

**CLA Mission**

To protect the interest of the members of this Association in the real property owned by them; to endeavor to maintain the natural level in said lake; to protect against water pollution and unhealthy conditions; to secure adequate protection against fire, theft and pilfering, to secure improved roads leading to and around the lake; to protect and promote good fishing condition in said lake; and for such other purposes as shall be beneficial to the interests of said members and the community.

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**Coming Events**

**Crystal Lake Car Show**  
Sat Aug. 10, 2013

**Crystal Lake Winterfest**  
Feb. 8, 2014

**Our special thanks to**

Beth "Buffie" Nodus for the wonderful cover picture on our 2013 directory. Entitled **Sailing on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July** it reminds us of the childhood wish that summer never end.



# Crystal Lake Association

Established June 5, 1932

[www.crystalonline.org](http://www.crystalonline.org)

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## CLA's 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Sky Lantern Lift a Hit

Over 1000 sky lanterns were sold out by July 4<sup>th</sup>, which netted over \$1600 to help fund the fireworks. With generous donations from our CLA members, collection from the donation boxes located at several downtown businesses and sales from sky lanterns, the total dollars raised has met the cost of fireworks for the second year in a row! A few incidents have been reported, most were

related to releasing the sky lanterns too early so they drifted rather than rose quickly. It was a learning experience for many, to be sure! Several members suggested going to *You Tube* to watch some short videos on tips and tricks for launching sky lanterns. The support from the community has been "uplifting" and we hope to repeat this fund raiser and event for years to come!



## CLA Directory Cover Photograph

Joe and Kathy Kopchick are sailing the boat featured on the cover of the 2013 CLA Cottage Directory. The Kopchicks have a cottage here at Crystal Lake. The original cottage is over 100 years old. When the area surrounding the cottage was farmland, it was the building that housed the farm workers. The small building that you see when driving by that looks like a lighthouse, was actually their outhouse. In 1952, Joe's mother purchased the home. It has been added on to over the years to accommodate the family. Joe and Kathy

are now both retired and enjoying their time here. He worked in Information Technology and she was an English teacher. They hail from the Muir and Ionia areas. They first met at a party given by the parents of a mutual friend. Along with their three children, Alex, Mary and Charlie, they have all enjoyed water skiing, boating and of course, sailing. The family is a member of the Crystal Sailing Club. Kathy loves to garden and keeps her garden in the same spot where her father-in-law had his.

## Board of Directors 2013 - 2014

### Board President:

**Steve Meinhardt**

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**Bill R. Hepburn**

hepburnbs@casair.net

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**Robin Pline**

**Mike Manning**

**Michael O'Brien**

**Bob Saukas**

**Fred Engle**

**Log on to the CLA Forum**, an interactive discussion and information site, with topics of current events and local issues. Go to: <http://www.crystalonline.org/> and learn what is going on in your community!

## FACEBOOK

For quick, updated information on Crystal issues, events, or to post your favorite pictures or comments about the lake, go to <https://www.facebook.com/CrystalLakeAssociation> and hit "Like". You will be instantly informed of new postings and information!

## Goose Roundup 2013

Fred Engle Chairman, Goose Roundup Committee

The goose round up was June 21, 2013. The pontoons hit the water and were coming around the island with the sunrise behind them. Twenty-eight geese were spotted grazing on the shore. The people on the ground rushed the geese and in the water they went. But they didn't want to swim out in the water until a passing row boat went in toward shore and the birds broke for the center of the lake. And, the roundup began. The geese were moved from the corner of Strait Tow and North Shore Drive to the old boat landing.

We had great participation with 12 pontoons and ten people on shore. Five adults and twenty-one young geese were captured. For a few weeks during summer, after the breeding season, many aquatic birds, including most ducks and geese, molt all their flight feathers at once and cannot fly. Or so we thought this year. Four adults flew out of the pen and two were recaptured with the help of an angry swan. Two of the adults got away. We have not seen them since. The birds were relocated to a sanctuary in Montcalm County.

Each year the process starts with a resolution from the Township to approve the roundup of the Canadian Geese on Crystal Lake. Next, people are trained to

search and destroy the eggs in the nest during a specific timetable determined by The Michigan DNR Wildlife Division. This is required by the DNR and a report is sent in to give account of what was found and destroyed.

After the nest-destroying season ends and the eggs not found are hatched, the geese are monitored as to numbers and where we see them in the morning. Several times we are out early taking counts.

An application to Round UP (Capture) and Hold Canada Geese is approved, and a specified timetable is determined by the DNR, and the CLA rounds up what geese we find on the lake. An animal control company is hired to cage and relocate the geese. The location is determined by the DNR and an agent needs to be present when the birds are let go to see that no harm has been done to them. The cost this year was \$550.00.

I would like to thank all the people who worked on this project this year. A lot of work and coordination goes into this project and the pontoons and ground people that come out on the day of round up is essential. I would personally like to thank Mike Manning and Theron Gould for helping me get through my first year as chair of this project.

## Water Quality Update

CLA continues to work with the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP) part of the Michigan Clean Water Corps ([www.micorps.net](http://www.micorps.net)). We began in 2010 to compile a database on the health of Crystal lake. The Carlson TSI indicator shows the condition and aging of the lake. Oligotrophic lakes are generally deep and clear with little aquatic plant growth and cool, deep-bottom waters during late summer which support cold water fish, such as trout and whitefish. Eutrophic lakes are generally shallow, turbid and support abundant aquatic plant growth. The gradual transition of lakes from oligotrophy to eutrophy is the natural process of lake aging or eutrophication. It is the result of gradual accumulation of nutrients and slow filling in of the lake basin with accumulated sediments, silt and muck.

Our primary objective is to slow this down by reducing the input of nitrogen and phosphorous and sediments from the surrounding lands. The Carlson TSI indicators allows us to compare Crystal to other lakes in Michigan and evaluate change over time. Crystal Lake is a *young* mesotrophic lake (between oligotrophic and eutrophic). Simply put, it is healthy but we need to be diligent in the protection of our lake. Do not use chemicals or fertilizers within 10 feet of the water line! Do not wash your boat, or your hair in the water with detergents containing phosphorous! Remove any trash in the water! Inspect boats/trailers for plant debris and empty bilge water before launching to keep invasive species out of the lake. Michigan Lakes – Ours to Protect!

Articles on this page reprinted from Michigan Lakes and Streams Association July 2013 Newsletter



Well over a decade ago, the Michigan Waterfront Alliance, Inc. was incorporated in the State of Michigan by principals closely aligned with Michigan Lake and Stream Associations, Inc. in order to provide and sustain a strong political voice in Lansing with which to effectively engage and constructively influence the members of our state legislature regarding the unique and often complex issues of critical importance to Michigan's large riparian property owner community. The significant achievements of Michigan Waterfront Alliance over the past decade in protecting your riparian rights and contributing to the protection of our inland lakes and streams makes this outstanding organization worthy of your membership and financial support. To learn more about the mission and goals of the Michigan Waterfront Alliance please visit their website at [www.mwai.org](http://www.mwai.org).

## DNR Wants Your Help In Identifying Invasive Plants

Michigan Natural Features Inventory and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Seeks Your Help In Identifying and Reporting Aquatic Invasive Plants Michigan Natural Features Inventory and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources are collaborating on the development of a statewide Aquatic Invasive Species "Early Detection Rapid Response" program and are seeking your assistance in



helping to identify aquatic invasive species infestations in their early (and much easier to manage) stages.

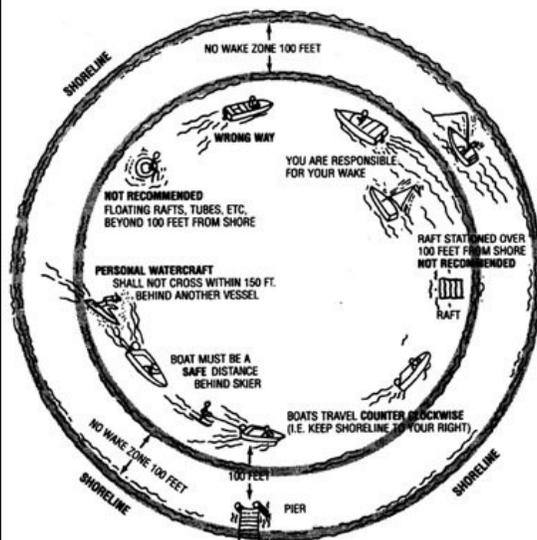
Should you observe any of these aquatic invasive plants, immediately contact Michigan Department of Natural Resources Early Detection Rapid Response Program Coordinator Matt Ankney at 517.641.4903 or via e-mail: [ankneym2@michigan.gov](mailto:ankneym2@michigan.gov)

Please view and or download the "Michigan's Most Wanted Aquatic Invasive Plants" poster at

<http://www.mylsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Publication4.png>

## Recreational Boating on Our Inland Lakes:

### Only as Safe as YOU Make It



Recreational boaters on our inland waterways have experienced one the most accident and tragedy marred summers in recent history. Last week's double fatality on Sylvan Lake in Oakland County is another reminder that our passion for the water and our love of boats requires that we match our enthusiasm with a high degree of respect, knowledge and situational awareness. The most important thing you can do to improve upon boater safety is make sure that you and your neighbors are familiar with Michigan marine safety laws and safe boating practices.

To acquire a copy of Michigan Lake and Stream Associations summary of Michigan boating laws, please contact the Central Office at 989.831.5100.

To complete a Michigan Department of Natural Resources and U.S. Coast Guard approved on-line boater safety course, visit [www.boat-ed.com/michigan](http://www.boat-ed.com/michigan)

## CLA Membership Application and Donation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing City, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Crystal Address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**GO PAPERLESS!**

*CHECK HERE IF YOU WOULD LIKE FUTURE CORRESPONDENCE VIA EMAIL* \_\_\_\_\_

2013 ANNUAL DUES ( \$35.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

LEGAL FUND DONATION \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**WE NOW ACCEPT PAYPAL, CREDIT CARDS or ACH. Pay to: Crystal Lake Association**

**Mail To: Crystal Lake Association ( CLA )**

PO Box 307, Crystal MI 48818

**Crystal Lake Association**

**P.O. Box 307**

**Crystal, MI 48818**