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“Skip a stone.
Take a hike.
Sit a spell.
Listen.
Daydream.
Just breathe.
This is lake living.”

CRYSTAL LAKE PERCH LAKE POA

“Summertime and the living is easy, fish are jumpin’ and the eagles fly”

PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Kevin McMaster

Welcome to our summer newsletter. Great to be back at our beautiful lakes! Kris and I will be spending much more time here now that we sold our home in Ohio...”there goes the neighborhood.” We love the lakes, our lake neighbors, and friends!

Bald Eagle Update

The 2 baby eaglets are now between 8-10 weeks old. They have lost their grey thermal down, and their entire bodies are covered in juvenile feathers. They are quite large and like to sit on the edge of their rather large nest. They should be ready to fly in the next 2-4 weeks. There is great viewing of the eagles’ nest on Crystal Lake by the McMaster and Carr lake homes.

Lake Light Pollution

We all love the new lights available from Home Depot and Menards. They make it safe for us to see getting around our patios and walking to our decks, docks and homes. Please be aware that leaving lights on all night can affect your neighbor’s enjoyment of their time on our lake. Even though our lake is almost a half mile wide, some lights across the lake are bright enough to read by and can light our neighbors’ bedrooms. LED yard lights transmit light waves much farther than traditional incandescent lights and watt for watt much brighter. We all share the lakes that we love. Please be considerate to turn lights off when you aren’t using them, don’t have them on from dusk to dawn, and use a light sensor on security lights so they will come on and go off after the person/deer/raccoon has moved on.

- **Security lighting** should be installed to activate by the motion of a large animal and then shut off quickly if further movement is not detected. Do your best to install so “light trespass” onto our lakes or neighbors’ properties doesn’t happen.
- **Landscape lighting** should be low level, light only walkways and not be pointed toward the lakes.

**2023 BOARD
MEMBERS****PRESIDENT**

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VICE PRESIDENT

Patty Maher
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SECRETARY

Thea Kirkwood
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ROADS

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LAKES

Bob Conn
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SPECIAL PROJECTS

Barb Yamarino
byamarino@me.com

**AD-HOC SPECIAL
PROJECTS**

Laura Dietrich

www.crystalperchlakes.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, continued – Kevin McMaster**Looking for a few good men and women...WE NEED YOU!**

Please consider joining our Crystal / Perch Lake Board. It's a wonderful chance to meet new people with great camaraderie, and a great feeling of accomplishment as you help to manage our beautiful lake community. It is only a couple of meetings during the year, and you do not need to live at the lake full time. Thank you!

CLPLPOA Annual Meeting and Picnic

Please mark your calendars to attend our Annual CLPL meeting on Saturday, July 8th Township Hall. Please join us at 9:30 am for coffee and doughnuts with the meeting starting at 10:00 am.

The **CLPLPOA Annual Lake Picnic** will follow our meeting beginning at 12:00 pm with food served as soon as it is ready. Please BYOB. Barb Yamarino and Laura Dietrich have planned a fabulous **Mexican Fiesta**. It will be fun for the entire family!

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Patty Maher

It looks like summer has arrived. I am looking forward to fully embracing the months ahead, spending as much time as possible at and on the lake this season! I hope to see you at the next Property Owners Association (POA) Membership meeting and picnic on July 8th, if not before.

As for Board activities, over the past six months or so, I have been working with an ad hoc committee formed in the fall of 2022 to update our Crystal-Perch Lakes website. The committee's focus is on two main areas:

- 1) Refreshing the content and design of our Crystal Perch Lakes POA website, and
- 2) Creating a space on our website to further document and share the history of our lake community.

If you would like to access the current version of the website (not yet updated), you can do so here – <https://www.crystalperchlakes.com/>

Initial work over the winter and early spring was to get our act together, encourage volunteers to join the committee, and draft a project plan to keep us on track and moving forward.

We hope to engage POA members on the website with diverse and relevant content and make it easier to update the site when necessary. We are planning to keep the webpages clean and easy to read with links to additional resources relevant to the lake community. The update will provide simple navigation across the site. We will definitely be keeping and adding more photos – reflecting the various aspects of our beautiful surroundings, membership and local community events.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT, continued – Patty Maher

Over the past three months, good progress has been made on the website design, and outlines for the new content have been completed. We have gathered documents from POA members that will help to shape the content of the website, including the history section. (i.e., Did you know that between 1942 and 1948 over 72,000 Norway Pine, Norway Spruce, Red Pine, White Spruce, Douglas Fir, Ponderosa Pine, Scotch Pine, and European Larch were planted by Walter Mayer who lived on Lot 49?) There is still a lot of work to be done, but we have gotten off to a good, even if slower than expected, start! We could still use more help. If you are interested in this opportunity, my contact information is included below.

Looking ahead, authors will continue drafting new content for the website over the summer months and possibly into the fall. We hope to have the basic updates to the website made before the fall membership meeting. We will then be turning our attention to the lake history project. We anticipate this section of the website will continue to be extended as we gather more “stories” overtime (i.e., interviewing long-standing members of the lake community and adding these vignettes to the website).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Many people are helping with some aspect of this project, and I would like to recognize and thank them.

- Mike King – working on the history side of this project;
- Elizabeth LaPorte – author/website content writer and reviewer;
- Gedy Love – copy editor, and help with the history project;
- Alison Neff – author/content writer and reviewer;
- Lois Plantefaber and Lisa Granger – sorting through the 6-8 boxes of historical documents that Dick Johnson so generously stored for the Association Board; and assisting with the history project;
- Dave Vanderworp / Lake Foundation Board – content writer, summarizing the mission/role of Lake Foundation and news notes. (Special mention for being the first to submit his sections!);
- Cindy Applegate – New Neighbor Binder. We are looking to digitize this document on the website for easy access;
- Ryan Carmody – Our webmaster, who will be setting up the new site and adding any new features, or functionality, we may need;
- Libby Pike (Marty & Janet Mulloy's niece) – who will be populating the new content onto the website; and
- CLPL Board – reviewing pertinent content for the website.

If you would like to help with any aspect of this project or have any questions or suggestions, please contact me – Patty Maher (clplveep@gmail.com or via mobile at 734-417-1549). ~ Thank you!

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Thea Kirkwood

Thank you to all the residents of our lakes for your cooperation and appreciation shown to the volunteers on the lakes, including our board members. We are fortunate that so many work together to improve the quality of our community. Members can notify me if they have a missing watercraft so that we can help locate it. Please decal your watercraft with your lot number so we can return items quickly. Rick Applegate has vinyl numbers, and he will bring them to the summer meeting. I will continue to update you on summer activities and general important information pertaining to the membership.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Diane Ostrosky

We have received road dues from all but one (1) member of our association and 24 out of 28 members for administration dues for this fiscal year. Thank you to everyone for your cooperation and patience during this period with the changes instituted from our new By-Laws.

We will begin invoicing for the 2023-24 fiscal year shortly after our summer meeting. Invoices will once again be going out via email. This was a huge cost and time savings for the Board. If you have any updates or changes to your email address, please let myself or Thea Kirkwood know. Our contact information is available on the Lake's webpage at www.crystalperchlakes.com under the Association tab. If you do not have a valid email address, please let me know and I will make a note of it and process your invoice through the mail.

We are also offering payment via Venmo, if you prefer that method. There is a slight administrative fee attached from the application, but it did work very well this last session.

Once again, thank you! I have enjoyed talking to and meeting many of you during my short tenure as the Treasurer. If you have any questions, please let me know and I will do my best to answer them or refer you to someone who can.

ROADS' REPORT – Rick Applegate

Thanks to all of our road volunteers, we are able to maintain and care for the 3.1 miles of private roads around our lakes. A special thanks to Terry Yamarino and Frank Dietrich for their contributions in helping me. As residents, we should not only thank the road crews but all the board members or volunteers who contribute their time and efforts helping out. We cannot make this work without them.

As everyone is aware, our severe weather this spring left all our residents with a big mess. We were able to clear the roads within 24 hours so everyone could get out to the main roads. Volunteers were key in cleaning up our compost area and roadsides of downed trees, limbs, and miscellaneous debris. Some cleanup is still ongoing.

Snow plowing this past winter was lighter than previous years. Ice developed on roads as usual with gravel and sand applied.

Dust control is applied as needed with some challenges as dust control prices have escalated to four times what the cost was just twelve years ago. Keep in mind, dust control is needed but in excess, it is not healthy for our lakes.

ROADS' REPORT, continued – Rick Applegate

The Speed Limit is 15 MPH. Many people are abusing the speed limit! Remember, you are responsible for the contractors you have working on your home or the company that visits you. Please inform those of our speed limit. People do not pay attention to the speed limit signs. If you see FedEx or UPS going to fast, please get their license plate number and call it in. They will get the message!

The compost area is continuing to shrink. Please use a wood chipper if possible, and do not bring anything larger than 6" in diameter. The dozen 24" diameter logs brought into the compost area recently are not acceptable!

Pole Barn storage is key to extending the life of our Maintainer. We continue to utilize Dan Stevick's pole barn for storage and maintenance issues.

There are several people who regularly help out on our roads such as Tim Ostrosky, Chuck Hopkins, and Kenny Gauci to name a few. We had a great turnout of help that joined us at the compost and west side of Crystal Lake cleaning up debris and running it through the wood chipper. Remember, we cannot have well maintained roads without volunteers so please step up and help! Thank you!

– Rick Applegate, Terry Yamarino, and Frank Dietrich

LAKES' REPORT – Bob Conn

Summer is already upon us, and we have had several lake treatments on Crystal and Perch. The water level started out strong; however it began dropping quickly with 10 rain-free days. A contract was signed with RLS for our ecosystem study, and it will begin on June 14th. Pollen was heavy this year resulting in the shore lines looking nasty. Life at the lake is always a challenge to find the balance between nature doing its thing and our tolerating those interruptions. Algae blooms are expected in a lake system that is alive. Hot weather will intensify those natural blooms, and I will try to stay on top of them. Perch had a successful milfoil treatment, but large leaf pond weed will need further management in order to continue use of the lake. Stary Stonewort has now taken over very large parts of both lakes. Studies from the DNR are showing that fish spawning areas will become impacted by this. Stary Stonewort is also a major contributor to floating obstacles in the water as lake temps exceed its ability to thrive, resulting in massive die offs. These dead floating islands create obstacles for boating and swimming.

I hope that everyone has a wonderful happy summer, and I look forward to seeing you at the summer meeting.

SPECIAL PROJECTS – Barbara Yamarino

The annual summer picnic will be held in McCourtie Park at noon on Saturday, July 8th, immediately following the CLPLPOA Annual Meeting. This year's theme is a Mexican Gala. There will be a volunteer planning meeting on June 24th at 2:00 pm. Please contact Laura Dietrich at 502-905-1235 if you would like to help.

SPECIAL PROJECTS, continued – Barbara Yamarino

We are having three Flotilla gatherings this summer on the third Saturday of each month at 5:00 pm! The idea is for anyone interested to meet in the middle of Crystal Lake. We will secure the boats together and enjoy a happy hour. BYOB and provide a snack to share. The dates are:

- Saturday June 17th
- Saturday July 15th
- Saturday August 19th

Bring out your red, white, and blue spirit for our annual July 4th boat parade! If you would like to participate, meet at the Crystal Lake boat launch at 1:00 pm. This year, the parade will be non-competitive and just for fun!

The 2024 calendars feature Chuck Fifield's artwork and will be on sale at the Fall Meeting. Thank you, Chuck!

We are in the planning phase for a Fall Chili Cook Off on September 23rd. If you are interested in helping or providing chili, please contact Laura Dietrich at 502-905-1235.

FOUNDATION

The Foundation was busy last year promoting, researching, and vetting professional lake research companies. We are very happy that the Association Board took up this idea and has selected Restorative Lake Services to do a major study of the health of our lakes. We can't wait to see the results.

Anna Marie Asher is now our secretary and newest member. If anyone else would like to be on the foundation, please contact us. We desperately need someone on Perch Lake to help monitor that Lake. It requires very little time; Secchi disk readings every two weeks and spring and fall water samples. It will help to set a baseline so that we can better direct our actions to promote its health.

The emphasis at the annual Michigan Lakes and Streams conference was sewage and shorelines. It is amazing how much nutrients are fed into our lakes by poorly maintained septic systems. If you haven't had yours serviced in a while, please do so for the benefit of our lakes. It is also amazing how our shorelines affect our Lakes. We would like to find someone who would like to be a "shoreland steward". A little on-line or in person training by the state is provided and then you can be the "go-to" person to help all of us with information and advice about how best to treat our shorelines. For more information go to MIshorelandstewards.org

To further our work and to help us support lake research, please send donations to

Crystal Lake Perch Lake Foundation P.O.Box 193 Somerset Center, MI 49282

Dave VanDerworp
Wayne Snyder
Kate Ross
Anna Marie Asher
Robert Burns

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Lake Flotilla Gatherings:

- Saturday June 17 at 5:00 pm
- Saturday July 15 at 5:00 pm
- Saturday August 19 at 5:00 pm

Boat Parade – July 4 at 1:00 pm

Summer Membership Meeting – July 8 from 10:00 am to 12 noon, coffee and doughnuts at 9:30 – Somerset Township Meeting Room

Summer Picnic – July 8 at 12:00 pm – McCourtie Park

Lake Flotilla Gatherings:

- Saturday June 17 at 5:00 pm
- Saturday July 15 at 5:00 pm
- Saturday August 19 at 5:00 pm

Chili Cook-off – September 23; time TBA

Fall Membership Meeting – October 7 from 10:00 am to 12 noon, coffee and doughnuts at 9:30 – Somerset Township Meeting Room



VOTE BY PROXY

I, the undersigned, a member in good standing of the Crystal Lake-Perch Lake Property Owner's Association, having paid the association administration fee, revoking all prior proxies, do appoint:

(Name of Proxy):

As proxy to represent the undersigned at the meeting of the Members of the CLPLPOA on July 8, 2023 and all adjournments thereof and to vote on all matters properly coming before the meeting.

(Member Signature):