

## **CROCKERY LAKE ASSOCIATION**

August/September 2021 NEWSLETTER

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

CROCKERY LAKE EMAIL:

[crockerylakeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:crockerylakeassociation@gmail.com)

CROCKERY LAKE FACEBOOK: [www.facebook.com/crockerylake](http://www.facebook.com/crockerylake)

CROCKERY LAKE ITEMS: [www.cafepress.com/crockerylake](http://www.cafepress.com/crockerylake)



## **2022 FIREWORKS**

Thank you to everyone who donated to the fireworks fund so far. Crockery Lake fireworks are totally paid for by donations from our residents and friends. In order to enjoy the same show next year we need to raise a little more money: A total of \$6,000. At this time we have **\$5600!** That is great but Wolverine will not even schedule us until we reach \$6000. We would appreciate your contributions and/or if you or your business would like to sponsor them that would be great. Donations can be made via the website at: [www.crockerylake.org](http://www.crockerylake.org) or

Send to: [Greg Slater, 2500 Crockery Shores Road, Casnovia, MI 49318](#)

## **GROSE PARK VANDALISM**

It saddens us to report that a terrible, senseless act of vandalism has done major damage to our beloved Grose Park in the early morning hours of Tuesday, September 12. Thankfully, there were no injuries but the storage garage and all of the equipment in it were burned beyond repair. Also, one of the bathrooms was violently destroyed. Sinks and toilets were ripped from the wall, mirrors were smashed, and paper towel holders were ripped from the wall and destroyed.

If you have ANY information to help find those who did this please call the Ottawa County Sheriffs Department at **1-800-249-0911.**

## **END OF SEASON LAKE CLEAN UP**

It was a beautiful summer to enjoy Crockery Lake. It's always sad to see summer end and people take out their boats and docks.

As we clean up this year there are a few things with lake front clean up to keep in mind:

1. Please rake up your leaves when they fall and dispose of them properly. Please do not rake or blow grass and leaves into the lake. When they rot in the water they add to the phosphorus in the lake. This will encourage algae to grow next year. Without any natural soil to soak into, when it rains, nutrients released by decaying leaves are washed into runoff water which eventually ends up in the lake. Unfortunately, additional nutrients in a lake is **not** a good thing—the nutrient phosphorus fuels the growth of algae, including toxic algae.
2. Clean fire pits out so that if we get high water that comes into the yard, the ash will not flow into the lake.
3. Make sure all kayaks, floats, docks, swim rafts and toys are far enough away from the waters edge so they will not float away if we get excessive rain or when the melt comes in the spring.
4. Please clean up dog excrement during the winter. Melting snow will also carry this into the lake and we know what e-coli does to a lake.
5. We always encourage you to pump your septic tank every 3-5 years depending on use. This is huge in keeping our water quality good. Having a sewer system would greatly improve the quality of our lake but would be very costly to put in and then there are the fees. Pumping your septic tank every few years is only a few hundred dollars and is very effective in helping to maintain our lake.
6. Fall is a great time to plant some native plants to help maintain your shoreline.

~ Flowering plants would include: Marsh Milkweed, Swamp Aster, Joe Pye-weed, Boneset, Cardinal Flower, Great Blue Lobelia, Allegheny Monkey Flower, Sweet Gale, Ditch Stonecrop, Water Smartweed, and Lizards tail.

~ Grasses include: Water Sedge, Bristly Sedge, Porcupine Sedge, Lake Sedge, Tussock Sedge, Virginia Wild Rye, Baltic Rush, Soft Rush, River Bulrush, and Wool Grass. There are also trees and shrubs that work well on shorelines. Plants will help protect your shore from waves also.

For a complete list with more information and pictures of each plant go to [www.mishorelinepartnership.org/between-water-level-and-ordinary-high-water-mark.html](http://www.mishorelinepartnership.org/between-water-level-and-ordinary-high-water-mark.html)

## **SHORELINE STEWARDS**

Congratulations to Linda Lane who has been recognized as a Michigan Shoreline Steward.



The Michigan Shoreline Stewards program provides recognition for lakefront property owners who are protecting inland lakes through best management practices on their property.

There is a lot of good information on their website:

<https://www.mishorelandstewards.org/>

## **LAKE MONITORING**

Due to the excessive algae we have experienced this year the lake has been closely monitored for clarity almost daily. Linda Lane has been doing this with the Secchia disk readings. The worst it has been was only 15 inches on July 2 and the best was 7'3" on August 4 more than a month after the algae treatments. We have had 3 algae treatments. The temperature of the lake water directly affects the clarity. There isn't anything we can do to change the lake temp. When the lake cools the clarity gets so much better.

Thank you Linda for your diligent work!

We also monitor the weeds. There does seem to be a lot of vegetation growth right now. Some of this will die off throughout the winter. We will resume weed treatments in the spring of 2022.

## **WHY BECOME A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION?**

*Worth repeating from the last newsletter!*

Each year board members try to visit each lake resident to encourage you to join the association. It is similar to paying a Home Owners Association (HOA) fee. However, our “dues” are voluntary and not required.

Dues are used to ensure the lake remains useable and healthy for the residents.

If the Crockery Lake Association cannot get the proper funding to support the lake’s health, then the fate of the lake will remain in the township’s hands. The board gives a voice to all members of the lake association.

The lake board does their best to listen and implement your ideas and concerns. As lake residents, we have a responsibility to treat the lake with respect and try to minimize the damage caused by OUR use of the lake. If we don’t take this responsibility seriously, no one will.

**Why not leave the lake health in the hands of  
the people who live on it?**

**The dues are just \$35 per year.**

## **What does the Crockery Lake Association Board do for you?**

### **1 - MAINTAIN THE LAKE’S USABILITY THROUGH WEED TREATMENTS**

Our lake has a substantial amount of weeds that if left untreated would make portions of the lake unusable.

Since the lake is only 108 acres, not treating the lake would severely limit boat traffic. Untreated “Eurasian Milfoil” will be cut and spread by boat motors. Within a couple of years, the lake would require more chemical treatment for the milfoil. Increased chemicals will also increase the cost to you. Because of the high phosphorous level in our lake, untreated weeds will accumulate in large amounts and sit on top of the weeds, creating an

unsightly and smelly lake. The CLA only treats the lake with as small amount of chemical as needed. Options for treatment vary each year, along with the types of weeds and where they grow throughout the lake. The board works with Professional Lake Management to decide what type of treatment(s) are needed and when they should occur.

## **2 - ORGANIZE THE YEARLY FIREWORKS SHOW**

The fireworks show is 100% funded by the lake residents, friends and family.

Obtaining permits for the show and boat parade, donation collection, contract negotiation, coordination with the fire department and owners of the firework site, and the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department are just a few of the tasks required to put the show on every year. The Board member in charge of the fireworks spends a substantial amount of time on the day of the event dealing with problems and questions from the various involved parties.

## **3 - INFORM RESIDENTS ABOUT IMPORTANT ISSUES IMPACTING THE LAKE**

Because of our lake's continued membership of the Michigan Lake & Stream Assn., our lake is light years ahead of many other lakes in the state. Michigan Lake & Stream is a nonprofit organization which keeps lake associations up-to-date on a huge variety of issues—lake studies, grants, pending legislation, monitoring programs, education, boating laws and regulations. CLA members attend regional and annual meetings where this valuable information is obtained (they are not reimbursed for their attendance at these meetings, they attend to help with the well-being of the lake). As an active member of ML&SA, we obtain additional help and immediate help with any lake problems. Additional perks to us being a member include: the best ways to handle weed treatments; a heads up on any legislation pending in Lansing that may affect our lake, being the first in line for lake monitoring studies, and working relationship with other lake associations. We also coordinate with many governmental entities—The Drain Commission, The Road Commission, The Parks Commission, and Chester Township on lake problems.

## **4 - PROTECT THE LAKE THROUGH ACTIVE TOWNSHIP ORDINANCES**

We were the first lake association in the state to implement a total fertilizer ban around the lake, other lakes request our ordinance to implement to their own.

Education from ML&SA programs, including phosphorous loading from fertilizers and water runoff are the #1 reason for algae problems. The newspapers are loaded with articles on lakes in our area with chronic algae problems which keep residents from swimming and boating in the lakes. Because of CLA actions, a smaller amount of fertilizer is now entering our lake and helping to ward off algae blooms. Residents should take credit for this also, because without your cooperation, this ordinance would not be as successful as it is!

The second ordinance is the “Dock/Funneling” ordinance. “Funneling” is when there is one undeveloped lot on the lake and homes built in the vicinity of the lot, but not on the lake, are given lake access on their deed to own a percentage of the lot. Without specific ordinances against this, these undeveloped lots have the potential of turning into a small marina—a dock holding an unlimited number of boats from all the residents given lake access. The ordinance also limits the number of docks per household to one, and licensed boats to three.

## **5 - SUPPLY INFORMATIVE NEWSLETTERS**

The newsletters are an important source of information and allows residents to stay connected as a lake family. These are available digitally via email or from our website and Facebook page. Printed copies are available by request. Careful research is done before any article is placed in the newsletters.

Upcoming meetings and events, planned weed treatments, lake health results, new neighbors, and general information that lake residents would want to know about, are just some of the topics provided in the newsletter.

Registration form included at the end of the newsletter or you can join by going to our website: [www.crockerylake.org](http://www.crockerylake.org).

**We all have the same goal ~ to enjoy our beautiful lake and keep it healthy!**

**ARE YOU THINKING OF SELLING YOUR HOME?**

The CLA Board gets occasional emails from people who are very interested in being part of our Crockery Lake community. And there are many of our neighbors who have friends or family who would love to be on the lake also. If you are interested in selling your home you can let a board member know and we have a list of potential neighbors. See our realtor advertisement in the ad section below and he can help you.

*Advertising in this newsletter is FREE to Crockery Lake Association Members. Advertising for business is \$25/year. Become a Corporate Fireworks Sponsor for a minimum donation of \$300.*

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

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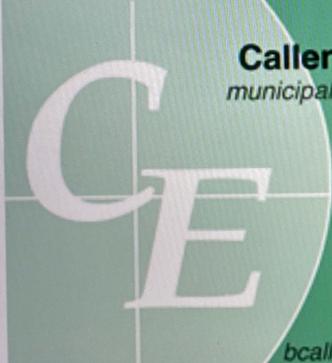
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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **President / Betsy Ludwick**

Position Expires: 4/30/24

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

Newsletter Editor, Website & Facebook Administrator

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

Position Expires: 4/30/23

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 / [greg.gsesllc@outlook.com](mailto:greg.gsesllc@outlook.com)

Representing: 2221 Van Dyke St - 2391 Van Dyke St

### **Secretary / Susan McClure**

Position Expires: 4/30/23

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

Represents: 2519 - 2681 Van Dyke

### **Immediate Past 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

## **TRUSTEES**

### **Mollie Gaggin**

Position expires: 4/30/2023

313.712.6437 / [molliesterr@gmail.com](mailto:molliesterr@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: 4/30/2024

616.822.9250 mobile

616,887,4203 home / [versilecbe@yahoo.com](mailto:versilecbe@yahoo.com)

Representing: 2705 Van Dyke St - 2835 Van Dyke

### **John deGeneres**

Position expires: 4/30/24

225.287.1420 / [johnkassidegen@gmail.com](mailto:johnkassidegen@gmail.com)

Representing: 2563 Crockery Shores Road - 2798 Crockery Shores Road

### **FACEBOOK/WEBSITE ADMINISTRATORS**

**Katie Spangler and Betsy Ludwick**

[spanglerlane@gmail.com](mailto:spanglerlane@gmail.com) & [betsylud@gmail.com](mailto:betsylud@gmail.com)

Past President - Bruce Callen

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

**CROCKERY LAKE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

YEARLY DUES: \$35 paid by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

FIREWORKS DONATION: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ CANDLES \_\_\_\_\_ at \$1.25 each

Crockery Lake Association is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Dues are not tax deductible. However, firework donations are tax deductible.

Please make your check to: **CROCKERY LAKE ASSOCIATION**

Send to: **Greg Slater, 2500 Crockery Shores Road, Casnovia, MI 49318**

\_\_\_\_\_ ***RETAIN A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS*** \_\_\_\_\_

DUES PAID \$ \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

CANDLES \_\_\_\_\_ X \$1.25 = \_\_\_\_\_

FIREWORKS DONATION \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_