

# CLARK LAKE ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION

## Annual Letter & Membership/Dues Notice (2025)

### 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 fun successful 2024. I look forward to working with all of you in 2025.

It has been a busy year. CLAA planned for new events to get member families involved in lake activities, shortened the Annual Meeting format, introduced a Welcome to Summer event, hired a new person to remove, repair, and install the buoys, instituted an Annual Boat Ramp Sticker (for a donation) and had the dam spillway repaired. But CLAA still has challenges. CLAA needs new Board members and committee chairpersons to plan, organize and execute activities for CLAA families. Without their dedication, CLAA cannot continue to provide events for our members. Without Board members and Officers, CLAA cannot continue to exist. CLAA needs to elect a new President and Secretary in 2025. Please consider stepping up for these positions. 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/>. Our Social committee will be sending out a survey shortly looking for input on events for 2025 that our members will participate in. Please take the time to respond to the survey.

Welcome to our new members and Clark Lake residents (see Page 4). For those new residents that are not members, please consider joining our Association. A good way to meet members is to volunteer on our various committees, it is a great way to meet other members. We remember those who passed away, especially Dick Egan and Don Hinnenthal. They committed their time and talent to the betterment of Clark Lake. Farewell to those that have left, we hope that you take great memories with you. Please review the list of 2024 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.

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.

The schedule for the 2025 events and Board of Director Meetings (second Saturday, May thru September, 5/10, 6/14, 7/12, 8/9, and 9/13) have been posted on the website and have been added to our new Calendar that will be available to current members. A number of these events are tentative due to coordination issues with establishments and shortage of workers. 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 2025. I am looking forward to seeing you on and around Clark Lake.

Mike Brunet (President CLAA)

## Committee and Work Group Reports

### Social Committee (Open)

We are working on the following four events this year: CLAA is working on a survey to determine events for 2025. Please respond.

Fire and Ice – 2/1/2025 -Martins.

Kickoff to Summer Picnic – TBD, 2025 Island Fever (outside), Time TBD – Closed until 4/2 - more information to follow.

Annual meeting - Saturday July 12, 2025, Jacksonport Town Hall

July Boat Parade – Saturday, 7/5 - Jerry Voelker Band playing from a pontoon boat, Time – TBD, may be additional music after at beach.

Kayak Poker Run – TBD, August 2025, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Fall Dinner – September 2025 Lodge at Leathem Smith, larger groups take precedence, Some Saturdays may not be available. Looking for alternate location

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

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

This committee coordinates projects to **preserve water quality** for both the surface and ground water (well water) for Clark Lake and its contributing area. Rainwater flushing across the landscape (**runoff**) deposits pollutants into our water. Reducing both the amount of contaminants present in the soil (**load**) and the amount of runoff protects our lake and wells.

Please **commit to conscientious stewardship** of your property: Limit pollutants, reduce runoff, establish native plants, protect aquatic plants, prevent lakebed disruption, identify and treat invasive species. Maintain your septic system and monitor your well water annually.

**Vegetation** reduces runoff by: trapping rain in the leaf canopy; absorbing and transpiring water back into the air; and holding it in their roots. Plants, especially those with deep and complex root systems also create stable and absorbent soil..

**Native plants** have evolved to positively interact with their environment. **Invasive species** disrupt this balance so identification and control of invasive species and promotion of native plants is another function of the WQVC. Thanks to a grant, the county is treating phragmites this year but they need permission slips signed this spring.

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.

Aquatic plants, such as **bulrush** serve an important role in securing the lake bed. Please observe the no motor and slow no wake zones marked by regulatory buoys. Limit entering beds of bulrush for any activity.

**Impervious surfaces** such as roofs, concrete, roads do not allow water to seep into the ground for natural filtration and cleansing. Soil characteristics are also a factor in filtration with heavily traveled, compacted soils being resistant to permeability.

**Disruption of the lake bed** destroys vegetation and animal habitat. It also releases chemicals and contaminants to redistribute to other sensitive areas of the lake. As an example, phosphorous is held in our lake bed but when disrupted will spread out and up and increase the growth of algae as we saw early last summer. 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. Please do not use Wake enhancing devices in water less than 20 ft.

**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.

### **Fish/Wildlife Committee (Open)**

We have nothing planned for this year. Our fish sticks permit must be renewed for future projects. .

Ice fishing traffic may be heavy due to the ice quality on the Bay and the short season this winter. No ice is safe. Be careful out there.

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

It was a busy year for Lake Safety. With Bob DeFaut's retirement as "the Buoy Guy", we searched for a new person. Thanks to Fred Foreman's recommendation, CLAA hired Tim Alberts. Tim removed the buoys in the Fall and will be inspecting them for repair/replacement before installing in the Spring. He is also reviewing replacing some anchors that are difficult to find in the Spring. Tim lives in West Jacksonport and works for the Town of Baileys Harbor. More about the buoys and a brief introduction of Tim Albers in the next Newsletter.

Ryan Brungraber (Clark Lake Dam Manager), along with Mark Haen (Chair of Sevastopol Park and Rec Committee) and his son, Jack, fixed the hole in the spillway. The horizontal fish exclusion grates had to be removed to repair the hole in the concrete wall. These grates have been replaced. They are sturdy and in proper alignment. All who enjoy the lake are happy for the repaired spillway, except for the Lake Michigan fish that come to spawn.

With the CLAA Board's unanimous approval, we are in discussion with both Jacksonport and Sevastopol townships to pass an ordinance to prevent the use of artificially enhanced devices on boats for wake surfing on Clark Lake. Clark Lake is too small (868 acres) and too shallow (only 1% of the surface area lies above the minimum depth of 20 – 25 feet). This depth has been identified on scientific studies to be the minimum need to avoid disturbance and destruction of the lake bottom. The process of passing this ordinance has stalled, but the committee is reviewing the issues and refocusing our efforts. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

### **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. CLAA goal is to publish in 2025, but we need assistance. 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 Home page of the website provides quick and easy access the News, Concerns, and Activities around Clark Lake. Health and Safety section provides important updates on swimmer's itch, lake e-coli levels, ice conditions, etc. around Clark Lake. What's Happening on Clark Lake section provides information on events, Board meetings, and activities that affect Clark Lake members. News/Notices section provides e-mails to the membership regarding important topics such as fiber optic, CLAA sponsored events, local events and important news. If you are not receiving Email/News/Notices, please go to the Subscribe Now on the bottom of the Home page.

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

We will continue to provide pricing from our propane vendors in the Door County Associations Group Buy program. Since this price will only be provided to participating Association Paid members, propane vendors will follow up and ensure only paid members receive this pricing. **Please pay your dues by April 1, 2025.** CLAA will no longer provide group pricing for garbage/recycling, asphalt seal coating and paving. 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.

### **Internet**

Town of Jacksonport has selected Frontier for fiber optic internet. Installation has begun on the north and east sides of Clark Lake. Sevastopol is working with AT&T. Frontier is contacting existing customers for similar installation. 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 – 242, 2024-232). 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). There is an additional list of paid-up members.

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 2024, CLAA had a fiscal surplus or Net income of \$3,621.91. Revenue for the year was \$12,705.79. Essentially flat to budget. And down from last year. Boat ramp donations were up, dues and donations were down. We had 232 paid members vs. 242 for 2023. Expenses for the year were \$9,083.88, significantly under budget. We spent more on social events in 2024 having added additional opportunities such as the Kickoff to Summer and Fire and Ice events for members to get together. We underspent for fish and wildlife and WQVC. Website and insurance costs were higher than expected. The difference is our net surplus. Total assets ended at \$45,914.29. 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**

Sharon Cook 5544 W Shore Dr  
Carol Davelis 5671 Trails End Ct  
Dick Egan 5321 S Lake Rd  
Geraldine Haunfelder 5589 Clark Lake Dr  
Don Hinnenthal 5658 Loritz Rd  
Tom Horbinski 5426 W Shore Dr  
Carol Karbowski 5609 Trails End Ct  
Gary Stewart 3531 Clark Lake Ct  
Carl VandeHey 5653 Clark Lake Dr  
John Zima 5513 Clark Lake Dr

#### **Moved Away**

Doug and Jayne Latreille 5300 W Shore Dr  
Steve and Andrea Rank 5620 Clark Lake Dr  
Daniel and Ellen Laubusch 5241 S Lake Rd

#### **New Members**

Russell Burie 5616 Clark Lake Dr  
Bryan Fuss 5618 Clark Lake Dr  
Karl Laufenberg 5597 Clark Lake Dr  
Farai and Katherine Musuka 5620 Clark Lake Dr  
Tom and Suzie Wilkinson 5300 W Shore Dr  
Julie Blackmore and John McCormick 5241 S Lake Rd