

## **CROCKERY LAKE ASSOCIATION**

June 2019 NEWSLETTER

CROCKERY LAKE WEBSITE: [www.crockerylake.org](http://www.crockerylake.org)

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# **LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER!!**



## **Wednesday, JULY 3, 2019— CROCKERY LAKE FIREWORKS!**

Thanks to your many generous donations, we collected **\$4,600.00** for this year's fireworks. Show will be similar to last year. The fireworks will be shot off at dusk (approximately 10:15 p.m.) from the Gunckel Farm on the west end of the lake.

## **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:**

- The **boat parade** will get underway at 7:00 pm. Entries are being accepted now until the start of the parade. Early entries are appreciated. The sign-up sheet and boat numbers are available at the Wolters' residence, 2442 Crockery Shores Road, on the north side of the lake. There is a notebook in the glassed in porch. Please write down the number you choose for your vessel, name and phone number in the book where we can reach you at, during, and after the event to let you know who the winners are. Winners must be members of the association. (If you haven't been contacted or weren't able to reach your CLA Representative to pay dues, you may call your CLA Representative, CLA Treasurer, Greg Slater 616-638-6930 or Pat Wolters at 616-887-8707.)
- Staging will also be at the Wolters' residence. Please arrive by 6:50pm to line up. The judges will remain anonymous and will be stationed around the lake. The parade will make two complete laps in a counter clockwise direction around the lake. Winners will be notified the next day. Prizes include: \$100 for first place, \$50 for second place, and \$25 for third place. (Note: only CLA member entries are eligible for prize money).
- The **Ring of Fire** will start at 9:45pm. Start saving your milk jugs. Candles can be purchased from any board member. Cut off the top, and fill with 3" of sand & place plumbers candles in the sand. Residents place the jugs along their shoreline, and light the candles just before dusk. Please light your candles and participate in this special tradition.
- Carl Elliott and Tom Ludwick will start the **fireworks** display at dark (roughly 10:15 pm). Invite your friends and family to enjoy the show, made possible ENTIRELY by your private donations! Thank you everyone!

- Help us thank the Gunkel family who graciously allow us to utilize their land at the west end of the lake for the fireworks display every year. Our celebration would not be possible without their support!
- Volunteers are needed! July 3 9:00 a.m. until approximately noon. The mortar racks weigh from 40-60 lbs, so you must be able to lift both to set up and to store the mortar racks.
- July 4 9:00 a.m. until done. Lighter work involved basically to clean up debris from shooting off fireworks. Also mortars need to be loaded on a trailer. Please plan to show up and help. Many hands make light work. Please bring your own garbage bags.
- This is strictly volunteer per Wolverine. You will not be covered by any insurance.
- Questions? Call Carl Elliott 616-822-9250.

### **WATER TESTING KITS AVAILABLE.**

Pick one up from Pat Wolter's porch. Check your water to see if it is safe to drink. Water testing bottles from Alliance Analytical Laboratories were available at the Annual Meeting. Directions come with the bottle. The cost is \$32 to check for e-coli and phosphorus and is paid when the bottle of water is taken to the laboratory at 179 Randall Street, Coopersville. (Check with Pat Wolters or Bob Blauwkamp for sampling kits.)

### **DISCOUNTED SEPTIC PUMPING SERVICES**

Your family's health and the lake's water quality depends on this. By pumping regularly, you will avoid costly repairs to your system. This is a very important way in which all residents can help preserve the health of Crockery Lake. **Kerkstra's Septic** | 616-209-4472 continues to offer discounted rates to Crockery Lake residents.

### **MUCK TREATMENT**

First Muck Treatment - Monday, 6/17/2019.

PLM reported the lake was in good shape. There were a few small areas of algae growth but didn't warrant a treatment. Plant growth was minimal at that time. If anything changed before the weekend we should let them know. We have contacted PLM by phone and sent photos of increased algae within the water column. We have now had an algae treatment.

### 2018 CHEMICAL TREATMENT DATES

5/13/2019 Spring Survey  
5/20/2019 Weed & Algae Opt., MD Treatment  
6/24/2019 Algae & Weed Opt., MD Treatment  
7/22/2019 Opt. Weed & Algae, MD Treatment  
8/19/2019 Fall AVAS Survey, MD Treatment

DEQ permitting restrictions, national holidays, and/or weather conditions may influence the timing of treatments throughout the 2019 season. PLM treats each lake according to a schedule or season plan, established with the cooperation of your lake association, lake board or residents on the lake. The treatment schedule is approximate. Please watch your shoreline for the posting of the 8.5x11 inch, yellow or green signs. The signs will indicate the date of the treatment, the products used, and any restrictions on the use of treated water for swimming, watering lawns, etc. The property owners in this area are planning to have the waters chemically treated to control lake weeds and/ or algae. This notice is being circulated accordance with Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) procedures. On the day of treatment, signs will be posted along the shoreline within 100 feet of treatment areas that indicate what products were used and specific water use restrictions that apply.

The chemicals used for Aquatic Nuisance Control are registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Michigan Department of Agriculture. The potential for damage to fish and other non-target organisms is minimal provided that the product is used as directed on fish and other non-target organisms is minimal provided that the product is used as directed on the product label and the permit.

**COONTAIL COMING IN SOON** After the Milfoil has been chemically treated, another weed, COONTAIL, will take its place. Coontail looks similar to Milfoil, but does not spread the same way. Feel free to pull out as much Coontail as you can stand!!

### **MORE FUN--EELGRASS SEASON IS FAST APPROACHING**

Per Professional Lake Management, removal of eelgrass by chemical control is generally not recommended (1) because of oxygen depletion in the water, (2) the disruption of fish habitat, and (3) the chemical treatment will only be effective for 2 weeks—then the eelgrass quickly grows back.

Luckily, eelgrass has shallow roots and it is easy to pull out. The earlier you pull it out, the less work it will be for you. Be a good lake neighbor-like milfoil, be sure to remove all fragments as they may reroot in another spot.

Chuck Lane has found by reducing the muck, he has reduced the amount of eelgrass growing in his swim area. He buys muck pellets from Professional Lake Management. A \$100 bucket will cover an area approximately 50' x 50'. Apply the pellets once a month. MD Pellets. <https://plmcorp.net>. They will make arrangements to drop off the pellets at your house so you avoid shipping costs.

### **DOG LEASH LAW IN MICHIGAN**

Michigan has a leash law that requires all dogs to be on a leash, which means the owner is reasonable to enforce this law by keeping their animal securely on a leash and under control when in public areas. Unfortunately, many dog owners do not implement this law and allow their dogs to run freely in streets and parks. When a person is injured after being pursued by a dog, the dog owner is accountable for the injuries suffered in the attack. This includes compensation

for pain and suffering, a scar or disfigurement, and payment of medical expenses related to the dog bite attack.

There have been complaints about dogs running through yards around our lake. Please, please before someone or a pet gets hurt, keep your dogs on a leash.

## **2019 ANNUAL MEETING**

**Speakers:** Bob Blauwkamp, Board Member, Treasurer, and Lake Steward, explained how he and Dennis Arms, Board Member and Lake Steward, monitor Crockery Lake for clarity, depth at the deepest point, chlorophyll, and oxygen level.

**Clarity:** Bob and Dennis use a Secchi Disk attached to a “measuring tape.” A Secchi Disk is a round disk divided into pie pieces of alternating black and white. One of the men lowers the disk over the edge of the boat into the water until he can no longer see the disk. The other person records the depth as shown on the tape. The deepest reading for clarity in 2018 was four feet, after a particularly dry period. Other readings showed opacity at just about two feet.

**Chlorophyll:** The test for chlorophyll is done twice monthly. Bob said Dennis fills the clean bottle, shakes it, and empties it. Then leaning over the side of the boat, he scoops water from a depth of 18” to 24”. On shore, Dennis adds a reagent, shakes the bottle, and then uses a hypodermic needle to withdraw water. That water is filtered. The debris from the filtered water is frozen. Twice a year they send their samples to the DNR.

**Phosphorus:** Bob and Dennis lower a measured rope to twice the depth of the Secchi Disk reading. Again, they record their data and submit to the DNR.

**Oxygen Levels:** Twice a year Bob and Dennis have used an oxygen meter to check for dissolved oxygen. Oxygen levels fall off dramatically after five or six feet. Bob said that the first time he measured oxygen, the

reading dropped so fast that he thought he had lost the meter in the lake. The low dissolved oxygen levels indicate a eutrophic or dying lake.

***Sedimentation:*** Pat Wolters, CLA Vice President and Lake Steward, described “Score the Shore,” the technique that she learned at the 2017 Annual Michigan Lakes and Streams Conference, to evaluate the shoreline. Using an app that divides the shoreline into 1000 foot segments, Pat and Linda Lane were able to assign a numerical value to each section based upon topographical features that exist along the edge of the lake.--hard surface, structures, lawn, trees, sandy beaches, etc. Each category gets a numerical score according to what exists along that 1000 feet of shoreline. Pat and Linda send the Crockery Lake data to Michigan Lakes and Streams (ML&S) which is coordinating a state-wide program. Score the Shore will be done again in Summer 2019. ML&S will send suggestions for improving the Crockery Lake shoreline, which are intended to create a healthier lake.

***E-coli, Phosphorus, and Nitrate Testing:*** The CLA asked the DEQ several years ago to monitor Crockery Lake for e-coli, phosphorus, and nitrates. The agency will finally do that several times during the summer (2019). The samples may show where the source of the contaminates—i.e. runoff, failing septic systems, or other sources.

***Volunteer Recognition:*** President Bruce Callen announced that Pat Wolters, Linda Lane, Bob Blauwkamp, and Dennis Arms received commendation from the MiCorp for their stewardship of Crockery Lake.

~ **Secretary’s Report:** As per CLA By-laws Secretary Susan McClure read the minutes from the 2018 Annual Meeting. There were no comments.

~ **Treasurer’s Report:** Treasurer Bob Blauwkamp presented his report. The balance brought forward is \$883.60. The fireworks balance for the 2019 show is \$4,600. Bob will pay Wolverine, the fireworks company, with one check at the end of May. The balance for the 2020 fireworks is \$585.33. The cost of

the ML&S membership and magazine is \$222. The current balance is \$5,846.93. Pat Wolters moved to accept the Treasurer's Report; Betsy Ludwick seconded. Motion carried.

~ **Fireworks Program:** Carl Elliott thanked people for the response to the second appeal for funds for the 2019 show. \$1,439.33 was raised and \$854 was applied to the 2020 show. Because Carl Elliott and Tom Ludwick store the mortar racks locally, they do not recommend a larger show. Carl repeated the need for new volunteers to take Wolverine's certification course on May 18, 2019. Carl and Tom have generously given their time on July 3 for 5 years and would like to enjoy the holiday with their families. If Wolverine produces the show, the cost is projected to be \$5400 and the show may not be on July 3. No one at the Annual Meeting volunteered to participate. The fireworks are set off on Frank and Carol Gunckel's land, 2919 Gooding Street, Conklin, at the west end of the lake.

~ **Recognition of Directors:** President Bruce Callen thanked members for letting him serve (he is not seeking re-election). He recognized Pat Wolters for her "forever" devotion to and for her care of Crockery Lake, to Susan McClure for stepping in as secretary, to Bob Blauwkamp for his work as Treasurer and as

a Lake Steward, Betsy Ludwick for doing the on-line newsletter, Dennis Arms for his Lake Stewardship, and Carl Elliott for his many, many contributions to the July 3 fireworks display. Out-going Board Member Linda Rexford was thanked for her terms of service.

The new and continuing board members offer deep appreciation to Bruce Callen for his years on the board and as president of the board. His experience and wisdom were greatly appreciated. Thank you, Bruce.

And to Linda Rexford for her time on the board. Her quiet calm was so appreciated. Thank you, Linda.



~ **Election of New Board Members:** Bob Blauwkamp, Paula Humphrey, and Greg Slater were nominated to the Board. Susan McClure moved to accept the nominations; Pat Wolters seconded. The three members were elected by a unanimous voice vote of the members present. As treasurer, Bob had collected membership dues prior to the start of the Annual Meeting.

## **Board Meeting Dates: Locations to be determined**

**June 19 - 7:00pm** at 2532 Crockery Shores Road (Carl Elliott's)

**July 17 - 7:00pm**

**August 21 - 7:00pm**

**September 18 - 7:00pm**

## **EXECUTIVES**

### **President / Bob Blauwkamp**

Position Expires: 4/30/22

616.957.9007 / [rblauwkamp@gmail.com](mailto:rblauwkamp@gmail.com)

Representing: 2332 - 2550 Crockery Shores Road, 24th Ave, Hoover

### **Vice President / Pat Wolters**

Position Expires: 4/30/20

616.887.8707 / [patwolters@aol.com](mailto:patwolters@aol.com)

Represents: 2833 - 2871 Crockery Shores, Kaycee Lane, Crockery Woods

### **Treasurer / Greg Slater**

Position Expires: 4/30/22

616.638.6930 / [GSLATER@ccstech.net](mailto:GSLATER@ccstech.net)

Representing: 2221 Van Dyke St - 2391 Van Dyke St

### **Secretary / Susan McClure**

Position Expires: 4/30/21

616.899.5480 / [smcclure527@comcast.net](mailto:smcclure527@comcast.net)

Represents: 2519 - 2681 Van Dyke

## TRUSTEES

### Dennis Arms

Position Expires: 4/30/20

616.890.2681 / [bigd33@gmail.com](mailto:bigd33@gmail.com)

Representing: 2563 Crockery Shores Road - 2798 Crockery Shores Road

### Betsy Ludwick

Position Expires: 4/30/21

616.723.5704 / [betsylud@gmail.com](mailto:betsylud@gmail.com)

Representing: 2081 Van Dyke - 2211 Van Dyke

### Paula Humphrey

Position Expires: 4/30/22

616.498.0363 / [paulah2700@gmail.com](mailto:paulah2700@gmail.com)

Representing: 2392 Van Dyke - 2516 Van Dyke

### Carl Elliott

Position Expires: 4/30/2021

616.822.9250 mobile

616.887.4203 home / [versilecbe@yahoo.com](mailto:versilecbe@yahoo.com)

Representing: 2705 Van Dyke St - 2835 Van Dyke

FACEBOOK ADMIN / Katie Spangler and Betsy Ludwick  
[spanglerlane@gmail.com](mailto:spanglerlane@gmail.com)

Past President - Bruce Callen

[bcallen@callenengineering.com](mailto:bcallen@callenengineering.com)

Your ASSOCIATION DUES play a HUGE part in effectively running the CLA program, which promotes education on lake environmental studies, social get togethers, and community awareness programs as well. Many people who receive the CLA newsletter find helpful information and tips on helping our lake survive or for that matter helping each other in one way or the other. We need ALL readers to become members of CLA so we can become more united in our effort to promote a healthy neighborhood, community, and most importantly our beautiful Crockery Lake. Come on folks—please do your part and join the Crockery Lake Association today—it's such a small price to provide a benefit to one and all!

**Association Dues: \$35 per household**

Your CLA Board Representative will be visiting you soon. We encourage you to become a member! Your Rep will have candles for sale for use during the Ring of Fire. You can also make a donation to the 2018 Fireworks at this time. Alternatively, you can make a donation to the fireworks via the Crockery Lake website.

**Advertisers Corner**

*Advertising in this newsletter is FREE to Crockery Lake Members.*

*Advertising for business is \$25/year.*

*Inclusion of any advertisement in the CLA Newsletter does not equate to an endorsement by the Crockery Lake Association.*

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