quality/Vegetation Control Committee (Mark Weisse)

**Volunteers** provided over 150 hours of their time during 2023 to support WQVC projects. *We thank them all.* Each of you can add to those numbers: **PLEASE VOLUNTEER** when we send out requests.

**SOS: Save Our Shoreland**, was promoted with signs, pocket cards, flyers in the directory, a float in the boat parade, Seed Balls and a handout at the Fall dinner, bumper stickers and our clothing sale with logo on the T shirts. Please review these materials and **commit to conscientious stewardship** of your property.

Native plants are essential to maintaining water quality and habitat. Join **Buffer Buddies** to support and encourage each other to begin limited native plant projects. This program includes an expert assessment of current native and non-native plants on your property along with advice about your project. We thank Samantha Koyen for her excellent presentations and welcome the new DCIST coordinator Brooke Dreshek who is anxious to continue these tutorials.

Thanks to a grant, the county is treating phragmites through 2027. We are now documenting Buckthorn around the lake to support the county in applying for another grant to treat woody invasives. *Please report any buckthorn on your property to Mark Weisse.*

**Boating traffic** and big motors continue on the lake. Avoid towing and high-speed boating in water less than four feet deep as indicated on maps at each ramp and included with the recent directory. As always, stay out of any bulrush bed and remind visitors of the no motor and no wake zones. **Ramp volunteers** are our representatives to transient lake users and serve an essential role in invasive species awareness, promoting gentle use of our lake and promoting a pleasant experience for everyone on the lake. *Please volunteer! This is an opportunity for all ages (and families) to advance our mission.*

*Be sure to test your well at least once a year.* We continue to assist the UW Oshkosh well water testing program with a drop off site in Jacksonport. The county has a grant for a widespread survey of wells for new emergent threats, including PFAs and pesticide residue. Wells in our watershed are included and we will share results as they become available.

The **Wisconsin Citizen Lake Monitoring program** numbers continue to look good. *Thanks to Paul Schumacher* for many years collecting all these samples. This summer we also did some PFA testing of the lake and the results were good.

See the [WQVC committee page](#) on the CLAA website and follow the link on that page to the [WQVC website](#) for more detailed information. Educational material is also shared on Facebook, CLAA e-mail notices and the [Google WQVC group mailing app](#). We need your e-mail address so be sure to include it with you annual update.

### Fish/Wildlife Committee (Open)

We have nothing planned for this year. Our fish sticks permit must be renewed for future projects. Hopefully with the addition of extra sites we will return to the ice next winter to continue the work.

The DNR completed the fish sampling survey (Spring and Fall 2019) to get a firsthand look at the fish populations on the lake. The Report has not been completed. We will keep you updated as we have more information.

Ice fishing traffic may be heavy due to the ice quality on the Bay and the short season this winter. As of 1/09/2024, the ice conditions are not safe. Be careful out there.

#### **Safety & Lake Maintenance Committee (Gwenn Graboyes)**

This year we are again looking for volunteers in the Spring and/or fall to assist with the lake buoys and the Ridges Dock. If you would like more information or would like to volunteer, please send a message to Mike Brunet or Gwenn Graboyes via the "CONTACT US" button on the Home Page of the Website.

Gwenn Graboyes has been working closely with the Volunteer Dam operator (Ryan Brungraber) on monitoring lake levels and fish screen maintenance. The cooperation between CLAA and operator of the dam has been very successful thanks to the efforts of Gwenn. Due to lack of rain and snow, Ryan added boards to keep the lake from getting too low, endangering bivalves hibernating in the mud.

Wisconsin Lakes has informed members about new legislation to prohibit enhanced waves (example – wake boats) on lakes smaller than 1,500 acres (Clark Lake falls in this acreage). The bill would limit existing right to sue a boater for personal injury to only cases where injury where the injury was caused by enhanced wakes. Read more from WI Lakes.

#### **Communications Committee (Terry Schneider & Carly Vondrak)**

Terry Schneider is CLAA Newsletter coordinator and editor. Our goal is to publish quarterly. If you have any worthwhile news, please contact Terry.

The Annual Letter and Membership and Dues Form is being mailed out to the membership in early February coincide with the calendar year. Changes to your Membership Information can be made by updating the Membership Form and mailing it with your dues. Changes and dues payment can also now be made online on the CLAA Website under the Members Menu Join Today Tab.

The Directory was published in 2023, so please ensure that your contact information is correct. The online directory, which is updated periodically is available on the website under the Member Menu – Member Directory Tab.

All Meeting, Event Flyers and Association Memos will only be sent out via e-mail from the CLAA Website only. If you have not provided CLAA with your email address or that of a friend or a relative, please do so on the attached membership form with your annual dues or the "CONTACT US" button the CLAA Website.

#### **Website Work Group (Chuck Birringer and Carly Vondrak)**

The first section will provide updates for questions on Health/Safety Concerns such as swimmers itch, lake e-coli levels, dangerous situations on the lake, etc. The second section will provide upcoming events or Activities on the Home Page which should make that information easier to access that having to dig deeper into the website to find them.

Another area of concern for members is that they are not receiving emails from the Association Website News/Notices. The Communications Committee will work with the CLAA Webmaster to resolve this problem.

If you have not been receiving periodically the News/Notices via email from our website, please send your email address to us using the "Contact Us" button on the Home Page of the Website (near the bottom of the page).

Two new sections were added to the website: 1) "Health and Safety Alerts" and 2) "What is Happening on Clark Lake".

For inquiries about plumbers, roofers, snow removal, etc., please communicate through other social media sites such as Next Door or Facebook. CLAA cannot recommend any specific business nor can they track all the business inquiries.

### **Cooperative Purchasing Work Group (Chuck Birringer)**

We will continue with the Propane and Garbage/Recycling/Asphalt Sealcoating Purchasing Agreements in 2024. **Don't forget April 1, 2024 is the deadline for dues if you want to participate in this year's propane contract.** Lakes Gas has been installing transmitters on the tanks that monitor fill levels.

### **Internet**

Jacksonport is further along than Sevastopol. Jacksonport has selected Frontier Communications and has construction update meetings, latest on 1/16/24. See Q and A document on website. Sevastopol is working with AT and T. At Sevastopol's request, CLAA sent a letter to Sevastopol in support of applying for a broadband grant. No updates on Grants. Monitor meetings in Jacksonport and Sevastopol for updated information.

### **Membership Work Group (Jill Carstens)**

Our membership base has remained constant over the past few years (2022 – 246, 2023 – 237). The CLAA membership list, on the website, is updated in January and July. Please contact us with any life changes. It is important that we have accurate contact information for communicating timely information to property owners and for publishing the next directory (2025).

To receive correspondence to your email address(es), please visit the CLAA website, scroll down to the bottom, and "Subscribe to Updates". One form per email address. You will receive an email to confirm your email. Click on the link to verify.

### **Treasurer's Report (Tim Temby)**

For 2023, CLAA had a fiscal surplus or Net Income of \$4,328.23. Revenue for the year was \$13,752.86. Expenses for the year were \$9,424.63. The difference is our net surplus. On the revenue side, dues revenue was lower than budget by approximately \$400. This was more than offset by an increase in boat launch donations. Other cash donations were close to budget. On the expense side, Communication Committee expenses were higher than budget, due mostly to higher-than-expected costs for the directory. These were offset by a much lower spend by the Fish and Wildlife committee. Insurance premiums also rose above budget. Social Committee expenses look higher than budget, however, this is due to much higher than anticipated participation in the Fall Dinner event. These costs are offset by the Social Committee revenue, and net to an actual surplus. Total assets ended at \$42,292.38. For more information, the financial statements can be found on the website.

### **Membership Updates (Hail and Farewell) based on changes to Membership Form**

#### **Passed Away**

Fred Jr. and Judith Hardman 3558 Clark Lake Court  
Keith Howard 5574 West Shore Drive  
Paul Koch 5550 Butts Road  
Roger Nash 5368 West Shore Drive  
Katie Hebal 5558 West Shore Drive

#### **New Members**

Victoria Jansen 5503 N. Cave Point Drive

#### **Moved Away**

Corey and Angelina Peterson 5564 Clark Lake Drive