

# CROOKED LAKE

area association



## From the President

Gary Nereson, President



Greetings! I wish everyone a very joyous and happy Thanksgiving and Christmas, and a prosperous, rewarding New Year!

During the next several months, your Board will be working on 2019 plans – our annual general membership winter meeting in February, a volunteer recognition event, and most importantly a new Lake Vegetation Management Plan (LVMP). The LVMP enables us to work 'outside the box' in our aquatic invasive species (AIS) treatment/containment efforts. Our existing LVMP was adopted in 2014 and expires in March, 2019. It has been a key element in enabling our close working relationship with the MN Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

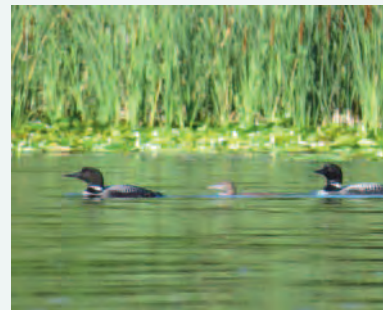
Other close partners of ours include the Coon Creek Watershed District (CCWD), Anoka County Park and Rec Dept., and the cities of Andover and Coon Rapids. Special thanks go to Keegan Lund and his associate, Kylie Cattoor, of the DNR, as well as the collaborative efforts of Freshwater Scientific Services, and PLM Lake and Land Management. They were instrumental in the permitting and determination of our AIS treatment process.

As you know, we are still benefiting from our highly successful 2016 treatment for Eurasian Watermilfoil (hybridized – HEWM). Only a minimal treatment was needed in 2017 (for Curlyleaf Pondweed – CLP), and a slight touch-up occurred this year, 2018. Because of our relative success over the past several years in controlling and treating AIS, Crooked Lake was highlighted at a recent conference – the 2018 Joint Conference of the UMISC (Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference) and the NAISMA (North American Invasive Species Management Association). This was a multi-state conference with over 750 participants.

Crooked Lake really has become the poster child of AIS treatment in Minnesota. In one of the afternoon breakout sessions, there were three presentations on Crooked Lake given by Justine Dauphinais from CCWD, Keegan Lund from MNDNR, and James Johnson of Freshwater Scientific Services. The thrust of their presentations was Crooked Lake's history of treatment and successes/failures – especially the highly successful 2016 treatment. Justine, Keegan, and James were all very complimentary of CLAA, our work over the years, and the partnerships we have developed.

Thank you to all for your continued support of CLAA. We are a 501(c)3 tax exempt non-profit corporation. So, all of your dues and donations are tax deductible. Please consider us in your philanthropy. We have a never-ending battle to manage and contain invasive species in our lake.

**Hope to see you at our Winter General Meeting on Thursday, February 21, 2019, 6:30 pm at Keller Williams, 1740 116th Ave. NW, Coon Rapids.**



[www.facebook.com/CrookedLakeAreaAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/CrookedLakeAreaAssociation)



**If you would like to purchase a T-shirt, please contact Dan at 763-807-5848.**

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# Making a Difference for Crooked Lake!

By Coon Creek Watershed District (CCWD)

Some dedicated volunteers helped Crooked Lake’s water by stenciling the message “Only Rain Down the Drain” near all 50 storm drains that drain into the lake! Thanks to Ray Morris, Greg Morris & Jacob Miller from Andover Troop 609, Isla Fichtner, Cheryl Seeman, and Julie Jared and her family for their help.



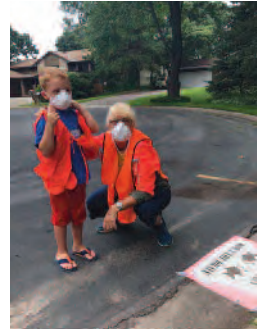
Isla & the Scouts after stenciling

If you couldn’t get out and stencil, don’t worry- there’s still plenty you can do to keep Crooked Lake’s water clean! As the snow falls, think seriously about your salting habits; one teaspoon of salt can permanently pollute 5 gallons of water. Here are some salting tips:

- Shovel/snowblow early and often during snow events to avoid ice formation.
- Hire a service? Make sure they’re certified by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.
- Traditional road salt doesn’t work below 15°F – check your product label & outside temperature to ensure what you apply will be effective.
  - Try sand for traction instead, especially when it’s cold- sweep it afterwards!
- Apply correctly- you should have a 3-inch spacing between salt granules!



Cheryl & Julie show off their skills!

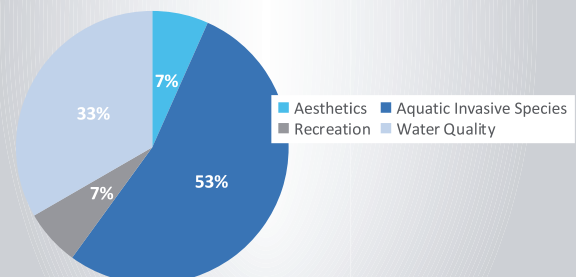


Proper salting pattern (Credit: Scott Andre)

## Results from Crooked Lake Concerns Questionnaire

Results of the Crooked Lake Concerns Questionnaire, as compiled by CCWD from responses at the 2018 Winter General Meeting. The CLAA Board uses CLAA Member feedback via the questionnaire to help guide its activities during the year.

### Most Important Management Priority

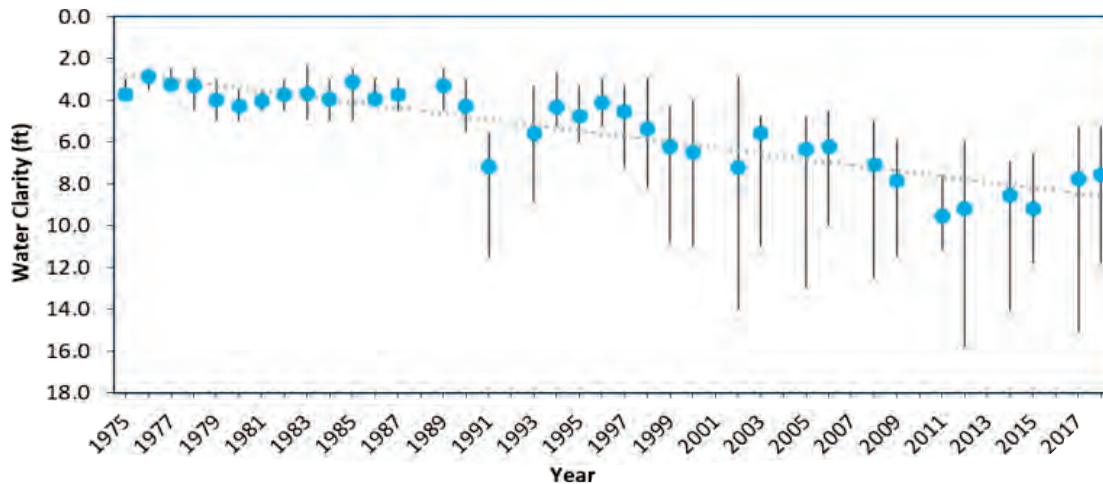


# Crooked Lake's Water Quality: Past & Present

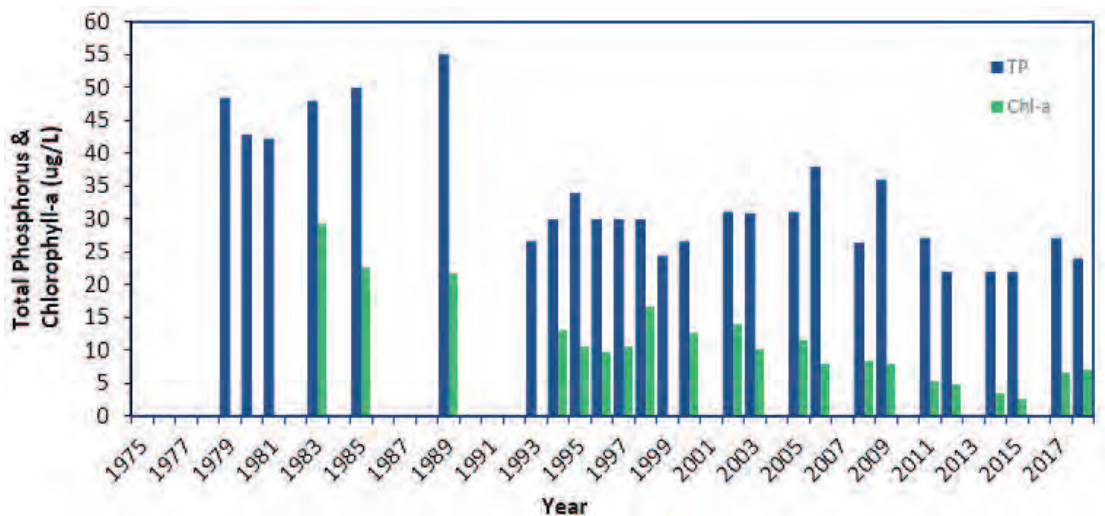
By Coon Creek Watershed District (CCWD)


The water quality of Crooked Lake has been monitored since the 1970s and has significantly improved over the past 45 years. According to the Metropolitan Council's Lake Grading System, Crooked Lake ranks well above average when compared to other metro lakes. In 2018, Crooked Lake earned a "B+" on the A-F grading scale.

Lake grades are based on average summertime measurements of phosphorus, chlorophyll-a, and Secchi depth. These parameters provide information on the amount of nutrients, abundance of algae, and water clarity, respectively. It is important to note that although lake grades give a general picture of the health of a lake, there are many other important factors to consider such as aquatic plant and fish communities. You can help improve the health of Crooked Lake by keeping the runoff from your property as clean as possible and by minimizing disturbance to your shoreline area.




*"Average May-Sept total phosphorus, chlorophyll-a, and secchi depth (clarity) for Crooked Lake from 1975 through 2018. The CCWD will continue to monitor water quality in Crooked Lake 2 out of every 3 years"*





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# Zebra Mussel Monitoring

By Coon Creek Watershed District (CCWD)

Invasive zebra mussels are rapidly spreading throughout Minnesota, largely due to people moving contaminated boats, docks, & lifts. In 2018, zebra mussels were found in 20 new lakes across the state, but fortunately have not yet made their way into any Anoka County lakes! A big thank you to all the volunteer 'spotters', including 8 Crooked Lake residents, for monitoring settling plates attached to their docks for zebra mussels each month.



In August 2018, an Anoka County Watercraft Inspector did observe 1 zebra mussel attached to a plant on a boat trailer that was exiting Crooked Lake. This discovery initiated a comprehensive search of the public access area by CCWD and County staff. The search didn't turn up anything suspicious. Specialists at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources determined the zebra mussel was dead and was likely brought in on the trailer from elsewhere.

You can help keep Crooked Lake zebra mussel-free by properly cleaning and drying any equipment before you bring it into the lake. You should also carefully check your docks and lifts when you remove them at the end of the season. Please report any suspicious findings



to Justine Dauphinais, CCWD Water Quality Coordinator, at 763-755-0975.

TRIO  
Lisa Beckermann  
Stylist  
763.427.6714 • cell 612.414.8409  
505 Hwy 169, Champlin, MN 55316

## Park Renovation Update By Joel Friday, Coon Rapids Watchdog

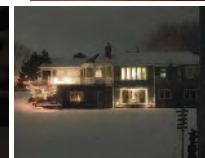
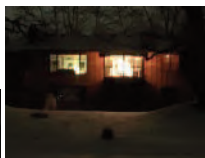
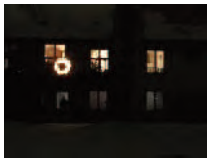
Most of the renovations are complete! There will be some finishing-up in the spring with landscaping, possibly a restroom, and replacing the old pier. The old pier is being refurbished over the winter and put back in the lake, so there will be two piers.

# Christmas Lights Winter 2017

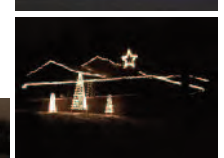
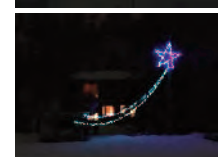
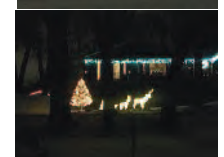
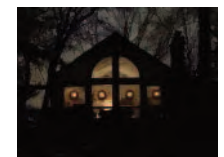
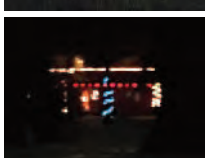
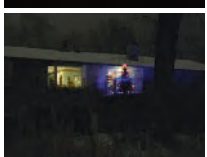
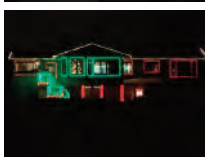
By Julie Jared

Thank you to all who participated in The Great CLAA Christmas Lighting Contest! The 2018 winner, by committee and by Facebook Likes count, was the Bergan family! The Bergan family received a gift card to Menards, a CLAA T-shirt, official bragging rights, and a one-of-a-kind, homemade award that was created by CLAA member Dean Keller. The award can be enjoyed many ways: displayed as an ornament on a tree, as a trophy, or worn around the neck like an Olympic gold medal. 😊

Please see below for details on this year's competition. **Get your lights ready!**



## The First Annual Great CLAA Christmas Lighting Contest!



**Contest Area:** Homes on Crooked Lake, and those of members of CLAA!

**Lakeside** of home will be judged, unless you are a CLAA member not on the lake, in which case you pick the side!\*

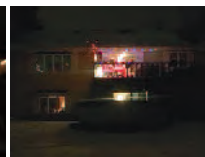
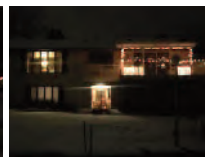
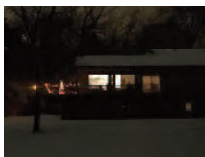
There will be two (2) contests:

- 1) **Committee Choice:** Judging will occur 12/20/18 by committee.
- 1) **Facebook Choice:** Get the most Facebook 'Likes' by 1/1/19 and you win! Photos will be taken by committee on 12/20/18 and posted on Facebook.

**Winnings:** Bragging rights, CLAA T-shirt, ribbon, and gift card!

Winners will be announced at the CLAA Winter Meeting at Keller Williams, 1740 116<sup>th</sup> Ave NW Coon Rapids, on Thurs., Feb 21, 2019, at 7 pm. (Social starts at 6:30 pm.)

\*CLAA member contestants not on the lake, please email Paul at [paulemartin@comcast.net](mailto:paulemartin@comcast.net) to enter.



# 4th of July Boat Parade 2018 By Julie Jared



Congratulations to Ken and Brenda Staloch, winners of the 2018 4th of July Boat Parade with Thomas the Train! He was a really useful engine as he always dreamed of being! It was a beautiful day on the lake and so much fun to see the creative talents of our lake community float on by!

Thank you to everyone who participated! And thank you to our boat parade coordinators: Lisa and Dave Beckermann, Paula and Greg Lohse and Jessica Waks.



## Summer Meeting and Picnic 2018

By Dan Jared

Julie and I had a great time hosting the CLAA Summer Meeting/Picnic. Due to construction at the park, the annual event was moved to our backyard. Wow, what a turn-out! People arrived by land and lake, car and foot, paddleboard, kayak, and pontoon. In total, 108 people descended on the picnic (who knew the pool could hold 35 kids at once??) and enjoyed great food, games, swimming, face-painting, comradery and lake updates. Checkout the CLAA Facebook page for pictures from Dan Anderson's drone. Thank you to the Coon Creek Watershed District, MN DNR and Anoka County for supporting the meeting with informative updates and displays regarding invasive species, water quality, and boating regulations. The resounding message is that Crooked Lake is thriving thanks to the vigilance and involvement of each of you, the DNR, the Coon Creek Watershed District, Anoka County and the cities of Coon Rapids and Andover. Thank you all for allowing Julie and I to host. We look forward to another amazing get-together next summer. A special thanks to Paul Martin and Duane Ullrich for their help in setting up and taking down the event.



## Crooked Lake 2018 Watercraft Inspection Data

By Jessica Abarca, Anoka County Parks

There were 4 Anoka County watercraft inspectors stationed at the Crooked Lake boat launch in 2018. They worked from the middle of May to the end of September. Watercraft inspectors usually work until the middle of October, but with the colder weather in late September, they ended their season early. The boat launch was very busy in the beginning of the year and got slower as the season went on. The boat plug and plant violations are a little higher than the county average and higher than we want to see. Next year we are looking into putting more hours at Crooked Lake to educate more boaters about the laws and hopefully decrease the violation rate.

Total Inspections			
	Inspections	Entering	Exiting
May	166	90	76
June	247	153	94
July	349	190	159
August	206	119	87
September	30	12	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>998</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>434</b>

Total Hours	
	Hours
May	53
June	104
July	134
August	98
September	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>410</b>

Inspections per Hour	
May	3.13
June	2.38
July	2.6
August	2.1
September	1.43
<b>Average</b>	<b>2.43</b>

Boat Plug Violations		
Month	Violations/ Entering Boats	%
May	4/90	4.44
June	5/153	3.27
July	9/190	4.74
August	9/119	7.56
September	1/12	8.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>28/564</b>	<b>4.96</b>

Plant Violations		
Month	Violations/ Entering Boats	%
May	0/90	0
June	10/153	6.54
July	16/190	8.42
August	7/119	5.88
September	3/12	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>36/564</b>	<b>6.38</b>

### Yearly Crooked Lake Watercraft Inspection Data

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018
Hours	288	519	702	410
Inspections	533	956	1500	998
Inspections/Hour	1.85	1.84	2.14	2.43
Boat Plug Violations	35/302 11.59%	38/526 7.22%	4/837 .48%	28/564 4.96%
Plant Violations	20/302 6.62%	39/526 7.41%	25/837 2.99%	36/564 6.38%



## Do You Think the Lake Looks Better Now than a Few Years Ago?

By Paul Martin

### We need your help!

If you have already donated in calendar year 2018, THANK YOU!! If you have not, the following is why we still need your 2018 donation.

Two lake treatments along with two Delineation Reports and a Point Intercept Survey required to accomplish successful treatment cost us **\$11,700 so far in 2018**. In 2018, 58 families (about half of the lake residents) have donated, for a total of **\$2,250**.

To cover the donation gap, our president, Gary Nereson, was instrumental in CLAA being awarded a \$5,000 grant from Anoka County this year. This grant was rare, and we cannot count on receiving another one in the future.

We are also in process of sending our partners, the cities of Andover and Coon Rapids, invoices for \$2,700 each, for a total of \$5,400; this process cannot be relied upon in the future either. If city budgets are cut, cities will not be paying what we invoice them for.

$\$2,250 + \$5,000 + \$5,400 = \$12,650$  and seems to look OK and cover the costs so far in 2018; however, the \$11,700 has to be paid up-front (meaning before we receive grant money or money from the cities). If we did not get awarded the grant, or if the cities cannot pay the total we invoice them for, we approximate that we will not be able to maintain our lake's health beyond two more years.

Please help us continue to keep the lake looking better every year! Please send your donation annually! Thank you.

## Winter General Meeting

**Date: Thursday, February 21, 2019**

**Time: 7:00-8:30 pm, Social starts at 6:30 pm**

### \*New Location

**Keller Williams  
1740 116th Ave. NW  
Coon Rapids**

### Program

- Open Mic
- SGM Minutes
- Treasurer's Report
- Audit Report
- Elections
- Address from the President
- Official UMISC Conference Presentation by Justine Dauphinais titled *"Lakewide Control of Hybrid Eurasian Watermilfoil: A New Model For Success"*
- Christmas Lighting Contest Winner Announcement, Door Prize

## Thank You, CLAA and Volunteers!

By CCWD

The Coon Creek Watershed District would like to say, "Thank You!" to all residents and volunteers who have participated in activities that protect & improve the Lake. From stenciling storm drains to maintaining rain gardens to monitoring for zebra mussels to attending multiple meetings to partnering with agencies, each effort adds up to a better future for the lake and its users. We look forward to assisting you in continuing these efforts in 2019!



## 2018 AIS Treatment Recap

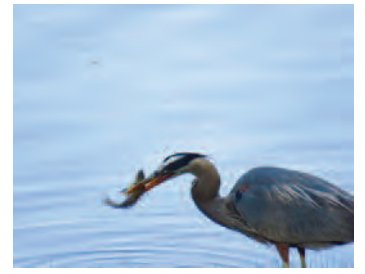
By Gary Nereson, President

As noted last year, we anticipated that a more aggressive approach may be needed for Curlyleaf Pondweed (CLP) this year. James Johson's (Freshwater Scientific Services) delineation report verified that and we hired PLM to treat 13.8 acres, which occurred on May 22, 2018. (CLP is best surveyed and treated in the spring or very early summer.)

Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM or HEWM) manifests itself later in the growing season. Hence, we hired James to do another delineation survey. This survey (done June 15, 2018) found only a few isolated EWM plants (all in the southern bay), even though he had detected significantly more EWM in his earlier, May 12, delineation survey. His explanation was that the "diquat" herbicide used to treat CLP had also likely impacted the EWM. However, his expectation was that the EWM would re-sprout and we should be prepared for an additional fall treatment and/or hand-pulling.

Sure enough, his August 14, 2018 point intercept survey indicated a significantly larger HEWM presence in the south bay, and also "very sparse but widespread" HEWM along much of the shore. Based on his and Keegan's (DNR) recommendation, we again hired PLM to treat that southern bay (11 acres) in early October 2018 with a new product called ProcellaCor, which targets EWM and HEWM while having minimal effect on native plants.

Depending on next spring's delineation report, we may be looking again at a larger acreage treatment.



The blue heron fishing for dinner  
by Paula Foley

## Lakewide Control of Hybrid Eurasian Watermilfoil: A New Model for Success Official Abstract from the Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference

By Keegan Lund, Justine Dauphinais, & James Johnson

Crooked Lake in Anoka County, Minnesota has been managing invasive watermilfoil for the past 25 years with varied success. These efforts have been facilitated by a broad group of stakeholders including the lake association, cities, DNR, watershed district, consultants and commercial pesticide applicators. In 1992, the entire lake was treated with a liquid formulation of the herbicide fluridone. This treatment controlled milfoil in the lake for ~5 years, but also led to an unacceptable amount of damage to the native plant community. In 2002, the lake was treated again with liquid fluridone at a lower concentration with similar results. Since 2008, the lake association managed emerging areas of invasive milfoil using localized 2,4-D spot treatments. However, this did not provide adequate control and allowed milfoil to reestablish to nuisance levels lakewide. In 2015, genetic testing revealed that the milfoil in the lake was hybrid milfoil. In response to this new finding and past treatment failures, the DNR supported a lakewide treatment using a new granular fluridone formulation, a lower dose rate, and earlier treatment timing to control the hybrid milfoil while minimizing impacts to the native plant community. Planning and in-lake monitoring for this new treatment was complex and involved multiple stakeholders. In contrast to the previous 2 fluridone treatments, the 2016 treatment reduced invasive watermilfoil to near zero and did not noticeably harm the native plants. In 2017, the diversity and extent of the native plant community in the lake were the greatest in 15 years. **There will be a presentation on this topic at the 2019 CLAA Winter General Meeting.**



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# POLAR PLUNGE FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS



aerial by Dan Anderson

## 8th Annual Polar Plunge!!

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2019**

Plunge Begins at 1:00 pm

Crooked Lake Park

13180 Crooked Lake Blvd NW

**Jump in to help make 2019's  
 goal of \$ 155,500!**

2018	560 Plungers	... \$ 155,260
2017	639 Plungers	... \$ 191,283
2016	733 Plungers	... \$ 187,612
2015	934 Plungers	... \$ 206,443

## Thank you CLAA Sponsors!



**CROOKED LAKE**  
area association

Paul Martin  
2926 129th Ave NW  
Coon Rapids, MN 55448  
Phone: 651-755-4656  
E-mail: paulmartin@comcast.net



**\*New Location**

Hope to see you at our **Winter General Meeting on Thursday, February 21, 2019, 6:30PM** at Keller Williams, 1740 116th Ave. NW, Coon Rapids.



The mission of the Crooked Lake Area Association is to act as an advocate of the lake and to establish and promote a strong sense of community among the residents on and around Crooked Lake.

\*\*\*\*\*  
★ **CLAA volunteer terms up for re-election** ★  
★ **Secretary & Treasurer** ★  
★ **Quadrant Leaders – NW and SE** ★  
★ **Coon Rapids City Council Watchdog** ★  
★ They will be elected at the Winter General ★  
★ Meeting on 2/21/19. ★  
★ \*\*\*\*\*

**From the Treasurer's Desk** by Paul Martin, Treasurer

The membership suggested donation amount to the lake association is **\$35** per year or \$20 if you live off the lake. You can donate anytime from January 1 – December 31st. We are a 501(c)3 corporation which means that all money donated by you is tax deductible. If you have **not** sent in your donation for this year (since January 1, 2018), now is a great time to do so!



If you are not sure if you have made a donation for 2018 send me an email [paulmartin@comcast.net](mailto:paulmartin@comcast.net) or call **651-755-4656** and I will look it up.

**List of Officers and Phone Numbers:**

- Gary Nereson 763-422-0682 President  
612-961-0358 Cell
- Dan Jared 612-280-7054 Vice-President
- Paul Martin 763-427-5305 Treasurer
- Melissa Sandeen 763-670-6457 Quadrant Leader – SW
- Katie Grandell 612-702-5127 Quadrant Leader - NE
- Brian Graves 612-282-8803 Quadrant Leader - SE
- Duane Ullrich 763-229-3344 Quadrant Leader - NW
- Joel Friday 612-868-6287 Coon Rapids Watchdog
- Dan Anderson 763-807-5848 Andover Watchdog
- Julie Jared 763-229-7457 Secretary

**Volunteer Appreciation Night Out**

If you volunteered in 2018 to help out for an event/project on Crooked Lake you will be receiving an invite soon for our **Night Out at the Pizza Ranch in Andover on December 2nd, at 4:00 PM**



**2019 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail address:** \_\_\_\_\_

I'm GREEN...please email me the newsletter next year.

Please include your  
Lake Owner Annual donation of \$35.00 or  
Lake Watershed Annual Membership donation of \$20.00

Make check payable to: **CLAA**  
Send to: **Paul Martin**  
**2926 129th Ave NW**  
**Coon Rapids, MN 55448**