



CRYSTAL LAKE PERCH LAKE POA

PRESIDENT’S REPORT – PATTY MAHER

It has been a most enjoyable summer on Crystal and Perch Lakes. It is great to see so many boating, swimming, fishing, paddling, pedaling, or floating on the water! We are fortunate to enjoy good neighbors, family and friends, and a beautiful environment at our lakes. Which also includes our resident eagle family! They soared and screeched throughout the summer. It is pretty spectacular to have them make Crystal-Perch their home base.



I want to again thank Rick Applegate (Roads), Bob Conn (Lakes), Thea Kirkwood (Secretary), and Kevin McMaster (President) for their service and leadership on the Board. Their generosity of time and talent made our Association stronger. Diane Ostrosky has consistently kept a careful eye on our resources as Treasurer and is always ready with information when called upon. I also want to thank Laura Dietrich for her coordination of our summer happy hour flotillas and many other contributions. The flotillas were great community bonding and

Visit our website at: www.crystalperchlakes.com

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Fall Meeting – Oct 5, 10 am
- Chili Cookoff – Oct 5, 12 pm
- Spring Meeting – Apr 26, 10 am
- Summer Meeting – July 12, 10 am
- Summer Picnic – July 12, 12 pm
McCourtie Park

Located in Somerset Township
Meeting Room unless noted



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2024-2025 BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT

Patty Maher; 734-417-1549
mpvmaher@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Laura Dietrich; 502-905-1235
la54dietrich@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Amy Kochendoerfer; 734-652-3038
CLPLsecretary@gmail.com

TREASURER

Diane Ostrosky; 734-735-1169
ostroskydl@comcast.net

LAKES

Jim Carr; 419-705-3778
cjconsulting8@gmail.com

ROADS

Rob Shier; 815-922-8158
rlshier123@gmail.com

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Linda McCracken; 702-388-7909
lakequilts@gmail.com

FOUNDATION MEMBERS

President – Dave VanDerworp
Secretary – Annamarie Asher
Treasurer – Robert Burns
At Large – Wayne Snyder



PRESIDENT'S REPORT, continued

and most enjoyable events. In addition, Mike Smith recently chaired a golf outing fundraiser for the Lake Foundation at Gauci Golf. Thank you to Mike and committee for their hard work and to the Gauci Family for their hospitality.



As our summer season gives way to fall, the Board is already deep into preparing for the year ahead. (To the left is a complete list of the current Board and their roles.) During our August planning meeting, we discussed key focal areas for each Trustee. In addition to readying for the fall and winter seasons for our roads, one significant task in the upcoming year is addressing our SAD (Special Assessment District) for lake management which expires in 2026. We are in the early stages of exploring funding our lake management efforts in an equitable manner, including a new SAD or other funding alternatives. We will present some preliminary information on this topic at our upcoming CLPL Property Owners Association meeting on

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PRESIDENT’S REPORT, continued

October 5th. You will also hear from each member of the Board of Trustees and our Lake Foundation representatives about their work at the fall meeting. We look forward to seeing you there.

And finally, I am happy to announce our **new website** is ready to launch! You will receive a separate email with the link to the new site in the next few weeks. We hope the website provides useful information about the POA and helpful links for a deeper dive into healthy lakes and shorelines, activities in the local community, and answers to frequently asked questions about the Crystal and Perch Lake Community – all in new refreshed format. Our thanks to Ryan Carmody and his team for developing the new site and to Libby Pike for the final touches and maintenance of our website.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT – LAURA DIETRICH

As I see the first signs of fall, I am both excited for the colors and cool mornings but also wanting to appreciate each warm and sunny day left on the lake! My primary focus since starting my position in July is to develop an additional set of documents that continue to outline and organize information for future board members. The idea is to develop a ‘recipe’ for volunteers / future Board members to use that makes the positions straightforward and easy to implement.

I will also be co-chairing the upcoming committee with Jim Carr to review our lake management needs and possible funding mechanisms as our SAD (Special Assessment District) expires in 2026. The SAD has been a huge success and helped to provide a consistent source of funds to keep our lakes healthy. In the past, monies generated varied greatly between years and was dependent on the generosity of people making donations. This resulted in not only inconsistent funding for lake management but also inconsistencies in participation by our lake residents.

As we move forward into the spring and summer the focus will be communicating on progress and information so that everyone can be informed and included in discussions in membership meetings.

Enjoy the fall sunshine and colors!

SECRETARY’S REPORT – AMY KOCHENDOERFER

I’m excited to introduce myself as the new Lake Secretary for our association. My name is Amy Kochendoerfer, and I’m looking forward to working with all of you to support and enhance our community. The transition has been smooth, thanks to Thea’s meticulous record-keeping and her readiness to support me whenever needed. Thank you, Thea!

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SECRETARY'S REPORT, continued

I want to announce a few important upcoming events:

1. **Fall Membership Meeting:** Our next monthly meeting is scheduled for October 5th at 10 am. This will be a fantastic chance to review ongoing projects, exchange updates, and share any concerns you might have. Plus, don't miss out on the annual Chili Cook-Off! Linda McCracken will share more details with you as the event approaches.
2. **Membership Meeting Dates for 2025:** I am pleased to announce that the meeting dates for 2025 have been set. All meetings will begin at 10 am. We look forward to seeing you there and working together to make our Lake community even better. Please mark your calendars for the following dates:
 - April 26, 2025
 - July 12, 2025
 - October 18, 2025
3. **Annual Picnic:** Don't miss our Annual Lake Association Picnic after our July 12, 2025 membership meeting at noon! It will be a fun-filled event at the pavilion in McCourtie Park, offering a great opportunity to connect with your neighbors. We look forward to seeing you there! Linda McCracken will share more details with you as the event approaches.

Feel free to contact me by email or at 734-652-3038 if you have any questions.

TREASURER'S REPORT – DIANE OSTROSKY

Invoicing for the 2024-2025 fiscal year has begun. Payment was due August 31st. If you have already paid, thank you; if not, please remit payment as soon as possible. The invoices were again sent out to everyone's email. If you have not received your invoice, please contact me at ostroskydl@comcast.net. If you prefer using the Venmo service, payment can be made to @CLPLPOA.

Ann Love is presently conducting the financial audit of the past 2023-2024 fiscal year. She is developing a job instruction and training a couple new volunteers, so it is taking a little longer than normal. We expect it to be completed prior to the fall Association meeting, at which time we will report the results.

Our CD (Certificate of Deposit) matured over the summer earning the Association \$689. I renewed it into another CD and added another \$15,000 for a total of \$30,000 that will mature next fall.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next Association meeting.

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LAKES' REPORT – JIM CARR

It has been a summer of change here at CLPL. An unseasonably warm 2023-2024 winter led to a challenging lake management environment. Kevin, Thea, Rick, and Bob finished their Board terms and new Board members were added. There was one constant: Crystal and Perch Lakes remained healthy and provided enjoyment to us all.

As summer comes to an end, the new Board has begun working on several Lakes-related items:

1. The committee's job is to advise me on how best to meet the needs of these interest groups while maintaining the health of our lakes.
2. Special Assessment District (SAD). Our current SAD ends in two years so it is time to begin working on what comes next. Laura Dietrich and I will co-chair the committee looking at lake management needs and funding options. News on this work will be forthcoming at future POA meetings and through other communications as we launch this committee.

In closing, I promise to work diligently to maintain the health of the lakes, and will seek advice and input from your Lakes Committee, so that we can all continue use and enjoy them in the upcoming year and well into the future!

Please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns at cjconsulting8@gmail.com.

ROADS' REPORT – ROB SHIER

We have an awesome team ensuring that we maintain our roads in the most effective way. The team is taking the approach to split our roads into designated areas for coverage. This helps spread volunteer time and allows designated crew to assess the roads which they travel on. This approach also allows us to sustain our grader skills and back-up each other so coverage is a nonissue. If you have any road concerns in your area, please contact Rob Shier at 815-922-8158.

In the past two months, the team has put time and energy towards maintaining and sustaining the aging grader. This was done to help keep the homeowner road fee flat and to mitigate the risk of equipment failure. The team developed a maintenance strategy and tracker which allowed us to see the largest equipment failure vulnerabilities. This quickly showed us we had a gear pump seal near failure. The OEM replacement had a 6-month lead time and was expensive. With some effort, the team was able to find a domestic solution, and the pump replacement was completed by our volunteers at half the price and in a fraction of time. This allowed us to keep our costs in line. Sustaining the aging grader / maintainer kept us on track for completing minor road improvements while the team explored additional replacement technologies. On September 27th, the road crew will begin

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ROADS' REPORT, continued

a rental trial of a tractor and box grader. The advantage of putting dollars and time towards this trial is to get a true sense of equipment functionality and see if it would be a feasible solution for future contingency or replacement.

The dust control applications this year focused on our highest trafficked areas. It was a challenging spring and summer with multiple heavy rains and washout controls, but the team was able to mitigate dust and cost down by single pass application. With our current supplier, we can carry over 1 to 2 applications into 2025 allowing us to achieve our targets of being environmentally responsible and minimizing costs.

Road traffic this year was high between homeowners and utility company contractor activity, but the roads were maintained nicely by the team. The road traffic is now showing its typical seasonal reduction which provides us the opportunity to add road gravel in certain areas where the road is down to base. This gravel replenishment work will take place from September 17th to 19th and will impact Crystal East, North, and South. Additional areas targeted for replenishment will be assessed based on budgetary affordability. I appreciate your patience for any temporary inconvenience this may cause.



The Road Crew and mascot

I appreciate all the association members that had tree work done this year and either had brush hauled away or utilized a woodchipper. Thank you for helping to sustain our compost area for a few more years.

Please remember that members can do their part by keeping their own road frontage clear, maintaining drainage areas along their roadside property, and reporting to Rob Shier any minor issues you observe before they become severe.

SPECIAL PROJECTS – LINDA McCRACKEN

We are in the middle of a very busy season around the Lakes. It began with a golfing outing. The lake coordinator, Mike Smith, collected 26 golfers to play 9 holes at the challenging Gauci's Golf Resort. It was followed by dinner at the course with 35 diners.

The winning foursome call themselves "The Old Pros". They are Dick Johnson, Marty Mulloy, Rick Applegate, and Chuck Fifield. The event also took in \$333 for the Lakes Foundation.

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SPECIAL PROJECTS, continued

In a few weeks is our annual Chili Cook Off. It will follow the Fall POA meeting on October 5th. It is be a great opportunity to meet new neighbors and enjoy your “old” ones.

Plan now to cook up your favorite pot of chili. Please reach out to Linda McCracken at 517-262-8793 to register your winning dish, and bring it to the meeting. We will have outlets ready to keep your crock pot hot. Then enjoy them all and vote on your favorites! Three winners will be named.

Whew!! Our community has been busy!



The Old Pros



2023 Chili Cook Off winners

FOUNDATION – DAVE VANDERWORP

The Crystal Lake Perch Lake Foundation collects tax deductible donations for the purpose of funding projects that enhance the health and usefulness of our lakes. This year we have collected donations from individuals as well as events such as the euchre party and golf outing. The projects we are considering funding are: continuing participation in MICORP water quality monitoring, a rain garden at the Crystal Lake access, adding a bench in the Memory of Stan Kirkwood at that access, a "Score the Shore" event next spring, fish stocking of walleye, and fall water quality testing through PLM that was not covered under the SAD budget. We will consider funding any project that enhance the health and usefulness of our lakes. Current members of the Foundation are Dave VanDerworp, Annamarie Asher, Robert Burns, and Wayne Snyder.

We encourage participation in our group and would especially welcome a resident from Perch Lake. If you wish to help further our cause, please send your project suggestions or donations to PO Box 193, Somerset Center, MI 49282 or contact one of our members. You may also email the Foundation at clplf1234@gmail.com.