



In Remembrance of Jim Roberts



We are sad to report that Jim Roberts, our Association President and longtime lake resident passed away on Wednesday, April 28, from a heart attack. Jim was an active longtime member of the Crooked Lake Board and for the past several years led as its President. He worked tirelessly to promote the wellbeing of Crooked Lake and enthusiastically gave his time, and often his financial support, to projects to benefit the Lake. Without his involvement, many of the things we have accomplished over the past few years would have been much more difficult if not impossible. Most recently, he led our efforts to implement the high water remediation project to put a long term solution in place to make sure it never happens again. Jim had way too many accomplishments in all aspects of his life to list them all here. The Board will miss his leadership and the entire Lake will miss his positive impact on our lake. The following President's message was written by Jim shortly before his passing.

President's Message

Well, it's been almost a year since our last annual meeting and things are improving. Our COVID-19 world is getting better and I hope that you and all of your family members are well and survived the pandemic.

As far as Crooked Lake goes, we're in great shape. As I write this on April 27th, we're about 9" below our high water mark and within a 1/4" of our EGLE target draw-down. Right now, we are pumping an equal amount into Crooked Lake and out again trying to help our neighbors on Eagle Lake reach their target level which is about another 12". We have pumped 37" vertically out of Crooked Lake over the past 2 years, approximately 500,000,000 gallons of water. By anyone's standards, the project was a success.

On May 28th, we go to the Circuit Court in front of Judge Lipsey to petition for our legal lake level of 895.12 above sea level. This is the same level that we have used as our high water mark for the past 30 years or so, so

not much will change as far as the normal lake level. What will change is if the water level reaches 895.12, water will start to gravity flow out of Crooked Lake to maintain a safe level. This will ensure that future residents won't have to go through the crisis we did. We will never be a "no wake" lake again!

This year's annual meeting will take place again by Zoom, as we are still under COVID restrictions, on Wednesday, May 19th, at 7p. The Zoom link will be posted on our facebook page and our website for your convenience. At the annual meeting, we will go over our normal agenda items and also the "long term fix" as it's called. We will update you on what happens next after the legal lake level is established. With any luck, it should be installed by the end of 2021.

Have a great summer on Crooked Lake and stay safe and healthy.

-Jim Roberts

Annual Membership Meeting & Election:

May 19, 2021 7:00 p.m. Via Zoom

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.

The 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 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 2021 dues have been set at \$50.00. Since we now invoice the membership dues and property maintenance dues (\$50 and \$75, respectively) to all members of the Lake Association ramp, most dues are current for 2021 season. If you didn't purchase membership in the ramp last year and want to support our lake association, please contact our Treasurer, Rodney Nimitz, at 269-353-1848 to arrange payment. Make your checks payable to: Crooked Lake Texas Association and mail to: CLTA Treasurer, 1441 East Crooked Lake Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. If at any time you have questions regarding dues or questions of a financial nature, please contact Rodney at the number mentioned above.

Your annuals dues will help pay for:

- Lake Quality Monitoring
- Michigan Lakes & Streams Dues
- State Licensing
- Miscellaneous Expense (buoys, etc)
- Riparian Subscription +\$10
- Water Level Management
- Fun Day Expenses
- Website Maintenance
- Boat Parade
- Welcoming Committee Expenses
- Newsletters & Special Mailing
- Legal Expense Fund

2021 Access to the Boat Ramp



LOCAL DNR AGENT

Walmart & Meijer
(any location)

Open 7 days—Licenses processed while you wait.

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

2021-2022 angling year began March 1st.

NEW FISHING LICENSE REQUIRED

Fees:

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

ALL fishing licenses are good for all species.

Thanks to all who have contributed to the Boat Ramp property and as well for taking care of our property. Things are working well and we appreciate your cooperation. If you have any questions about your Ramp Access card, please contact Sandy Steinbach at 269-568-0770.

- The boat ramp is open from dawn to dusk, but no earlier than 7 am and later than 9 pm for respect of the immediate neighbors.
- You do not have to schedule a specific time to launch your watercraft as access is on a first come basis.
- Annual Membership dues (\$50) and Ramp Maintenance Fees (\$75) are due April 1st and if not paid your card will be deactivated on April 2nd.
- Your card should not be shared with anyone including Boat Storage Companies or Dock Companies. You are required to meet your guest at the ramp to let them in. This attendance is necessary to protect our property and report any damage if any for the visit.

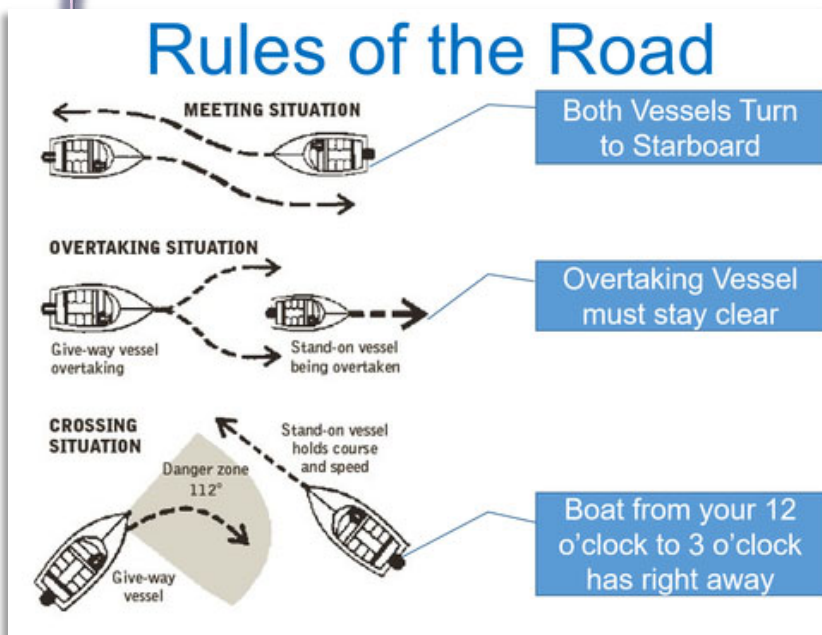
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Boater Safety

It is critically important that everyone who operates a boat on Crooked Lake have a working knowledge of Michigan Boating laws and how they apply to our lake. The CrookedLakeTexas.com website has a link to the Michigan Boating Rules and Regulations Handbook where you can get a complete copy of all the rules that apply to operating a boat on Crooked and other Michigan Lakes.

Those rules include:

- ◆ You should travel in a **COUNTER-CLOCKWISE DIRECTION** when circling the lake.
- ◆ When operating a power-driven boat you must give way to anchored boats and sail boats.



- ◆ Utilize your navigation lights (red and green sidelights and all around white) when operating your boat after sunset.
- ◆ Children **less than 6 years** of age must wear a USCG-approved Type I or Type II PFD when riding in the open deck of any vessel underway.
- ◆ Every vessel towing a person(s) must have a person on board, in addition to the vessel operator, observing the towed person(s) at all times.

Always watch out for swimmers, downed skiers/rafters and anyone utilizing a non-powered vessel / object (i.e., raft, kayak, paddle board, etc.)!!

-Safety Rules compiled by Russ Walters

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- The Ramp Access is for your water crafts that you own. Please do not let others on the ramp as you are not aware if their access is valid (they have paid their share or up to date on dues).
- We have surveillance on the property to allow for monitoring invalid access or damage to the property.
- Please take care of your card. There is a \$25 charge for any lost card and needs to be paid to Rodney Nimtz.

If you are selling your residence and including ramp access with the sale, please notify Sandy Steinbach or Rodney Nimtz so we can provide them a ramp agreement to sign and change the billing information for future dues.

Thanks, Sandy

News & Views—

Crooked Lake Texas Association
2019-2020 BOARD of DIRECTORS
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

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Chuck Buxton, Director
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269-870-7774



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Sandy Steinbach, Director
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269-568-0770

Lesla Newby, Director
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Judy Ford, Director
1381 E Crooked Lake Dr
734-347-0703

CLTA

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

Winter Ice Safety By: Russ Walters

Our lake is a valuable resource that offers opportunities for recreation year round. Most of us utilize the Spring, Summer and / or Fall for boating, fishing and / or swimming. Some of our residents also use the lake in the winter for ice fishing and other activities when it is covered in ice.

Those who use the lake in the Winter must be very careful to make sure the ice is strong enough to support the activity they wish to pursue. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has a tip sheet on line (search "Ice Safety Tips" at Michigan.gov) regarding how to determine if the ice is safe. Unfortunately they do not have a recommended thickness for us to utilize but instead recommend that we take a number of elements into consideration in evaluating the quality and weight bearing nature of a given body of water. The strength of the ice may not be uniform and care should be taken to make sure the ice is of sufficient strength to support you and your activities.

Some of our residents have utilized air bubblers or water jets in the past throughout the winter for one reason or another. These devices can create areas of open water and thinning ice. When traveling on the ice, you should take extra precautions to avoid areas of open water and the ice around those areas. You should make sure the ice you are on is strong enough to support you and your activity.

We ask that anyone utilizing a bubbler in the winter share that fact with their neighbors. We ask that you put a notice on the Crooked Lake Texas Facebook page (This can be done by contacting any CLT Board member). It would also be helpful, to the extent possible to put out signs indicating "Caution Thin Ice". Please take every precaution to help keep you, your family and others safe when utilizing Crooked lake.