

CROCKERY LAKE ASSOCIATION

July 2017 NEWSLETTER

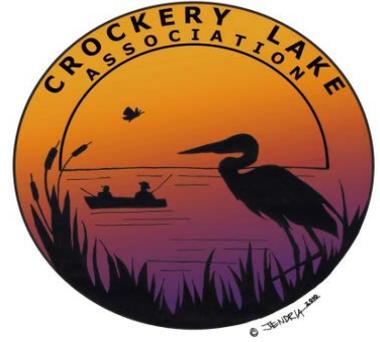
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FIRST PLACE BOAT PARADE WINNERS: THE HYDE FAMILY. Theme: Have a Rawsome 4th of July. What could be cuter than this? Just want to hug those dinos!



SECOND PLACE BOAT PARADE WINNER: THE MLNARK FAMILY. Theme: Gilligan's Island. Great costumes and theme!



THIRD PLACE BOAT PARADE WINNER: THE SULLIVAN FAMILY. Theme: Wizard of Oz. Lots of time was spent on this work of art! Oz characters are clearly recognizable—everybody loves OZ!!



OTHER BOAT PARADE PARTICIPANTS: THE LANE FAMILY. Theme: The Little Rascals and THE MULL FAMILY. These: Give Peace a Chance.

BIG THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO MAKE THE FIREWORKS POSSIBLE....

Here's what goes on behind the scenes to give us a wonderful fireworks show. There is so much time and effort involved!

--**Frank and Carol Gunkel** allow their land be used and abused every year for our enjoyment. They make sure the field is mowed and the cows are out of the way.

--The Gunkels also gather additional donations and made a sizable personal contribution-- so the fireworks can go on again the next year.

--**Chester Township Firefighters** are there in case anything goes wrong, wetting down the field and watching for grass fires in those dry days. (purely voluntary—no pay).

--**Tom Ludwick and Carl Elliott** (the ones who shot off the fireworks), were there from 9:00 a.m to 12:00 p.m. (that's 15 hours straight!) They had to inventory, clean the tubes, assemble, fill the tubes, and set up the electronics for the grand finale. They were ready for the show at 7:00 p.m then babysat them until 10:30. (forfeiting their own fireworks family time).

--All the fireworks in the main show are shot off by hand by Tom and Carl. The electronics control the grand finale. Carl and Tom had to become certified which involved many hours of training. They did this to decrease the cost of using Wolverine's personnel.

--The day after the show, Tom, Carl, Sue McClure and few others were in the field cleaning up four bags of trash and disassembling the "guns", etc. They loaded about 30 "guns" them onto a trailer (very big and very heavy steel). Now they will have to come up with some place to store them until next year.

If you see them please time to let them know they are appreciated.....

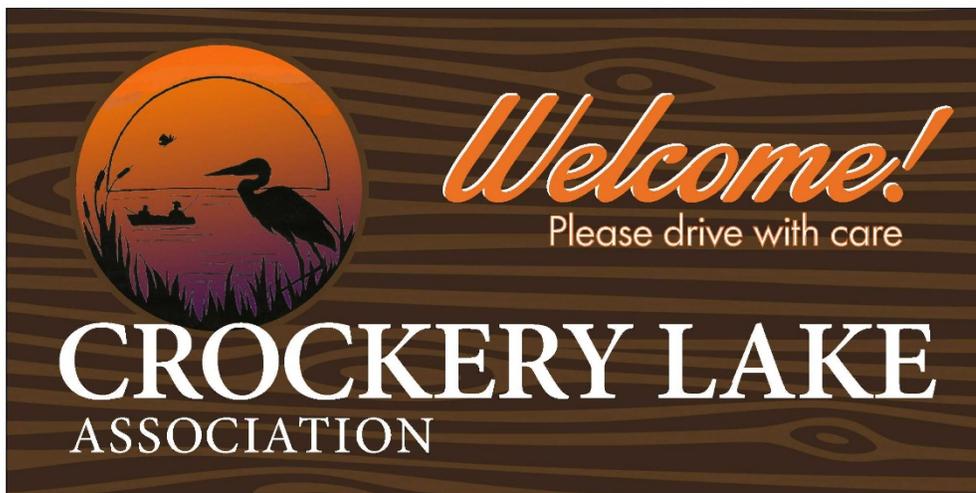
2018 FIREWORKS DONATIONS –ONLY HALF WAY TO OUR GOAL—NEED ANOTHER \$1,740 So far \$2,760 (including on-line donations) has been collected. Need at least \$4,500.00 for a show next year. Lake residents were treated to the best fireworks show we have ever had. Carl Elliott and Tom Ludwick really outdid themselves this year. Tons of huge colorful shots in a variety of combinations. We are so fortunate to have such dedicated volunteers and donees. Let's keep the tradition going so we can a memorable show next year. To donate: (1) Contact ANY CLA Board Representative—we are happy to pick you your donation; (2) Go to Rally.org. Search for Crockery Lake. Place a donation at this site.

READY FOR A CHANGE?



Have you noticed the signs at the north and south entrances to the lake recently? Chances are you probably don't even see them anymore. However, if you have, you may have noticed they are generally in poor condition. Take a look at them the next time you drive by. We think they are due for a fresh look.

During this year's annual meeting, lake residents were invited to provide input and feedback on numerous sign ideas. Based on the feedback, the lake board is pleased to present the final design.



Let us know what you think. Contact any CLA Board Member with your input.

CROCKERY LAKE GARDEN TOUR!

A Crockery Lake garden tour is planned for Saturday, August 12 at 9:30. Meet at Paula Humphrey's house, 2700 Van Dyke to view her extensive hosta beds. Then we will visit 3 more gardens. One combines native plants, waterfall, and a stream. Next, the gardener attempts to shift from annuals to flowering shrubs. Another shows off gardener's mastery of color in the garden. If you would like to have others tour YOUR garden, please contact Susan McClure smcclure527@comcast.net.



JOHN'S TACKLE BOX

The word from Al & Bob's--Good fishing on the Grand River by Sixth Street. Walleye are at Johnson Park with Pan fish in the backwaters. Nice catfish are being caught using shrimp. Crappies are now in deep water in lakes. Try Gun, Reeds and Cranberry Lakes. Waxworms and red worms are working well.

Bass fishing is very good. Nice ones being caught in our lake. New hot lure: Whopper Plopper.

Lakes Cadillac and Mitchell are doing very well for Bass Pike and Walleye are hitting too using trolling and drifting. Pan fish of good size were being caught on worms. Don't have a boat? Try Millennium Park. Great place to fish from shore or fishing platforms. Nice fish being caught there too!

ARE YOU A GOOD LAKE NEIGHBOR?

We all want to enjoy the lake in our own way. Some like it quiet, some like parties. Please be thoughtful of your immediate neighbors. Don't assume it is OK for you or your guests to use your neighbor's dock or lakefront. Don't use it unless you ask permission EVERY TIME. Just because they have not complained to you does not mean it is OK.

YOUR SEPTIC TANK

- Divert roof runoff, footer drains, sump pumps and other surface runoff away from the drain field;
- Repeated intestinal illness in your family? have your drinking water tested annually for coliform bacteria and nitrates;
- Avoid using a sink disposal wherever possible; excessive grease fats and coffee grounds will clog your system;
- A septic system is not designed to neutralize paints or solvents, acids, oils, and pesticides;
- Chemical products advertised to improve a septic system cannot replace routine pumping and may even be harmful;
- Reducing water volume improves treatment effectiveness and system operation. Low-flow toilets, shower heads & faucets are helpful;
- Spread out laundry and other major water-using chores over the week;
- Avoid planting deep rooted plants/trees, paving or building structures over the drain field.

ARTICLE SUBMITTED BY DNR...A DIFFERENT POINT OF VIEW...

“Appreciating your neighborhood Canada geese

DNR offers tips for avoiding problems with beautiful but plentiful birds

Perhaps one of the most recognizable birds in Michigan is the large, regal-looking Canada goose. Once a rare sight in Michigan, Canada geese are now very plentiful in the state—so plentiful that some people tend to think of them as pests. The Department of Natural Resources reminds Michigan residents that, with a little patience, understanding and perseverance, homeowners can learn to respect and appreciate these beautiful birds. The subspecies of goose that is most plentiful in Michigan is the giant Canada goose.

In recent years, the giant Canada goose has experienced population explosions in areas throughout North America due, in part, to the success of wildlife management programs and the adaptability of these birds. In Michigan today, the number of giant Canada geese counted each spring is well over 300,000. They nest in every Michigan county, but are most common in the southern third of the state, where 78 percent of the goose population is found.

Geese are herbivores and prefer grass shoots, aquatic vegetation, seed heads and various grains. Adult Canada geese have very few predators.

‘In general, geese have benefited from the way humans have altered the landscape,’ said Holly Vaughn, DNR wildlife communications coordinator. “Canada geese are attracted to areas that provide food, water and protection. Urban and suburban areas with lakes and ponds and neatly manicured lawns offer all the resources that geese need to survive. “During the summer months, Canada geese can be a problem for some property owners, as they are very adaptable creatures and can live close to humans.”

These simple tips can help keep geese away from your yard:

- Make your yard less attractive to geese by allowing the grass to grow long and refrain from fertilizing or watering it.
- Use scare tactics like bird-scare balloons, loud noises and mylar tape to make unwanted geese leave the area.
- Apply repellents to the lawn to deter geese from feeding on the grass. Grape concentrate is useful for yards and turf.
- In June and July, Canada geese are unable to fly because they are molting. Construct a temporary barrier between your yard and the water to keep flightless geese out.
- Do not feed Canada geese. Artificial feeding can habituate them as well as harm their digestive system. Bread products are not beneficial to waterfowl survival.
- Be aware of your surroundings when visiting parks and areas near water. Canada geese are protective of their nests and hatchlings. Do not disturb them or get too close.

Vaughn said that the key to success is using a variety of techniques to keep the geese guessing, as they will get accustomed to just one scare tactic. Some sites have good luck

with hiring a contractor that specializes in goose control, including using dogs to scare birds away when they first arrive in the spring. If multiple techniques have been tried and have been unsuccessful, the DNR offers a [Resident Canada Goose Program](#) that can permit nest and egg destruction and roundup and relocation by a licensed contractor in some areas of the state.

Goose hunting in Michigan helps to keep goose populations in check. Michigan regularly ranks in the top three states in the nation for Canada goose hunters and harvest. The plentiful geese provide excellent opportunities for goose hunters. To learn more about goose hunting, visit michigan.gov/waterfowl.

Next CLA Board Meeting: Wednesday, August 16, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., Bruce Callen's, 2379 Van Dyke. Everyone is welcome!

WE WANT TO WORK! Scott & Zack Strayer are ready to do your odd jobs. They are both 15 years old and strong as oxen!! —PET SITTING, PET EXERCISE, YARD WORK, LAKE WEED WORK, MOWING—you name it they will do it—and at an affordable rate! They have excellent references too!! Call them at 887-1001.

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

Advertising for business is \$25/year.

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