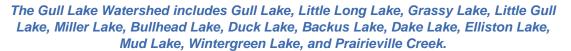
THE GLQO WATERSHED JOURNAL





Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program

By Mike Gallagher, Water Quality Committee

"The Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP) has been an important component of Michigan's inland lakes monitoring program for over 40 years, which makes it the second oldest volunteer monitoring program for lakes in the country. The primary purpose of this cooperative program is to help citizen volunteers monitor indicators of water quality in their lake and document changes in lake quality over time." That quote came directly from the MiCorps' website.

For a decade, GLQO volunteers have been monitoring Gull Lake and Little Long Lake. Each spring, within two weeks of "ice out" until early in September, they head out in the boat to gather data that helps determine the quality of the lakes. They measure the following:

- * Transparency which is a simple indicator of lake quality
- * Total Phosphorus to determine available nutrients
- * Chlorophyll a to determine the algae level which indicates food availability
- * Dissolved Oxygen an essential ingredient to support fish and vegetation
- * Temperature

We have also participated in two CLMP programs which help us to see changes in shorelines and aquatic vegetation. The Score the Shore program results were poor for Gull Lake but comparable to other densely populated lakes surrounded by homes and docks. There is much room for improvement. The third vegetation survey Continued on Page 3

SUMMER 2018

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The Gull Lake Quality Organization is an all-volunteer organization. Our mission is to address concerns and provide education regarding the use of natural resources of the Gull Lake Watershed.

Kalamazoo County Sheriff offers Free Boater Safety Classes

There are three courses remaining for this season: July 14, July 28 and August 18. They begin at 8:30 am at Ziegler Motorsports Conference Room at 5001 Park Dr.

Certification is required of:

- Persons born after December 31, 1978 shall not operate a personal watercraft unless they obtain a boating safety certificate.
- The operators of a personal watercraft must carry their boating safety certificate and display it upon the demand of a peace officer.

For more details or to register, please visit www.kalcounty.com/sheriff.

GULL LAKE DAM IN NEED OF REPAIR

We welcomed Jeff Price (pictured right), Gull Lake Association Board Member, to the Welcome to Summer Party to give us an update on the status of the dam. Incorporated in 1921, the sole purpose of the GLA is to own, maintain and operate the dam that controls the water levels on Gull Lake. An inspection of the dam is required every five years. Below are highlights from the results of the 2018 safety inspection and useable dam life assessment.

- The dam is in fair condition. While hazards presenting concern for immediate failure were not observed, the dam's condition has deteriorated and the GLA has identified a need to plan for its rehabilitation or replacement
- The dam was constructed in 1880, with repairs in 1921. There were additional minor repairs thereafter.
- The useful life is based on the structural, mechanical, and hydraulic components of the dam and the overall safety of the dam
- It is typically assumed that concrete and earthen components of a dam will last 50 to 100 years depending on construction materials and methods
- Physical and mechanical processes such as cracking due to freezing and thawing or wetting and drying cycles affect the dam
- With repair, some of the components may last an additional 10-20 years. Other portions of the dam, such as the downstream abutment wall, have deteriorated beyond repair and are assumed to be near the end of their useful life
- Chemical processes such as oxidation of metal components affect the gate house
- Biological processes such as growth of plants in cracks affect the integrity
- Seepage under the foundation or through the embankment was observed and will continue to progress and increase the uplift pressure on the wall and toe over time, increasing the risk for failure
- GLA believes that the embankment has reached its useful life and the dam is nearing the end of its useful life
- Assuming no catastrophic failure occurs, GLA estimates the remaining useful life of the dam to be 10-20 years.

Although there are several options for repair and replacement, the recommendation is the removal of the old mill foundation wall and spillway, regrading the downstream slope of the east embankment, and installation of a steel sheet pile spillway with stop logs. This alternative is preferred since it is more cost-effective and has fewer long term risks for failure. The Gull Lake Association is in the process of developing the funding plan for imminent replacement. The projected cost to replace the dam is \$670,000. There may be grant dollars available, however every lake enthusiast whether riparian or not should recognize the need to preserve the dam and with it the treasure of Gull Lake.





New Lake Survey Planned

By Mike Gallagher, Water Quality Committee

Back in 2013, the GLQO joined other Michigan inland lake volunteers and participated in training to learn how to do an aquatic vegetation survey. During July and August of that year we did our first survey of the entire lake. We found 26 species of aquatic plants and a couple initial growths of invasive species that caused concern and a need for more monitoring. Since then, our monitoring shows that these invasive species have not spread and quite possibly could have been in the lake for many years. But in 2015 a new aquatic invasive species was identified - Starry Stonewort. This lead the GLQO to hire Kaiser and Associates of Kalamazoo to conduct another aquatic vegetation survey. That survey found the same 26 varieties of vegetation in the lake and also a small area of the lake where starry stonewort was growing. Today, that invader is spreading. So again, the GLQO has hired a professional firm, Progressive AE, to do another survey to determine the location and density of all vegetation in the lake. The results of this survey will help them help us to determine an action plan for managing the invasive vegetation in the lake. The survey is tentatively scheduled for the first week in July and new technology will allow all vegetation species to be located and mapped in just a couple of days. This map will be used to compare the results of future surveys and help us know if our management plan is working. GLQO continues its vigilant monitoring of invasive species in Gull and Little Long Lakes.

Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program

Continued from Page 1

since 2013 began on July 3rd. A significant change in aquatic plants is the growth and spread of starry stonewort. Found in 2014, starry stonewort now stretches from the country club boat launch channel to the shallow bay to the north. Management of this invasive species is a main focus of the GLQO. The lake survey being conducted this summer will tell us the density, species and location of all plants in Gull Lake.

In ten years we have noticed only minor year to year changes with phosphorus and chlorophyll levels decreasing slightly. This is partially due to the state law prohibiting phosphorus in lawn fertilizers. Gull Lake is considered oligotrophic with limited nutrients, cool clear waters and dissolved oxygen from top to bottom until late in the summer. Little Long Lake is also oligotrophic but is shallower and becomes oxygen depleted at the bottom as the lake warms and becomes stratified in the early summer. You'll find the annual report here. http://glqo.net/portfolio-item/water-quality-committee/

With state funding available for the CLMP program through the summer of 2019 we will continue to participate in CLMP and keep an eye on the lakes we enjoy.

JOIN US FOR THE GLQO ANNUAL MEETING

GLQO invites you to the annual meeting on **Tuesday**, **August 7**th at the Kellogg Manor House. A social time* begins at 6:30 pm with the meeting beginning promptly at 7:00.

*Light hors d'oeuvres and cash bar.

This year's "Welcome to Summer Party" was the best attended yet! Over 162 folks joined together to celebrate summer and to learn more about the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program, the DNR and Gull Lake Fisheries updates, the Gull Lake Dam Association and GLQO updates. Thanks to all our guests who attended! Special thanks to David Maturen, State Representative, Matt Diana, DNR Fisheries Biologist, Jeff Price, Gull Lake Dam Association Board Member, and Vicki Gesmundo, GLQO Board President, (pictured right) Bryan Beck, Fisheries Committee and Mike Gallagher, Water Quality Committee for presenting that evening.





State Representative David Maturen (pictured left) spoke about the State of Michigan budget process specifically as it related to the funding for the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program. The original 2019 budget did not include \$150,000 in funding for the program. CLMP relies upon state funds, along with fees from participating lakes, to manage the program. Thanks in part to the work of Michigan Lake and Stream Associations and concerned citizens, \$150,000 was earmarked for 2019. There is nothing planned for future state funding for CLMP yet. Thanks for joining us Representative Maturen!

The GLQO was fortunate to welcome Matt Diana, a Fisheries Biologist with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (pictured right), to our Summer Party. Matt covered a number of fisheries topics, including:

(a) a review of the fish species identified in the

- (a) a review of the fish species identified in the lake,
- (b) the past and current fisheries management plans and stocking initiatives, and
- (c) the interrelationship between the various fish species and their respective roles in the ecosystem of the lake.

In addition, Matt addressed a number of questions from anglers and riparian's, including comments related to the smelt population, northern pike size, and fishing tournaments. It was an informative and well-received presentation. Thanks to Matt for taking the time to speak with us!





"YOU and One Other"

Several years ago, GLQO launched an "annual" membership drive. In *late fall of each year*, a GLQO update and invitation to join are sent to current members, lapsed members, riparian's, neighbors and friends. Hoping to catch any snowbirds who might have missed the fall mailing; we re-send to those who had not yet joined each spring.

At the Welcome to Summer Party, we had a few questions from folks who were not listed on the membership list. Essentially, we "reset" the membership list each January. We have found this process to be most manageable by our membership committee volunteers. It is important to us to recognize all those who support our mission.

This year's membership drive theme is **"YOU and One Other."** With nearly 1000 riparian's in the watershed, we need **YOU and One Other** to join in support of the important work of the Gull Lake Quality Organization. Check out the membership list on page 6 and 7. Talk to your neighbors and friends. Encourage them to become a member! Join today at http://glqo.net/join/!

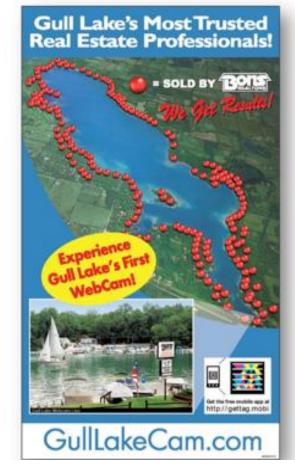
As was noted by Linda Shierlaw, GLQO Board Member, at the Welcome to Summer Party, GLQO and the Gull Lake Dam Association should have the <u>full</u> support of all riparian's and lake users! If you are not yet members...join today!



Special Appreciation to AVB for inviting GLQO members to a private showing of their parade home on Gull Lake Drive and for matching money raised that day!

We thank the 2018 GLQO Corporate Members

Abigail Hayden Interior Design, LLC
Banner Beachfront Equipment
Bell Tower Lake House Living, LLC
Boris Realtors
Gull Lake Country Club
Hawks Hollow Builders
Mac's Garage, LLC
Serafino's



We thank the 2018 GLOO Individual and Family Members

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The Gull Lake Quality Organization

P.O. Box 144 / Richland, Michigan / 49083 Website: glqo.net Contact: info@glqo.net







Upcoming Events

Tuesday, July 24, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. **GLQO** Board Meeting **Kellogg Biological Station: Stack Building**

Tuesday, July 24, 2018 from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. **MSU Dairy Open House** For More Information: www.kbs.msu.edu/events/dairy-open-house

GLQO Annual Meeting Tuesday, August 7, 2018 Social: 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:00 p.m. **Kellogg Manor House**

Cereal City Concert Band Lakeside Concert Sunday, August 26, 2018 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. **Kellogg Manor House**

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GLQO by-laws allow volunteers to serve as directors for two consecutive threeyear terms. After each Director's name are two numbers: the **year** their current term expires, and the **number** of the

We welcome you to volunteer for committee work (of your choice) and to participate in our board meetings.

current term.