Newsletter of your Crooked Lake Texas Association

Spring 2017



UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Annual Membership Meeting & Election:

May 25, 2017 7:00 p.m.

Texas Township Hall

Annual FUN DAY: August 5, 2017



MEMBERSHIP DUES NOW DUE—\$45.00 Per Household

Please make checks payable to: **Crooked Lake Texas Association (CLTA)**Mail to: Rodney Nimtz, 1441 E Crooked Lake Dr. Kalamazoo, MI 49009
Your dues support the activities and publications of the Crooked Lake Texas Association.

A membership card will be issued upon receipt of your 2016 dues payment. Your card entitles you to 6 (one-way) uses of the boat ramp located next to the Crooked Lake Market.

President's Message:

Your CLTA Board has been meeting monthly throughout the Winter to ensure that Crooked Lake is well managed.

First, I'd like to thank Susan O'Connell for serving the past 4 years on the B.O.D. Susan and Larry moved off the lake in January and we appreciate her efforts and contributions to our Lake community. Jennifer Abnet, who has served on several committees and has taken the lead on Fun Day entertainment alongside Lesa Newby, is serving out Susan's remaining term. Jennifer has also agreed to serve on the B.O.D. for another term. I would encourage everyone to support her.

If you are aware of someone new moving onto the Lake, please let Lesa Newby of the Welcoming Committee know so she can make contact and welcome them to Crooked Lake. Lesa can be reached by email at runs2s@yahoo.com or you can contact any other board member and we'll get the information to Lesa.

The importance of washing and monitoring boats as they come in and out of our lake is extremely important now more than ever. All area lakes are under attack by invasive species; Crooked Lake is no exception. I was given Zebra Mussels from a resident last Fall and had them identified (although it was fairly obvious what they were). Unfortunately, it is official that Crooked Lake now has Zebra Mussels. They have only been collected from the big end of the lake so far. We'll have to see what happens; as far as I'm aware, there is no remedy for these nasty creatures.

On a lighter note, we have also had sightings of freshwater jellyfish which flourish in clean water. The jellyfish schools were spotted by both our lake managers, aeration applicators, and residents. Don't worry, they don't bite and are only the size of a dime. They require clean water to live so I'd say that's a positive sign they are here. It's too bad they aren't toxic to Zebra Mussels.

Now, I'm sure you've all noticed the lake level is high this Spring. Today it's about 1" above the normal high water mark. The pump has been off since late August so the high level can only be attributed to the Fall & Spring rains. I would suggest putting your docks in for a level 6" to 8" lower than today because evaporation will kick in soon.

Let's have a safe season on Crooked Lake.

- Jim Roberts

Annual Meeting, Thursday, May 25, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Texas Township Hall Board Room.

Agenda will include: Laminar Flow Aeration Results; Invasive Species Update; Short-term Rental Problem; Twp. Goose Round-up; Boat Parade; Fun Day; Treasurer's Report; Q&A Restorative Lake Sciences and Lake Savers; Election of Officers, and other topics important to the Association membership.

Crooked Lake Market BOAT RAMP Procedures

The Crooked Lake Texas Association is grateful to Mike & Dana Beals the owners of the Crooked Lake Market, and neighbor Bruce Weathers for allowing lake residents the privilege of using their private boat ramp for launching of our watercraft.

To protect Crooked Lake from invasive species such as Zebra Mussels and exotic weeds please remember to thoroughly clean hulls and bilges when taking and returning watercraft to and from another lake. Remember to include kayaks and canoes in the cleaning regimen as well. Prior to re-launching on Crooked Lake, follow the same rinsing & flushing procedures.

Waterfront property owners wishing to use this privately owned boat ramp must purchase a Lake Association Member Boat Ramp Pass. It comes free with your CLTA membership. (Annual dues are \$45.) Members are entitled to 6 ramp uses per boating season. Please call 375-5717 for an appointment to use the ramp. The schedule below works best for the Market's operation. We appreciate the boat ramp owners making this benefit available to our lake association members.

Have a happy and safe boating season!

by Rod Krapf, CLTA Secretary

Note: Passes will not be issued to short-term renters.

Crooked Lake Market - Boat Ramp HOURS Launch & Load by Appointment ONLY

PLEASE, No Power Launching or Loading

Mon-Thurs	10:00am to 11:30am	2:00pm to 5:00pm
Friday	10:00am to 11:30am	2:00pm to 4:00pm
Saturday	10:00am to Noon	2:00pm to 4:00pm
Sunday	Noon to 3:00pm	



The Crooked Lake Texas Association is once again supporting the "planting" of Purple Loosestrife beetles around the edge of Crooked Lake to combat the environmental threat posed by this invasive plant. Beetles have been utilized for many years and we once again will be purchasing the species of beetle called Galerucella calmariensis, which is plant specific and helps defoliate the Loosestrife. The beetles are grown locally and are purchased from the Kalamazoo Nature Center.

Arleigh Smyrnios a Past-President and Master Gardener has once again volunteered to oversee the planting of the beetles and will need individuals

willing to help introduce the beetles to the Crooked Lake Loosestrife and to help pull young purple loosestrife plants. The plant can be pulled out by hand in its first year of growth. Please contact Arleigh Smyrnios at **375-8267** if you would like to help with this project.

In the past many lake neighbors donated to defray the cost of the beetles for our Association and we are again asking for your contributions. Please send your checks to Crooked Lake Texas Association c/o Rodney Nimtz, Treasurer, 1441 E Crooked Lk Dr., Kalamazoo, MI 49009. On the Memo Line reference: "*Purple Loosestrife Project.*"







LAKE LEVEL -Turning the Pump On & Turning it Off



4/9/17 Lake Level: 1" above target level.

(target=high water mark)

This time last year, lake level was 15" below target level. Our lake augmentation pump has been off since August 16, 2016. It is turned off when the water level reaches 8" below the normal high water mark. It is to be turned back on in the Spring when the water level is 8" below the normal high water mark. Any one with questions on the condition or rules of use of the pump, please feel free to contact Jim Roberts at 269.372.7084.

RE REE

LOCAL DNR AGENT

Texas Corners Hardware 269.376.2000

Open 7 days—Licenses processed while you wait.

Or use E-License system at www.mdnr-elicense.com

2017-2018 angling year begins April 1st.

NEW FISHING LICENSE REQUIRED

Fees:

Annual Resident \$26 Nonresident Annual \$76 Senior Annual (65 +) \$11 24 hour (resident or non-) \$10

72 hour (resident or non-) \$30

ALL fishing licenses are good for all species.

Texas Township FARMERS MARKET at the Joyce Neubauer Pavilion opens
Saturday, May 13th from 8 A.M. to 12 Noon; and Tuesdays from 4 P.M. to 7 P.M. beginning June 6th

4TH OF JULY BOAT PARADE begins at 4 P.M. from the Market—Decorate your boats in patriotic themes; join
the parade as they pass by—More to follow

Texas Township Firefighters Association Annual ICE CREAM SOCIAL, CARNIVAL AND GREAT LAKES BURN CAMP PARADE will be held Sunday, August 6th.

August 5: Crooked Lake Texas Annual Fun Day; Events throughout the day.

ABOUT YOUR Crooked Lake Texas Association (CLTA) MEMBERSHIP

It is important to note that (almost) all lake residents are members of both our special assessment districts. These districts control the funding needed to operate our pump and laminar flow aeration project, as well as take care of any weed matters arising on our lake. Your CLTA board works with our township board to provide recommendations relating to lake matters and to create annual budgets for our special assessment districts.

Your CLTA board is committed to improving the water quality of Crooked Lake and enhancing the overall enjoyment of our lake to all residents. We implement activities such as the Annual Picnic & Fun Day, publish newsletters and undertake various projects not covered by the special assessment district.

Based on anticipated expenditures, and an estimate of the # of participating members, the 2017 dues have been set at \$45.00. Dues are now payable. Of course payment of the dues is optional and we are always happy to accept payment of dues whenever, but to implement activities like our *Purple Loosestrife Mitigation Project*, the sooner we receive dues payments the better.

As a member you have the opportunity to receive the Riparian, a publication of the Michigan Lakes and Streams (MLAS) about our state's waterways. To facilitate membership notification to MLAS, households which have paid their dues within a calendar year are eligible to receive a subscription to the magazine throughout the following year. PLEASE NOTE: A desire to receive the magazine must be indicated at the time of dues payment in order for the household to be included on the list of subscribers submitted to Michigan Lakes and Streams.

If at any time you have questions regarding dues, whether your dues payment has been received and credited, or other questions of a financial nature, please contact Rodney Nimtz, CLTA Treasurer at (269) 353-1848.

YOUR LAKE ASSOCIATION'S 2017-2018 MEMBERSHIP (April 1-Mar 31) DRIVE

We need your help to continue to provide beneficial information to our lake residents. We encourage you to complete and mail your membership form below. Your annuals dues will help pay for:

•Crooked Lake Ramp Pass - **6** uses per season (members only - must present membership card)

- Lake Quality Monitoring
- Michigan Lakes & Streams Dues
- State Licensing
- Newsletters & Special Mailing
- Website Maintenance
- Riparian Subscriptions
- •Water Level Management
- •Fun Day Expenses
- Miscellaneous Expense (buoys, etc)
- •Legal Expense Fund

Boat Parade

•Welcoming Committee

Expenses

CROOKED LAKE TEXAS ASSOCIATION - ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, May 25, 2017 7:00 p.m. Texas Township Hall

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CLTA Membership Form — Current Information Sheet

2017-2018 Annual Dues are \$45. Please complete this form to help us keep our records current.

Name(s):

Lake Address:

Mailing Address (if different):

Phone(s): Email Address:

Do you want to receive the Riparian? Yes No (Please circle one)

The Association provides this publication at no cost to any paid member. However, because it is a cost to the Association, if you do not want it, please help us save the cost by circling "No".

News & Views— Newsletter of your Crooked Lake Texas Association

Crooked Lake Texas Association 2015-2016 BOARD of DIRECTORS Kalamazoo, MI 49009

Jim Roberts, President 1213 E Crooked Lake Dr 269-372-7084 Helen Lemmer, Director 149 N Crooked Lake Dr 269-375-3058

Russ Walters, Vice-President 7414 Field Bay Avenue 269-372-4488 Neil McCormick, Director 7295 Hidden Cove Place 269-372-3231

Rodney Nimtz, Treasurer 1441 E Crooked Lake Dr 269-353-1848 Jennifer Abnet, Director 47 N Crooked Lake Dr 269-993-6324

Rod Krapf, Secretary 43 N Crooked Lake Dr 269-375-9073 Chuck Buxton, Director 446 W Crooked Lake Dr 269-743-7892

Dot DeYoung, Director 8220 West Q Avenue 269-353-3647 Dan Shugars, Director 1481 N Crooked Lake Dr 269-873-5191





Visit our Website: www.crookedlaketexas.com

YOUR LAKE ASSOCIATION GOALS

The Association's goal continues to be to protect our lake from invasive species, take steps to create a healthier lake, "which includes a better environment for fish, frogs, turtles and other friends," educate our residents on best practices when using the lake, bring a sense of community to Crooked Lake, and to enlist the help of lake management professionals to safeguard and improve waterfront owners' property values.

We look forward to seeing you on the lake this summer and at the <u>Annual Meeting on May 25th</u>. Jennifer Jermalowicz-Jones our limnologist and John Tucci our LFA system provider, will lead a discussion on aeration and answer any questions you may have.

Let's enjoy a safe season on the lake.Jim Roberts, President, CLTA

Goose Round-up

Our friends on Eagle Lake have initiated a goose round-up comprising of the following steps:

- 1) Federal Training Class in nest destruction
- 2) Must have township resolution or minimum 70% approval from members of the lake association
- 3) Permit filed with the USDA
- 4) Egg removal usually occurs mid-April through May
- 5) Not required but recommendation to remove the adult geese from the lake following the nesting season. Requires a \$200.00 permit.

We will discuss a goose round-up at our annual meeting. If there is enough support by the residents on our lake who would find this beneficial then we can look into pursuing it. At last night's board meeting, the township board gave Eagle Lake authorization to proceed with their goose roundup program.