

ELK-SKEGEMOG LAKES ASSOCIATION

FEB. 2023 MEMBER CELEBRATION NEWSLETTER

This is a different looking ESLA newsletter. No front page photo. No index. And fewer words from the president. Today, we're celebrating those who supported ESLA's expanded water quality mission in 2022. Your dollars help bring new initiatives you'll read more about inside this newsletter. We hope we've earned your continued support. — *Bob Campbell, president*

2022 ESLA Champions



ESLA Champions in the left column below made a \$5000 gift in 2022 to the ESLA Endowment (Grand Traverse Regional Foundation) or ESLA's Environmental and Strategic Fund. Champions on the right made gifts of \$1,000 or more in 2022 and committed to reaching \$5,000 within five years. Champion gifts are not dues.

Anonymous

Marty & Valerie Cotanche

Dean & Sharon Ginther

Carol & Jim Goetz

Katherine Lawrence-Copp and

Edward P. Copp

Pat Pierce

Rogers Family Foundation

Deborah Bunker

Bob & Ruth Campbell

Steve & Deb Francis

Andrew & Terry Hogarth

Bob & Lisa McCririe

John & Kathy Polanski

George & Deanna Seifried

John & Linda Spevacek

Les & Joanne Teague

ESLA Legends

ESLA Legends are members who have made a single donation of \$25,000 or more during their lifetime or have included one in their estate plan to either the ESLA Endowment (Grand Traverse Regional Foundation) or the ESLA Environmental and Strategic Fund. Anonymous donations are welcome for those who wish to remain incognito.



Dean and Sharon Ginther





ESLA'S 2022 BUSINESS SUPPORTERS

BUSINESS PATRON \$500 +

Elk Rapids Marina on Elk Lake 231-264-9500 elkrapidsmarina.com

BUSINESS SUSTAINER \$250 - \$499

Barker Creek Nursery 231-267-5972 barkercreek.net
 Blackmore Property Maintenance 231-264-9404 blackmorepropertymaintenance.net
 Bodywise 231-264-6688 erbodywise.com
 Bokhara Pet Resort 231- 254-5855 bokhara.com
 Coldwell Banker Camille Campbell 231-944-9385 camilleycampbell.com
 Chemical Control Company 231- 946-5771 chemicalcontrol.com
 Great Lakes Cottage Watch 231-633-7378 glcottagewatch.com
 Habitat Landscape 231-622-2688 habitat-landscape.com
 Miner's North Jewelers 231-946-8528 minersnorth.com
 Raymond James Rockne "Rocky"
 Paige 248-277-8875 raymondjames.com/rockypaige

BUSINESS BACKER \$100 - \$249

All Smiles Family Dentistry 231-264-6300
 Century 21 Northland Kellie Sergent 231-264-4500 c21northland.com
 Coach's Angle Charters Fred Fields 260-519-1168 coachscharters.com
 Elk Rapids Skin & Laser Clinic 231-264-0700 youridealyouweightloss.com
 Fish With Jim Outfitters 231-252-1277 fishwithjimoutfitters.com
 Lakeside Prop. Real Estate 231-254-5000 lakesidepropertiesrealestate.com
 Michigan Lake Products 231-264-8002 michiganlakeproducts.com
 RE/MAX Elk Rapids Don Fedrigon 231-264-5400 donfedrigon.com
 Short's Brewing Company 231-498-2300 shortsbrewing.com
 Stoney Cabin Toys 231-498-5744 stoneycabintoy.com
 Village Market 231-264-5629 villmkt.com
 Twisted Fish Gallery 231-264-0123 twistedfishgallery.com

For the first time in 2022 , ESLA solicited contributions from area businesses to support our water quality, navigation safety and educational missions. The businesses listed above all chipped in. We encourage our members to consider supporting those listed. For those and other businesses wishing to join or continue on this list in 2023 contact ESLA board member Nancy Covington Schreiber at 954-240-2954 or email ElkSkegemoglakes@gmail.com.

Membership Dues \$1000 (or greater)

Theo and Robert Becker
Pamela and James Butcher

Joseph Fisher
Lisa Goodall and Robert Young

Membership Dues \$500—\$999

Donald W. Alford Jr.
Rick and Janis Becker
Mark and Helen Bierley
Bruce and Jennie Brown
Cassie and Michael Gambrell
Gary and Mary Chenoweth
Anonymous Donations
David and Susan Karmon
Jeffrey and Lisa Layer
Jack Maddox and Jan Garvey
Robert and April Rinder
Edward and Elyse Rogers
Robert Vandragt and Jackie Norton
Joseph Visci and Martha Claus
Douglas Waldie
Allan and Marjorie Whittemore

Membership Dues \$250—\$499

Brian and Elizabeth Ames
Richard and Cheryl Beamish
Donald and Iris Bonato
Susan Brown
Scott and Catherine Brubaker
Keith and Margaret Burns
Gail and Dennis Bushong
Bob and Ruth Campbell
Jeffrey Clark
John Conrad
Katherine Lawrence-Copp and
Edward P. Copp
Katherine Lawrence
William Covington
Steven and Karen Crane
Betsy Davis
Devine Elizabeth A Trustee
Lawrence and Luanne Dewey
Kurtis and Lynn Finch
Steven and Anita Gadd
Tom and Karen Gehres
Dean and Sharon Ginther
Richard and Alice Gold
Michael Grable

Membership Dues

\$250—\$499

Stephen and Fay Harris
 David and Butch Hauser
 Ann Hubbard
 Andrew and Camie Hull
 Andrew and Patricia Jackson
 Mark and Karen Krinock
 Gordon and Patricia Laramie
 James Michael Lesko
 Daniel and Mary Mcalister
 Thomas and Deborah McMullen
 David and Karen Phipps
 Clifford and Cheryl Pixler
 Lawrence and Lauren Prentice
 James Quigel
 Steve and Janet Rimar
 George and Deanna Seifried
 Maureen Street
 Alexander and Sally Thomson

Membership Dues

\$100—\$249

Judson and Shirley Adams
 William and Kathryn Albertson
 Mike and Jo Allen
 Dorance Amos and Julia Pollister Amos
 Sharon Bacon
 Ellen Baird
 Robert Baker and Kim Fletcher
 Dennis and Jeanette Bartlett
 Kim Baumann
 Ruth Bay

John and Ellen Becker
 Rusty and Brent Benmark
 Kenneth and Mary Ellen Borovich
 Nicole Bosak
 Nancy Boynton
 Robert and Pirkko Bremer
 Edward and Dorothy Broad
 Richard and Sharon Bruner
 Peggy Bushnell
 Joe and Patricia Butcko
 Susanne B. Buxton
 William and Sandra Buyak
 Craig and Laura Cameron
 Paul Campagne and Galuppi Vittorio
 Jean Carle
 Scott and Mary Chamberlin
 Scott Cheney and Colleen Hughes
 Nam and Margaret Cho
 Gary and Debbie Clark
 Glen and Sherrie Clark
 Dale Claudepierre
 Thomas and Irene Covington
 William and Corcoran Crimmins
 Barbara Daane
 Patrick and Susan Daum
 John and Edy Davies
 Lyle and Julie Davis
 Phillip and Sheryl Day
 Edward Derosha
 Peter and Kathy Dimercurio
 Christopher and Tara Donzell
 William and Virginia Dorner
 Gary and Peggy Doty
 Peter and Jan Doty

Patrick and Sharon Dreisig	Thomas and Mary Ann Hosey
James and Linda Dreyer	Charles and Gloria Johnson
Henry and Bonnie Eckhardt	Peter Jones
Barbara Elliott	Omar and Mary Kadro
Robert and Sharon Evans	John and Jean Kallis
Don and Renee Fedrigo	Richard and Kathleen Kazarian
David and Gail Ferguson	Sharon Kellner
Dianne Fisher	Patrick and Jolene Kelly
John and Diane Flatley	Kimberly and Matthew Doran
Glenn and Martha Fronheiser	John J. King
Timothy J. Galanek	Robert and Karen Kingon
Jamie and Melinda Gallagher	Thomas and Kay Kirchner
William and Marlene Gast	Edmund and Carol Klipa
Jeffrey and Susan Gehres	George and Cheryl Knight
April J. Ginther	Kenneth Krentz and Susan Mohr
Donald and Karen Glenn	Pete and Lynne Kuhl
Warren Goodell	David and Jill Kuznicki
Gregory and Patti Gorno	Ledebuhr Family Cottage
Ronald Gurdak	Greg and Kate Lett
Kenneth and Christine Hall	Pamela Levy
Ted and Pamela Hamilton	Timothy and Chris Look
William and Jane Hamilton	John and Catherine Loomis
Phyllis Harbin	Phillip Lowman
Dave and Karin Harrison	Verna J. MacDonald
Joseph Heaphy and Anne Osmer	Tracy Mariage
Patrick Hejl	Richard and Lori Marl
Peter and Mary Hesse	Stanley and Nancy Matheny
Wallace and Dolores Hibbard	John and Barbara Matthews
Bruce and Timothy Hildreth	Bruce and Carol McClintick
Charlene Hill	Bruce and Helen McCuaig
Matthew and January Hladki	Michael and Susan McIntyre
Steven and Becky Hobig	Thomas and Amy McJoynt
Andrew and Terry Hogarth	David and Debra McKeon
Gregory and Louise Holzhauser	James and Lou Ann McKimmy

Membership Dues

\$100—\$249

Patrick and Jan McNerney
Gary and Nancy McRay
Michael and Jean Johnston
Ronald and Shelley Mishler
Modrak Family
Jim and Amy Moore
Jack and Teresa Moores
Nancy Muhlig
Glenn Muncie
Scott and Thomas Nelson
Roy and Elizabeth Nichols
Becky Norris and Tina Fields
Kevin and Jewell O'Connor
Tom and Caroline Ogburn
Daniel and Jill Packer
Edward and Donna Palmer
Thomas Palmisano and Margaret Crabtree
James and Sandra Parker
John and Karen Parker
James and Denise Patton
Larry and Sara Peck
Geoffrey and Mary Pernicano
William and Pamela Perrone
Glenn Petersen
Karen A. Petersen
Dennis and Kathleen Pflieger
Patrick Pierce
Joseph and Genese Piggott
Mark and Theresa Piggott
Frank Pinkepank
Stephen and Susan Poggi
John and Kathleen Polanski
Bill and Susan Poulson
Robert and Connie Primeau
Gary and Karen Qualmann
Brent Ragar
Royce Ragland and Ken Bloem
Humberto Rebordeo and Anne Reboredo
Bruce and Linda Redman
Dennis and Barbara Reese
Gary and Martha Reid
Robert Reider and Susan McCraven
Ronald and Marlene Reinhardt
Keith and Janice Reynolds
Kent and Mary Ann Reynolds
Mitchell and Nancy Rinek
Suzanne Ritzler
Jerald and Sharon Rives
Elizabeth Ross
Russell Janis & Connie Snow
Blain and Bridget Russell
Hubert and Nancy Ryan
James and Verna Sak
Louis and Nancy Sanford
Norman and Nancy Schreiber
Chuck and Linda Schuler
James and Laura Shumate
Scott Slaght
Thomas and Linda Slopsema
Mark and Ann Smith
Phil Spangenberg
Catherine Steed
Thomas Stephenson and Laura Savoie
Steve and Sara Stargardt

Membership Dues \$100—\$249

Francis and Elaine Stienon
 Lester and Joanne Teague
 Jill Tetreau
 Audrey Thomas
 Richard and Susan Tietema
 Tim and Char Hill
 Karen and Steven Trudell
 Brian Tyler
 Paul and Pam Vammer
 Mark and Robin Vanderkaay
 Thomas and Susan Vanderweele
 Thomas and Pauline Varley
 John and Shelia Vercruysse
 Stephen Voss
 Douglas and Wendy Warner
 James and Vickie Warren
 Gregory and Deborah Weaver
 Brian and Joan Weessies
 Daniel Weiss and Jean Michalak
 Jean Weiss
 William and Donna Weltyk
 Norm Wheeler
 Tim Wheeler
 Horace White and Karin Morris
 John and Yelena White
 Walter and Rosanne Whitehouse
 John and Nancy Widman
 Beth Wiesenauer
 William and Colleen Osantowski
 Roger and Linda Williams

John and Angela Willis
 Dale and Laurel Wimmer
 Charles and Deborah Worsfold
 Steven and Polly Yount

Membership Dues \$50—\$99

Amy Alflen
 John and Elizabeth Ammond
 Rollin and Linda Balsley
 Dennis and Loraine Bartz
 Mark Baumhardt
 Elizabeth and Frederick Becchetti
 Ronald Beitel Sr.
 David and Janice Bellingham
 Robbie and Michelle Benedict
 Lorraine Berak
 Steven and Susan Black
 Carolyn J. Boyd Estate
 Steve and Sue Boyes
 Bonnie Brinks
 Allan and Sylvia Brown
 Glenn and Carol Bucher
 Richard Bukowski
 Deborah Bunker
 Elaine Burns and Gail Finley
 Richard Buxton
 Richard and Ruth Chapin
 William and Cherytl Chasnis
 Thomas and Karie Chesebro
 David and Nancy Clark
 Michael and Daniele Cobb
 Cochran Family Trust

Membership Dues

\$50—\$99

John and Heidi Coggeshall

Louis Colombo

Margaret Comfort

Lisa Cooley

Mark Craine

Robert and Virginia Crall

Gary and Beverly Cramer

Judith De Broka

Guy Demarais and Heather Barker

Dennis and Michelle McCarthy

Scott and Debra Dennis

Michael and Karen Dontje

Lester and Natalie Dragstedt

Duffy Family Trust

Sandra Ehlers

Charles Ellinwood

Fred and Sara Ellis

Dennis and Barbara Emery

Theodore Ewald

Fred Farage and Carl Strebel

John and Joan Ferrari

Eugene and Sonja Ferries

Paul and Julie Ferries

Virginia Fish

John Freeman and Mary Farrington

Russel and Patricia Galorneau

Gary and Lisa Buczkowski

Charles and Kathleen Gerwin

Marc and Pauline Gilbert

Jerri Gillett

George and Lisa Grobar

Frederick and Ann Gulick

Gerald and Mary Gullo

Hans and Linda Gundersen

Susan L. Haines

Michael and Eileen Hamilton

William and Kay Heckert

Jean Hinkin

Michael and Gabrielle Holz

Horace and Sarah Hunt

Thomas and Patricia Jackson

Douglas Jarrold

Gary Jarrold

Jeff and Katie Eynon

John & Rosalie McAvoy

Thomas and Jeanne Jorgensen

Sandy Joslin

Michael M. Kadian

Valda Karlsons

Robert Kennedy

Bob and Janet Kerlin

Donald and Sharon Kieliszewski

Gerald and Gloria Kilian

John and Nancy Kokinakes

Gerald and Roberta Kolak

John and Inge Koos

David and Nancy Kreuze

David and Linda Krill

Frank and Jean Kuras

Patrick and Lori Ann Lannen

Kathryn Laraway, Jane Spees, N. Appell

David Lawicki

Gerald and Susan Leassner

Frank and Nancy Letherby

William and Betty Lou Letsche

James and Mary Lill

Steven and Nancy Loveall	Jeffrey and Leslie Schroen
Barbara Lundy	Gerald and Karren Sharon
Michael and Judith MacDonald	Robert and Lena Shugart
Jacob and Sara Manteuffel	Susan Sitrick
Gary and Kathryn Manthey	Stanley Smith
Beverly McCamman	Frank and Ruth Ann Soave
Patrick and Coleen McDonald	Paul and Joyce Staley
Tom and Shelle McElwee	Phyllis Staley
Dan and Jane McGrath	Anthony and Christine Standerfer
Terry and Sarah Miller	John and Dawn Steele
Wayne K. Monson	Glen and Mary Stewart
Jule & Kernie Moore	Andrew Summerville
Dain and Joanne Morningstar	Patrick and Pamela Swift
Michael and Angela Mullen	Brian and Deborah Taylor
Carol Nette	Mark and Maria Taylor
Nels and Lynda Nichols	William Tenny
Thomas Northway and Diane St Claire	Nancy Theroux
Ramon and Penny Novarro	Tom & Linda Stanko
Stewart and Peggy Nunneley	Eric and Molly Trosko
Jeffrey and Debra Orchard	Donald and Kathleen Vanitvelt
George and Emily Osborne	John and Beverly Vert
Jerry and Deborah Pascoe	Peter and Pauline Viall
Craig and Judith Passon	Jason and Susan Vinkemulder
John and Kathleen Peterson	Carolyn Volz
Kenneth and Marjory Philp	Steven and Sally Walker
Thomas and Barbara Pickett	James Wallace
John Reid	William and Nancy Walsh
Philip and Joan Richardson	Lee and Ellen Welch
Gary and Helen Romanelli	Duke and Martha Wheeler
Shelly M. Rybarsyk	Karl and Mary Wittbold
Nira and Emile Sabty	Helen Woytowich
David and Margaret Sander	Carl Wroubel
Mark and Caroline Saunders	Stanley and Carol Zenas
Harold and Theresa Sawyers	Frank and Margaret Zielinski



Become An ESLA Champion and/or Legend in 2023

A graphic of the word "LEGEND" in a bold, yellow, stylized font with a blue outline, set against a red background.

Sixteen supporters of ESLA's water quality protection and preservation mission embraced the **Champion** program ESLA initiated in 2022. Their names are on the front page of this newsletter. The initiative caught fire at ESLA's annual meeting in June. Champions are donors who make a gift of \$5000 or more in a single year or who have pledged to give \$5000 or more within five or fewer years — all in support of our non-profit's Strategic Environmental Fund.

In 2023, ESLA hopes to keep the Champion momentum alive with recruitment of new Champs, as well of renewals. The Strategic Environment Fund is managed by the ESLA Financial Committee and overseen by the board of directors, including retired money managers and a retired CPA. Proceeds may be tapped to address significant, possibly unanticipated, challenges to ESLA's mission to "preserve and protect our precious resources."

Another opportunity to create long-term, reliable ESLA support is the **Legend** program. You can make a pledge to the future of our waters and shores with an immediate or future gift of \$25,000 or more. To become a Legend, tap your checkbook, or charity trust or include ESLA in your estate plan. Donors may choose to have their gift added to the Strategic Environmental Fund described above or to the Elk-Skegemog Lakes Assn. Endowment managed by the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation. Endowment gifts are held in perpetuity and generate yearly income based on a three-year average of the account balance (currently about \$152,000). To contribute, go to <https://www.gtrcf.org/give/our-funds.html/42/> or contact ESLA at ElkSkegemoglakes@gmail.com for help.

Gifts for Legends and Champions are not ESLA membership dues. Questions? Contact former ESLA president and Newsletter Editor Dean Ginther at 231-676-2928 or send an email to ElkSkegemoglakes@gmail.com. Thanks for your generous support.

And thanks again to those sixteen Champions and one Legend who made donations or commitments in 2022.

ELK-SKEGEMOG LAKES ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

February 2023

Contact: elkskegemoglakes@gmail.com.

<u>Officers</u>		<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Bob Campbell	President	8886 Skegemog Pt Rd Williamsburg	313-806-4060
George Seifried	V.P.	734 Ames St. Elk Rapids 49629	937-271-3316
Don Bonato	Rec. Sec.	8781 Skegemog Pt Rd. Williamsburg	517-290-8668
Nancy Schreiber	Corr. Sec.	14016 Fairmont Rd. Rapid City	954-240-2954
Phil Spangenberg	Treasurer	8991 Skegemog Pt. Rd Williamsburg	586-215-7878
<u>ZONE A</u>			
George Seifried	Zone Capt.	734 Ames St. Elk Rapids 49629	937-271-3316
Deanna Seifried	Membership	734 Ames St. Elk Rapids 49629	937-602-2295
Steve Francis		11101 Mattes Rd. Williamsburg 40690	231-350-0687
Bob McCririe	ER Marina	8803 Cairn Hwy Elk Rapids 49629	810-923-9075
<u>ZONE B</u>			
Bob Kingon	Zone Capt	10202 E. Elk Lake Dr. Rapid City	231-322-6055
Ruth Bay		11393 Center Rd TC 49686	231-947-1619
Dale Claudepierre		13952 Betty Lane. Rapid City	248-644-7614
Dean Ginther	Newsletter	11228 Shippey Ln. Rapid City	231-676-2928
Andy Hogarth		11942 E Elk Lake Trail Rapid City	5 17-388-2238
Ken Krentz	Fisheries	13997 Ringler Rd. Rapid City	231-322-4144
Nancy Schreiber	Finance	14016 Fairmont Rd. Rapid City	954-240-2954
<u>ZONE C</u>			
Pat Pierce	Zone Capt.	9500 Larsen Rd Williamsburg	231-492-8042
Jan Garvey	Environment	9525 Palaestrum Rd Williamsburg	989-859-6216
Linda Slopsema		9693 Miami Beach Rd Williamsburg	517-614-4887
<u>ZONE D</u>			
Bob Campbell	Zone Capt.	8886 Skegemog Pt Rd Williamsburg	313-806-4060
Don Bonato		8781 Skegemog Pt Rd. Williamsburg	517-290-8668
Phil Spangenberg		8991 Skegemog Pt. Rd. Williamsburg	586-215-7878
Kate Lett	Website	Hoiles Dr. NW, Williamsburg	
<u>ZONE E</u>			
Mary Beth Kazanski	Zone Capt.	9501 Shellway Dr. NW Rapid City	609-577-3814
<u>SUPPORT</u>			
Samantha Ogle			231-492-9630
Michael Ogle			810-813-3397



ESLA CONTINUING INITIATIVES AND NEW PROJECTS FOR 2023

- **INVASIVE SPECIES:** 1. Prevent introduction of non-native threats such as the aggressive Hydrilla aquatic weed and black bass virus by advocating boat wash stations and holding boat wash demonstration events with our partner, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council; 2. Treat and/or physically remove invasives such as purple loosestrife and Eurasian water milfoil to prevent

their spread.

- **FIRST TIME SHORELINE GREENBELT WORKSHOPS:** Details and dates still to be determined, but ESLA's lake biologist will emcee two workshops on the north and south ends of ESLA territory. They will be helpful for do-it-yourselfers and those looking for contracted shoreline and greenbelt improvements. Contractors and county conservation district officers will be on hand.
- **SHORELINE CONSULTATIONS:** Our lake biologist provides ideas, suggestions for plantings, reducing erosion, and best practices for shoreline protection and health.
- **NAVIGATION SAFETY:** ESLA has increased the number of large buoys it buys, marking the safe channel from Lake Skegemog in and out of the Torch River. We contract to install and remove buoys each spring and fall. The stumpy, shallow waters often trap off-course boaters.
- **OUTREACH:** ESLA lobbies local governments on shoreline protection, septic maintenance/inspection regulations and other issues to protect water quality. Our lobbying was critical to convince the DNR to conduct extensive fish sampling in 2022.
- **PARTNERSHIPS:** ESLA uses partnerships to advance research and awareness of water quality concerns. Last summer, the Great Lakes Water Studies Institute (Northwestern Michigan College) brought staff and students and sophisticated deepwater sonar and robotic tools to Elk Lake. They confirmed, unfortunately, the presence of invasive quagga mussels that threaten the lake's food chain with their voracious plankton appetites. We expect their teams back in '23.
- **PLANKTON:** Starting this summer and led by Lake Biologist Ogle and Board Member Ken



Krentz, ESLA will begin periodic sampling of plankton populations in Elk and Skegemog lakes. Plankton is the critical first link on the food chain for juvenile fish, and the tinier critters in our lakes. Reduced plankton growth is a major threat. A microscope with 100 power magnification can reveal that water which looks clear and clean to the naked eye contains, as Glen Lake biologist Rob Karner mused in an article for his lake's newsletter, "a myriad of life forms...a whole new world...of utmost importance."

- ESLA is a contributor in '23 to follow-up analysis this spring to a U.S. Army Corps of Engineer hydrologic and hydraulic study examining threats to structures such as the Bellaire and Elk Rapids dams, as well as concerns linked to more frequent intense rainstorms.
- New in '23 will be tours aboard ER Marina rental pontoons with our lake biologist and other ESLA officers to point out successes, challenges and history on these waters. Details to come.

WELCOME THE LATEST BIG BATCH OF ESLA MEMBERS



Thanks to a partnership with the Elk Rapids Marina on Elk Lake, ESLA's membership will grow by about 95 — all of the marina's rental slip contract holders — in 2023. The marina's owners, Susie and Lewis Cooper, and its general manager, John Conrad, included a basic (\$50) ESLA membership for its 2023 slip-holders with slip contracts. Since the Coopers acquired the marina in 2021, they have been generous ESLA business supporters. Notably, the marina is among just a few in our area to earn the state's

CLEAN MARINA designation for waste disposal and water-friendly practices. ESLA's first SHORE THING of the 2023 season will be at 5 p.m. April 19 at the marina's Dam Shop, 118 Bridge St., Elk Rapids. Stay after for drinks at the cash bar or a meal or take-out from the Dam Shop restaurant.

ESLA AND ITS ECLECTIC BOARD — Interested or want to volunteer?

ESLA is a (501(c)(3) organization with an 18-member, volunteer board — mostly retirees. It includes engineers, finance experts, a CPA, a professor, a teacher, two attorneys, a reporter/editor, an obstetrician and other health care professionals, sales specialists, and successful entrepreneurs. Our newest member, Bob McCririe, has family going back to Elk Rapids' first blacksmith. Our oldest, Bob Kingon, fondly recalls his first date at the Elk Rapids Theater with Karen, the beauty who would become his lifelong spouse. Seriously, we're always looking for new board members — unless your name is Bob. Contact Bob (seriously) Campbell at Elk-SkegemogLakes@gmail.com. Or if you want to volunteer with ESLA. We'd love the company, insights and enthusiasm.

OUR LAKE BIOLOGIST/ADMIN TEAM EAGER TO ROLL



ESLA'S board approved two new 2023 contracts in January with One Less Consulting, LLC. Its proprietor, Samantha Ogle, began her association with ESLA as a college intern in 2019. Now she's ESLA's full-fledged lake biologist. She's eager to hop off a boat to collect water samples or waterfowl feces. Who wouldn't be? And she always gives her best science-supported advice at personalized shoreline greenbelt sessions for members. Reach out through ElkSkegemoglakes@gmail.com. Sam's husband Michael Ogle, is learning the nuances of our updated member software to make sure supporters' addresses, emails and dues payments are updated and properly acknowledged. Wondering whether you've paid current year dues, reach out to him at ESLA's email above.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

ESLA'S '23 ANNUAL MEETING & SHORE THINGS

We're lining up speakers for our Shore Thing events, but have locked down dates and locations and a few guest speakers. As usual, we'll have refreshments and snacks (upscaled by Ruth Bay for the annual meeting). All events begin at 5 p.m. Except for the April Shore Thing, all will be at the Elk Rapids Village Harbor Pavilion on East Bay, where our 2022 events were held. What we know:

APRIL 19: THE DAM SHOP, Elk Rapids Marina on Elk Lake, 118 Bridge St. Elk Rapids. Speaker TBA.

MAY 25 (Thursday): Village Harbor Pavilion on East Bay; Speaker. TBA.

JUNE 23 (Friday): **Annual Meeting** Village Harbor Pavilion on East Bay. Format/Speaker TBA.

JULY 27 (Thursday): Village Harbor Pavilion on East Bay. DNR Regional Biologist Heather Hettinger (see pictures below) will discuss results of the state's 2022 fish netting survey of Elk Lake.



Heather Hettinger (left) DNR Biologist

AUGUST 25 (Friday): Village Harbor Pavilion. Leslie Meyers, Antrim County's new Director of Dams, will elaborate on findings and implications (including for ER Hydro Dam) of the spring '23 hydraulic and hydrologic work on our waters and upstream.

SEPTEMBER 28 (Thursday): Harbor Pavilion, speaker TBA.

WHITEWATER PARK LAUNCH/BOAT WASH UPDATE



Boat and trailer washing for craft launched after moving from other waters is the best defense to keep damaging aquatic invasives out of ESLA-represented waters.

Whitewater Township Park — the largest park on our lakes — has worked on a boat launch expansion since 2018 with a \$200,000 Michigan Waterways matching grant in hand. The project would expand the launch from 2 to 4 lanes and add 100 parking spaces. Plans as of newsletter deadline included a boat wash — Great News!

The state grant requires project completion by 12/31/2023. ESLA has pushed for a water-based wash which is top-rated for removing invasives, compared to systems using compressed air. Extensive research and experiences of other lake groups informed ESLA's recommendations. Review plans here: <https://www.whitewatertownship.org/township-board--subcommittee-agendaspackets.html> ESLA is also seeking grants for boat washes at other launches. Stay tuned for updates in the spring.



Remember to renew your ESLA dues for 2023 and thank you for your continued support. See the next page for three easy ways to renew or join.

ESLA
P.O. Box 8
Elk Rapids, MI 49629

Three Ways to Pay 2023 ESLA Dues

1. Go to: <https://www.elk-skegemog.org/> and scroll to the middle of the page. Click on the blue membership box.
2. Scan the QR code to the right with your mobile phone. This will take you directly to the payment option on the ESLA website.
3. Send a check or credit/debit card information in the attached dues envelope to: P.O. Box 8, Elk Rapids, MI 49629.

