Greetings,
The snow has melted, the ice is out and the grass is green. It is now safe to return to your favorite place! This newsletter is packed with lots of pertinent information about upcoming summer events and dates to mark on your calendar. I am adding three additional SAVE THE DATE events with a brief description of each.

May 23, 2013 7:00 PM
Les Cheneaux Community Center There is a public educational and information meeting concerning best practices, alternative control measures and opinions to the management and mitigation of Eurasian Water milfoil.

June 5, 2013 2:00 PM
Les Cheneaux Community Library The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District Regulatory Office invites you to attend an outreach event entitled “Waterways, Wetland, and You!” This event includes a brief presentation providing an overview of the Corps Regulatory Program. Topics include permit requirements for structures, work and placement of dredged material in wetlands and waterways, information on applying for permits, and services that the Corps Regulatory Office provides to the public. There will be an application workshop following the meeting. Seating is limited; RSVP 313-226-1325 or e-mail LRE_Reg_Outreach@usace.army.mil.

August 7, 2013 Special Millage Election, Clark Township This special millage election is brought before the voters for a millage to support a recycling and trash removal program for Clark Township.

Looking forward to a warm and wonderful summer, see you soon!

Ice—Water—Weather
“Old Man Winter” hung around for a long time this spring. East Hessel Bay still had chunks of ice in late April and Government Bay was half covered with ice on the 1st of May! Nightly low temperatures fell below freezing through April so snow-melt, ice-out and subsequent run-off has been a long, slow process. Swans, Geese and ducks could be seen marching around looking a little bewildered at the ice that stayed solid for a long time.

Some good news is that Lake Huron water has risen 6-8 inches after ice-out. I heard a water level report from a Michigan Sea Grant representative who was cautiously optimistic regarding the possibility of at least a little resurgence in the coming months. The report was a part of the annual fisheries workshop held at the Les Cheneaux Sportsman’s Club on April 25. Also cited in the report was the fact that snow depths in northern Ontario and the Upper Peninsula far exceeded 2012 totals. The run-off into Lakes Superior, Huron and Michigan is still happening which is favorable for hopefully some more water! Now we need some spring precipitation to add to the mix . . . go water go!!

LCIA Property Inspections
The Les Cheneaux area experienced very high winds in late April so be advised . . . there are trees and branches down. We have notified several members of trees on drive-ways, decks, roof edges, power lines and one on that landed on top of a parked snowmobile along side an out-building. The inspectors have been reporting the emergency situations, but there are lots of “hangers and widow makers” that still pose a danger.

Security has been good this winter and spring. Inspectors have been able to get to most outlying areas due to good ice and snow cover. Fall and spring water levels, however, have made it a
challenge for them to reach some properties by boat due to low water and no docks.

**Aids to Navigation**
The Coast Guard and LCIA buoys will soon be in place. If you arrive before they are set out, be alert, proceed slowly and be on the lookout for debris, dead heads, etc.

**Fish & Game**
The local deer herd survived the long winter in fairly good condition. There have been some reported evidence of starvation in some places, but nothing drastic. It appears that spring, bare ground and food arrived in the nick of time; the deer in our yard were really hungry!

Fish biologists at the fisheries workshop, April 25, gave optimistic reports regarding the condition of Lake Huron fish populations. Annual assessments from last fall showed good numbers of perch and pike. Creel census reports are good in the islands, including a big increase in native lake trout and steelhead trout. All in all there is a positive outlook toward fishing at this time.

The cormorant control project has kicked off this spring; the local ‘designated shooters’ are on the water regularly. The USDA’s goal of cormorant population control has been successful due to egg oiling and shooting. The 10,000 birds we saw in 2003 have been decreased to a current count of 500 resulting in the huge improvement in our fishing.

**Recycling Report**
The Clark Township Recycle Committee will soon publicize recommendations for a proposed garbage/recycling plan. If the plan is approved, it is not likely to take effect until 2014. The transfer site at the old dump will still accept bagged garbage ($4.00 per bag) on Saturdays from 8:00am—4:00pm and Mondays from 12:00pm-4:00pm. If you have questions about garbage and what is acceptable at the site, the contact phone number is 478-4030, Smith Sanitation.

If you wish to recycle, the nearest location is the Chippewa County Recycling Center in Sault Ste. Marie. The center is open daily and is located at 1423 W. Easterday Ave. (approx 1 mile west of I-75). For further information call 906.632.0525.

**Membership Directory**
A LCIA Membership Directory is available by email. It can be sent to you as a PDF file (you would need Adobe Reader to open it). If you would like one, please email your request to: lciadirectory@gmail.com. We will reply to your request and attach the directory. It is a large file so there could be a problem receiving it if your email server has file size restrictions. We will also be printing a limited number of hard copies which will be available this summer.

Water Safety & Youth Boating Certification Committee Report

*Dave Robertson, Chair*

Committee Members: Avis Birkmeier, Paul Cononi, Rae Ann Cononi, John Griffin, Diane Patrick, Ray Phillips, Dave Robertson, Chair

After a mild winter, but a snowy April, spring returns to the North. LCIA’s contribution to local navigation, placement of buoys, will be completed before Memorial Day. Early season boaters must be extra careful until the buoys are set. If the lake remains at historically low levels, there will be many more hazards this summer; some which most of us have never seen. Reefs and points will be extended and more shallow. If you are not careful, the only happy people will be the propeller manufacturers and boat repairers. Many articles in recent months have chronicled the low water. Photos have shown boat houses whose cribs do not even touch any water. The eventual summer water level awaits the melting of the snow pack around Lake Superior and the spring rains. Let’s hope for a wet spring.

The annual boating safety classes will be taught by Marine Deputy Tom Sherlund again this summer. As in the past LCIA awards PFDs to successful participants, thanks to the Trip Abnee Memorial Fund. The classes are great for youthful and novice boaters [and helpful even for more experienced folks]. All young people need certification. The threshold age is 12. The class dates are:

- July 11 & 12 - 6:00-9:00pm - First National Bank basement
- August 6 & 7 - 6:00-9:00pm - First National Bank basement

Please contact JOHN GRIFFIN to register: 906.484.2022 or e-mail: johngriffinrealestate@yahoo.com

The Coast Guard Aux. offers free boat inspections again this year. Call Dave Crockett at 906-484-3512 to schedule an appointment. The CGA will evaluate whether your boat is equipped properly.

AND NOW: A pop quiz [from the 2008 Boater Course Exam]: In the event your boat catches on fire, which of the following actions should you NOT do?  a. stop the engine and put on a PFD; b. keep the boat turned so the fire is downwind of the passengers; c. pour beer on the flames; d. aim your fire extinguisher at the base of the flames. E. shut off the fuel supply.

Enjoy your spring. Before long, it will be time to head north for summer 2013. Happy boating.
Publicity Committee Report ~ 2013 Summer Activities
Sherri Young, Chair

**Book Club**
Margy Long will be the facilitator for the LCIA Book Club for the 2013 summer season. The format will remain the same as in previous years. Read your favorite book/s and discuss your thoughts and insights with your fellow readers. This always provides interesting discussions. The Book Club meetings will be held on Thursday on the following dates: June 11, June 25, July 9, July 23, August 6, August 20 and the last meeting September 3. Elizabeth and Gail have kindly said we can meet at the Village Idiom like we have in the past. We thank them for their generosity. Looking forward to many interesting conversations and a fun time.

**JULY 4th PARADE, THURSDAY**
The theme for the 4th of July parade this year is, “Adventures of the Sea.” We will carry umbrellas, which will hopefully keep the rain away and the sunshine off our shoulders. We are hoping to have many volunteers to march in the parade this year. Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available.

**Nature Walk**
On Thursday, July 25th, Pat Wilson will have a nature walk. Prior to this date, Pat will check the local Conservancy areas and find which one has the most for the group to see. The participants will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Cedarville Foods parking lot. Rides can be consolidated at that time. We will go to the selected site or sites by 10:10 a.m. Children are welcome and encouraged to participate. Walks will be selected for ease and length. We should finish by 11:30 a.m. to noon. Additional hand lens and identification books are always fun to have on hand for the group to share on the walk.

**“Food For Thought”**
The LCIA Annual Food Drive will kick off on Monday August 5, 2013 and will continue until November 1, 2012. We will position a trailer at Coldwell Banker, John Griffin’s office parking lot, located at 101 W. M-134. The trailer, being used this year, is provided by John and Jeri Griffin. We thank you for your generosity. This is a good way to benefit the needy in our community while clearing your own pantry of unused and unwanted food items before leaving the Les Cheneaux for the season. This drive is co-chaired by Norm and Sherri Young. If you have any questions, please contact them this summer at 484-1414. The response was such a success last year that we plan to continue for subsequent years. Thanks to all who help make this project so successful.

**Annual Dinner, Thursday, August 8, 2013**
Lynn Williams and Jan Williams, Co-Chairs and the Social Committee are busy planning our LCIA Annual Dinner to be held at the Community Center on Thursday, August 8, 2013. The theme this year will be, “LCIA’s 90th Anniversary Party.” Can you believe 90 years for this fantastic organization! An evening of celebrations will follow the LCIA Annual Business Meeting, which is held at the High School, on August 8, 2013. Please stay tuned for new and exciting information as it continues to unfold. The notice for the Annual Meeting and Annual Dinner invitation will be mailed to members in July. Reservations are required for the Annual Dinner! Also, as we did last year, as part of your admission, we request that you bring canned goods to stock the Cedar Post Food Pantry in Cedarville. The LCIA is committed to assisting our fellow neighbors. Looking forward to the evening.

**Antique Wooden Boat Show & Festival of Arts, Saturday, August 10, 2013**
Barbara Augenblick will chair the Boat Show booth this year. We will be looking for volunteers to assist at the booth during the day starting at 10:00 a.m. This is a great opportunity to discuss the LCIA with potential new members and to meet new friends. Please contact Sherri at 484-1414 if you are interested in volunteering at the LCIA Boat Show Booth.

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The Les Cheneaux Islands Association is Planning To Host Their First Blessing Of The Fleet Event On Sunday, June 30, 2013

The “Blessing” will take place on Cedarville Bay near Cedarville Marine’s dockage area from 12:00pm to 4:00pm. This is a special blessing for any and all boaters. We welcome residential and commercial fishing boats, recreational pleasure boats, etc. Activities include a Boat Parade and Awards for best decorated boats following the Blessing. The theme will be: Red, White, Blue and Yellow. The event will be followed by refreshments and fun at the township park downtown located on Hodeck Street. We visualize this as a festival affair with a “Special Blessing” of the fishermen and recreational boaters. We are living in one of the most beautiful creations on this earth and the “Blessing” should serve as a reminder of safety and kindness to one another. Updates on the event will be posted on LCIA’s website: [www.islandsassoc.org](http://www.islandsassoc.org).

See you on the water !!
SPRING NEWSLETTER

**Frog Fest 2013**

A reminder to all, FROG FEST IS COMING! The ice went out within a week, boats are on the water, the water is up some—WE WILL TAKE EVERY LITTLE BIT—it was 79 degrees on May 1, and the Peepers are out. The Les Cheneaux Watershed Council’s Frog Fest is scheduled for **Saturday July 13 in front of Autore’s.**

An exciting day is planned, with exhibits, games, reptiles, food (Up In Smoke), and a Walk /Run early in the day. The latest on WEED CONTROL, WATER RESTORATION, AND HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS will be available! Watch for posters in June.

If you have any questions or want to volunteer, please feel free to contact Mary Baker

bbaker@lighthouse.net

Looking forward to a Great Summer and a great Frog Fest this year!

*From the Les Cheneaux Watershed Council*

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**Happy Anniversary to The Les Cheneaux Community Library!**

The Les Cheneaux Community Library will celebrate its 10th Anniversary of service to the Les Cheneaux Community on **Sunday, August 4, from 2 pm to 5 pm** at the library on Hodeck Street in Cedarville.

Enjoy refreshments, such as a yummy “Jersey Mud,” along with indoor and outdoor entertainment, including games and face painting for the younger set. And it’s all free of charge as a special thank you to our generous financial supporters and loyal patrons!

A special thank you goes out to all LCIA members for supporting the library over the past ten years.

Please, mark your calendars now and we’ll look forward to seeing you at the party in August!

*From The Friends of the Les Cheneaux Community Library*

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**Summer Theater- in the Soo!**

The Les Cheneaux Education Foundation will be sponsoring a bus to carry Les Cheneaux theater lovers to a matinee performance of the Soo Theatre Project’s production of **“Fiddler on the Roof” Sunday, July 21st.**

The production will be directed by Lisa Dunn, who directed the show for the Les Cheneaux Education Foundation in Cedarville in 1995. Missy Eberts will reprise the role of Golde in the Soo production, which also features professional actor Brian Miller in the role of Tevye. Music direction will be by Karen Hughes Beacom.

The ticket price, still to be determined, will include transportation to the production, snacks and a ticket to the show. Watch for more details in the St. Ignace News this summer!

*From the Les Cheneaux Education Foundation*