

ELK-SKEGEMOG LAKES ASSOCIATION FEB. 2024 MEMBER CELEBRATION



President's message: Bob Campbell

Welcome to ESLA's Member Celebration Issue where individuals, couples, families and businesses whose financial support in 2023 made possible the work to protect and preserve ESLA waters through projects, education and advocacy. Of note, this is the 74th year since a small group filed ESLA's non-profit incorporation papers in Lansing. Thank you and check out our new website at Elk-Skegemog.org!

It's the first day of the second week in February 2024 and only a few frozen patches of melted snow are on the ground. That's not as odd, though, as the ice, or lack of, as I stare at Lake Skegemog where just a few years ago in this same week snowmobiles, four-wheelers and pickup trucks were crisscrossing the ice.

Back then, anglers dressed in hyper-insulated clothes, thick gloves and heavy boots dragged fishing shanties behind their vehicles in search of jumbo perch. Or something close. Not this year! The high temp as I write today in Williamsburg reached 57. Those among you who departed for warmer places can hardly be called Snowbirds this winter. The temps were mild in 2023, too, when walking on slushy ice in front of my Skeg Pt home was foolhardy well into February. Two years aren't a trend, but it leaves me wondering.

So, I called Heather Smith, the Baykeeper for the Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay, to get hard data on our winters and ice cover. I remembered venturing several hundred yards offshore on East Bay in February 2014 and my surprise when my auger cut through nearly 20 inches of clear, hard ice before breaking through. Heather helped put recent winters in perspective with her ice cover database for the southern half of Grand Traverse West Bay.

From the late 1800s through 1980, that part of the bay had ice cover 80% of the years. Since then, records show ice cover in fewer than 40% of the years. Among the impacts of less ice cover on the Great Lakes and inland lakes like Elk and Skegemog, Smith said, are higher likelihood of harmful algal blooms and stress on fish populations. In smaller cold-water streams, like those feeding ESLA's lakes, warmer water temperatures also are tough on native brook trout. Food for thought.

This is the last "President's Message" I'll write for ESLA. Come June 28 at ESLA's annual meeting, Vice President George Seifried will ascend. He's dedicated and brings a background in engineering — a positive for the challenges ESLA faces in its primary mission to protect and preserve our shared waters.

I don't know if this missive qualifies as a Swan Song, but I'll share some thoughts on swans, songs and ESLA. The Swan Song notion dates to the 1830s. The German word was *Schwanengesang* or *Schwanenlied* and described the supposed mystical, lyrical song of a dying swan. The swans we mostly see swimming and hissing in ESLA waters are not lyrical and

they don't sing. They're Mute Swans — natives of Eurasia and were purposefully imported in the late 19th and early 20th centuries for ornamental ponds, lakes, zoos and other collections, primarily in New York's Hudson Valley.

On its website, the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture says of our hissing swans: "Mute swans are known for their highly territorial behavior during their breeding season and may compete with native wildlife for space and associated resources. Of particular concern are potential impacts on threatened and endangered species. During the breeding season, mute swans sometimes displace other native waterfowl from preferred nesting locations and may kill adult and juvenile ducks and geese."

On the flip side of this record, our native Trumpeter Swans still occasionally paddle in and fly over ESLA waters. Miles upstream from the Torch River on the Rapid River, Rugg Pond is a reliable place to see Trumpeters. Also, they're often swimming or chortling where the Boardman River flows into Boardman Lake, a fabulous place to see waterfowl, especially in winter. In late January, I visited there with a birder buddy with a top notch spotting scope. He identified subtle differences among the less obvious ducks. As we arrived, three Trumpeters did a flyover, treating us to high notes that trumpet master Winton Marsalis might appreciate.

This swan metaphor is an attempt to prompt you — ESLA members and potential members — to think about the work ESLA does on your behalf to protect the intrinsic, real and future value of our waters for today and future generations through direct action fighting invasives, conducting key research, education, assistance and advocacy. And don't forget our buoys that mark the safe passage channel in and out of the Torch River from Skegemog. Your dollars also pay to occasionally replace buoys, as well as installation each May and removal in late fall. We don't want members or anyone else to get stuck in the stumps.

Our eclectic, volunteer board of directors represents professionals from the fields of science, medicine, engineering, business, finance, environmental protection, fundraising, teaching, the law, and journalism. We have long-timers and short-timers with a common dedication to protecting the investment — financial and intrinsic — we have in our shared waters. Interested? The door's wide open for new members. Contact me or any board member (listing on page 15) at elkskegemoglakes@gmail.com. You'll find highlights (on page 14) of our 2024 environmental plans from Samantha Ogle, our lake biologist who we first brought aboard in 2019 as a college intern. She's grown every year in the position. Your dollars help us keep her husband, Michael Ogle, ESLA's administrative assistant, working on our behalf.

Expect another superb series of Shore Things events from April through September. I'm juiced to hear brilliant bird photographer and winner of multiple National Audubon Society photography awards, Steve Jessmore on July 25. Steve has a place on the upper Torch River, one of his favorite locations to shoot close-ups of loons, cranes, mallards and mergansers. The season will kick off April 25 at the Dam Shop of our most generous business supporter -- the Elk Rapids Marina on Elk Lake -- with a program focused on the present and future of electric boats.

Finally, several of us spent the better part of December and January organizing, writing and editing copy for our completely refreshed website elk-skegemog.org. It's a huge fount of helpful, interesting and even amusing information. A new website feature is a **Photo Gallery**. We invite and urge members to submit photos to elkskegemoglakes@gmail.com to celebrate life on our waters.

More, finally, get on our email list. It's our fastest way for us to quickly communicate news — including late changes on Shore Things or opportunities to volunteer or reserve a spot on our **Lake Learning Tours** or even new environmental threats. Send an email to elkskegemoglakes@gmail.com to get on the list.

ESLA Champions

ESLA Champions either make a \$5000 gift in a single year or commit to contribute \$5000 in five or fewer years to ESLA's Environmental and Strategic Fund or to ESLA's Endowment managed by the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation.



2023 Champions

Rich & Jan Becker; Rob & Theo Becker; Dean & Sharon Ginther; Roy & Elizabeth Nichols; Lou & Nancy Sanford; Bob Stibbs

2022 Champions

Anonymous; Deborah Bunker; Bob & Ruth Campbell; Marty & Val Cotanche; Steve & Deb Francis; Jim & Carol Goetz; Andrew & Terry Hogarth; Dean & Sharon Ginther; Katherine Lawrence-Copp and Edward Copp ; Bob & Lisa McCririe; Pat Pierce; John & Kathy Polanski; Rogers Family Foundation; 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.

Anonymous
Dean and Sharon Ginther

2023 ESLA Endowment Fund donations of less than \$5000

Lynda J Lynch; Shannon Family Foundation; Nicole Lezin and Rusty Kingon in honor of Bob and Karen Kingon

ESLA Business Supporters 2023

ESLA's 2023 Top Business Supporter



www.elkrapidsmarina.com

Business Patron Supporters (\$500)



Barker Creek Nursery

231-267-5972
[Visit Website](#)



North Shore Dock

231-313-2627
[Visit Website](#)



RE/MAX of Elk Rapids Don Fedrigo

231-264-5400
[Visit Website](#)



Rex Terrace Homeowners' Association



Wandawood Resort

231-313-8544
[Visit Website](#)

Business Sustainer (\$250)



Blackmore Property Maintenance

231-264-9404
[Visit Website](#)



Bokhara Pet Resort

231-254-5855
[Visit Website](#)



**COLDWELL BANKER
CAMILLE CAMPBELL**

Coldwell Banker Camille Campbell

231-944-9385
[Visit Website](#)



Habitat Landscape

231-622-2688
[Visit Website](#)



Raymond James Rockne "Rocky" Paige

248-277-8875
[Visit Website](#)



Exit Northern Shores Realty Scott Moore

231-883-8977
[Visit Website](#)



White Birch Lodge

231-264-8271
[Visit Website](#)

ESLA Business Supporters 2023

Business Backer (\$100 – \$150)



All Smiles Family Dentistry
 ☎ 231-264-6300
 🌐 Visit Website



Century 21 Northland
 Kellie Sergent
 ☎ 231-264-4500
 🌐 Visit Website



Century 21 Northland
 Wayne Toteff
 ☎ 231-392-6259
 🌐 Visit Website



Coach's Angle Charters
 Fred Fields
 ☎ 260-519-1168
 🌐 Visit Website



Elk Rapids Golf Club
 ☎ 231-264-8891
 🌐 Visit Website



Fish With Jim Outfitters
 ☎ 231-252-1277
 🌐 Visit Website



Great Lakes Cottage Watch
 ☎ 231-633-7378
 🌐 Visit Website



Gretel Cottages, LLC
 ☎ 231-709-0047



Lakeside Properties Real Estate
 ☎ 231-254-5000
 🌐 Visit Website



Michigan Lake Products, INC
 ☎ 800-968-2299
 🌐 Visit Website



Riverwalk Grill Restaurant
 ☎ 231-264-0377
 🌐 Visit Website



Short's Brewing Company
 ☎ 231-498-2300
 🌐 Visit Website



Stoney Cabin Toys
 ☎ 231-498-5744
 🌐 Visit Website



Village Market
 ☎ 231-264-5629
 🌐 Visit Website

2023 Membership and Dues Level

\$1000 and Greater

Theo and Robert Becker
Mark and Helen Bierley
Martin and Valerie Cotanche
Douglas Waldie
Missy Knebel
Thomas and Deborah McMullen
Rick and Janis Becker

\$500—\$999

Donald W. Alford Jr.
Komo LLC
Carl Rinder
Christopher and Julie Conger
William and Virginia Dorner
Richard and Alice Gold
Jack Maddox and Jan Garvey
Robert and April Rinder
Edward and Elyse Rogers
Larry and Sara Peck
Patrick and Barbara Ghilani
James and Carol Goetz
Cassie and Michael Gambrell
David and Susan Karmon
Edward and Katherine Copp
Bruce and Jennie Brown
Hessco Real Estate Trust

\$250—\$499

Susan Brown
Jeffrey Clark
William Covington
Terry Denman
Barbara Elliott
Ann Hubbard
Deborah Lynch
James Quigel
Sharon Ross
Sutherin Properties LLC
Richard and Cheryl Beamish
Donald and Iris Bonato
Robert and Ruth Campbell
Donald and Patricia Dube
Steven and Anita Gadd
Ted and Pamela Hamilton
Stephen and Fay Harris
Matthew and Deborah Knudstrup
Mark and Karen Krinock
Pete and Lynne Kuhl
Bob and Lisa McCririe
Brad and Carolyn McFarlane
Dennis and Denise Miller
Geoffrey and Mary Pernicano
Thomas Pierce and Mary Beth Kazanski
Joseph and Genese Piggott
Clifford and Cheryl Pixler
Steve and Janet Rimar

\$250—\$499

Norman and Nancy Schreiber
George and Deanna Seifried
Alexander and Sally Thomson
Michael and Criston Weitschat
Ronald and Brenda Mckey
Scott and Meridee Mulrooney
Joe and Patricia Butcko
Brian and Elizabeth Ames
David and Kathleen Bank
Keith and Margaret Burns
Paul Campagne and Galuppi Vittorio
Thomas and Robbin Demeester
Joseph Heaphy and Anne Osmer
Andrew and Camie Hull
Robert and Karen Kingon
Gordon and Patricia Laramie
Jeffrey and Lisa Layer
Dennis and Barbara Reese
William and Colleen Osantowski
John and Erin Conrad
Gail and Dennis Bushong
Steve Falk
Antonio Capone Jr
Robert and Sue Ann Vor Broker
Dean and Sharon Ginther
David and Butch Hauser
John and Catherine Loomis
Daniel Weiss and Jean Michalak
Walter and Rosanne Whitehouse
Maggie Leffke
Allan and Marjorie Whittemore
Roswell First Baptist Church Orchestra

\$100—\$249

Catherine C. Alfred
Lorraine Berak
Robert Boger
Peggy Bushnell
Susanne B. Buxton
Dale Claudepierre and Melynda Bagley
Dianne Fisher
Ronald Gurdak
Brenda Hasso
Thomas Hatch
Donald C. Hayden Jr.
John J. King
Ledebuhr Family Cottage
Philip Lowman
Verna J. MacDonald
Tracy Mariage
Suzanne Ritzler
Phil Spangenbeg
John D. Staley
Phyllis Staley
Catherine Steed
Norman Veliquette
Helen Woytowich
Judson and Shirley Adams
Anthony and Mary Anderson
Robert Baker and Kim Fletcher
Rusty and Brent Benmark
Kenneth and Mary Ellen Borovich
Douglas and Jane Bottomley
Robert and Pirkko Bremer
Edward and Dorothy Broad

\$100—\$249

Richard and Sharon Bruner
William and Sandra Buyak
Craig and Laura Cameron
Ned and Linda Carnall
Kevin Celarek and Abaigael Clearek
Scott and Mary Chamberlin
Vernon and Joanne Chapman
Gary and Debbie Clark
Glen and Sherrie Clark
Michael and Denise Cleary
John Davies
Peter and Kathy DiMercurio
Christopher and Tara Donzell
Peter and Jan Doty
Ray and Jacquelyn Easton
Kent and Cindy Fairless
Jamie and Melinda Gallagher
William and Marlene Gast
Mark and Kathleen Guy
Peter and Mary Hesse
Timothy Hildreth
Gregory and Louise Holzhauer
Jeff and Mary Huspeni
Charles and Gloria Johnson
Omar and Mary Kadro
John and Jean Kallis
Bob and Janet Kerlin
Edmund and Carol Klipa
Gary and Sheryl Knapp
Kenneth Krentz and Susan Mohr
Stanley and Nancy Matheny
James and Susan Mesrobian

Michael and Darcy Michalski
Becky Norris and Tina Fields
Thomas Northway and Diane St Claire
Jeffrey and Debra Orchard
George and Emily Osborne
Edward and Donna Palmer
Scott and Cynthia Paradise
Greg and Janet Parker
James and Denise Patton
Patrick Pierce
Mark and Theresa Piggott
Bill and Susan Poulson
Royce Ragland and Ken Bloem
Gary and Martha Reid
Robert Reider and Susan McCraven
Kent and Mary Ann Reynolds
Mitchell and Nancy Rinek
Robery and Karey Rinnan
Jerald and Sharon Rives
Hubert and Nancy Ryan
Britton and Alicia Sanford
Chuck and Linda Schuler
Mark and Ann Smith
Anthony and Christine Standerfer
Francis and Elaine Stienon
Brian and Deborah Taylor
Lester and Joanne Teague
Richard and Susan Tietema
Pam Vammer
John and Shelia Vercruysse
Steven and Sally Walker
William and Donna Weltyk
John and Nancy Widman
Dale and Laurel Wimmer

\$100—\$249

Frank and Margaret Zielinski
Steve and Sara Stargardt
Brian and Renee Godfrey
Elk Lake Vacations LLC
David and Mary Conlin
Steven and Susan Black
Patrick and Jan McNerney
Frederick and Brenda Trosko
Ruth Bay
Janet B. Nesin
Blue Water Haven LLC
Jean Carle
Lisa Cooley
Barbara Daane
April Ginther
Warren Goodell
Patrick Hejl
Valda Karlsons
David Lawicki
Nancy G Muhlig
Glenn Muncie
Pines Cottages LTD
Tim Wheeler
Beth Wiesenauer
Jeffrey and Susan Alexandrowicz
Dennis and Jeanette Bartlett
William and Corcoran Crimmins
Lyle and Julie Davis
Sheryl Day
James and Linda Dreyer
David and Gail Ferguson
Paul and Julie Ferries

Charles and Kathleen Gerwin
Scott and Amy Gillesby
Gregory and Patti Gorno
Timothy and Susan Hibbard
Steven and Becky Hobig
Andrew and Patricia Jackson
Richard and Kathleen Kazarian
Patrick and Jolene Kelly
David and Nancy Kreuzer
David and Linda Krill
David and Jill Kuznicki
Bob and Eva Lenzini
John and Barbara Matthews
Tom and Shelle McElwee
Michael and Susan McIntyre
David and Debra McKeon
James and Lou Ann McKimmy
Gregg and Kim McLean
Brent and Tara Mellis
Terry and Sarah Miller
Ronald and Shelley Mishler
Daniel and Mary Mooradian
Carl and Linda Myler
Daniel and Jill Packer
William and Pamela Perrone
David and Karen Phipps
Dorance Amos and Julia Pollister Amos
Ronald and Marlene Reinhardt
James and Laura Shumate
Thomas and Linda Slopsema
John and Linda Spevacek
Thomas Stephenson and Laura Savoie
Mark and Robin Vanderkaay
Robert Vandragt and Jackie Norton

\$100—\$249

Thomas and Pauline Varley
Joseph “Chip” Visci and Martha Claus
Walace and Judith Weir
Charles and Deborah Worsfold
John and Peggy Zachman
Stanley Zenas
Tom & Cathy Montgomery
Modrak Family
Paul Alt
Amy Garcia
Karen Petersen
Andrew Elmore
Richard Pinkos
Theodora Casasanta
Bobby Lusk
Linda Janson
Jeff & Suzanne Huard
Gerald Blight and Felicia Schulte
Glenn and Sandra Petersen
Nicole Bosak
Pamela Levy
Audrey Thomas
Russell Janis & Connie Snow
Jim and Amy Moore
Jason and Susan Vinkemulder
Thomas and Susan Wiltse
Carleton G Lorig
Thomas and Kay Kirchner
Robert and Virginia Crall
Jonathan and Christine Henige
Jeffrey and Gina Petherick
Jeffrey and Julie Zenas

Richard M. Singer
Thomas and Irene Covington
William and Jane Hamilton
George and Mary Hobig
Andrew and Terry Hogarth
Richard and Lori Marl
Gary and Karen Qualmann
John and Yelena White
Peter Jones
John and Ellen Becker
John and Diane Flatley
Jeffrey and Susan Gehres
Thomas Palmisano and Margaret Crabtree
Marie and Carolyn Green
Tom and Caroline Ogburn
James Parker
Keith and Janice Reynolds
Gregory and Deborah Weaver
Tim and Char Hill
Bob and Leslie Compere
Lindsey Rinder

DON'T

FORGET

Annual dues may be paid now for the 24' year (see last page for payment options).

\$50—\$99

Richard Buxton
Steve and Sue Boyes
Mark and Janet Rickey
David and Margaret Sander
Stephanie DiMercurio Allshouse
Richard Bukowski
Mark Craine
Judith De Broka
Jerri Gillett
Phyllis Harbin
Jean Hinkin
Kane Cottage LLC
Jim Lagowski
Barbara Lundy
Wayne K. Monson
Carol Nette
Joan Ratterman
Shelly M. Rybarsyk
Steve Stasinos
Nancy Theroux
Carolyn Volz
Carl Wroubel
Jenny Ziebart
Ralph and Leone Appell
Rollin and Linda Balsley
Dennis and Loraine Bartz
Elizabeth and Frederick Becchetti
Robbie and Michelle Benedict
Ron and Jan Boynton
Elaine Burns and Gail Finley
William and Cherytl Chasnis
David and Nancy Clark

Gary and Beverly Cramer
Scott and Debra Dennis
Dennis and Barbara Emery
Robert and Sharon Evans
John and Joan Ferrari
Steve and Deborah Francis
George and Lisa Grobar
Gerald and Mary Gullo
Kenneth and Christine Hall
Michael and Eileen Hamilton
Mark and Amy Heydlauff
Wallace and Dolores Hibbard
Michael and Gabrielle Holz
Robert and Mary Klein
Gerald and Roberta Kolak
John and Inge Koos
Frank and Jean Kuras
Kathryn Laraway, Jane Spees, and Nancy L. Appell
Nancy Letherby
William and Betty Lou Letsche
James and Mary Lill
Gary and Kathryn Manthey
Patrick and Coleen McDonald
Dan and Jane McGrath
Michael and Angela Mullen
Roy and Elizabeth Nichols
Stewart and Peggy Nunneley
Craig and Judith Passon
Kenneth and Marjory Philp
Carter and Barbara Pohlman
Nira and Emile Sabty
Mark and Caroline Saunders
Harold and Theresa Sawyers
Paul and Joyce Staley

\$50—\$99

Mark and Maria Taylor
Peter and Pauline Viall
William and Nancy Walsh
Lee and Ellen Welch
Duke and Martha Wheeler
John and Angela Willis
Sam and Margaret Zainea
Rosalie McAvoy
Gary and Lisa Buczkowski
John Wise
Brett and Erin Kingma
Dale Wyman
Vittorio and Natalie Bichucher
Teri Covington and Al Ferlo
Sharon Bacon
Nancy Boynton
Deborah Bunker
Sandra Ehlers
Theodore Ewald
Cynthia Price
Brian Tyler
James and Barbara Benitez
Glenn and Carol Bucher
Chris and Nancy Casciano
Thomas and Maureen Chernak
Thomas and Karie Chesebro
Robert and Linda Constantine
Mark and Carol Davidson
Fred and Sara Ellis
Fred Farage and Carl Strebel
Glenn and Marty Fronheiser
Hans and Linda Gundersen

Thomas and Mary Ann Hosey
Gerald and Gloria Kilian
Thomas and Mary Kulesza
Eric and Marcy Larson
Gerald and Susan Leassner
Timothy and Chris Look
Jacob and Sara Manteuffel
Richard and Betty McCaghy
Craig and Kimberly Melvin
Kernie and Jule Moore
Jerry and Deborah Pascoe
Philip and Joan Richardson
Tim and Julie Smith
Frank and Ruth Ann Soave
John and Dawn Steele
Steven and Polly Yount
David and Lori Zenas
Susan Sitrick
Dennis and Michelle McCarthy
James Wallace
Michael and Jean Johnston
Jeff and Katie Eynon
Scott Slaght
Russell and Julie Oddo
Diane and Darryl Frickey
John Locke
Bob-Kathy Strehl
Kathy Petroni
Rebecca Bartley
Jaclyn Fox
Patrick Donahue Builders Inc
Kim M Hendry
Jon and Eva Bickmann
Matthew Rooke
Theresa Schurman

\$50—\$99

Virginis Compere
 Scott Warren
 Andrew and Sharon Foster
 Gary Jarrold
 Steven Weltyk and Rene Stratton
 Charles Ellinwood



Become An ESLA Champion and/or Legend in 2024

In 2024, ESLA hopes to keep the donation momentum alive with recruitment of new and renewing Champions. Six supporters of ESLA's water quality protection and preservation mission embraced the **Champion** program in 2023. Their names are on the third page of this newsletter. 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 — to either the Strategic Environmental Fund or the Endowment Fund managed by the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation.

Another opportunity to create long-term, reliable ESLA support is the **Legends** 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. Endowment gifts are held in perpetuity and generate yearly income based on a three-year average of the account balance (currently about \$162,000).

Gifts for Legends and Champions are not applied to 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 six Champions and one Legend who made donations or commitments in 2023.



Donations Made “In Memory/Honor”

Roswell First Baptist Church Orchestra
In Honor of Marilyn Nichols

Paul and Julie Ferries
In Memory of Gene Ferries

Paul and Julie Ferries
 Thomas and Kay Kirchner
 Dale Wyman
**In Memory of Kent Reynolds
 (former ESLA Board member)**

ESLA Planned 2024 Environmental Projects



By Samantha Ogle, ESLA Biologist

Water Quality:

- For 6th year, monitor and sample Spencer Creek for E. coli, phosphorus and dissolved oxygen, among other parameters.
- For 2nd year, sample plankton in ESLA waters. Plankton is critical to all life in our waters. Compare results to 2023 sampling, while adding data to look for future trends.

- Continue sampling through the federal Phytoplankton Monitoring Network. This program can identify signs of harmful algae blooms.
- Continue with the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program through Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council. ESLA has more than 20 years of data on Elk and Skegemog Lakes.

Invasive Species:

- Continued removal/treatment of terrestrial invasive species, Purple Loosestrife and Yellow Flag Iris.
- Continued removal and treatment of aquatic invasive species, Eurasian Watermilfoil and Curly Leaf Pondweed.
- Survey for Phragmites australis and create management plan as needed.
- Host boat washing events with Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council. Boaters educated on CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY.

Healthy Shorelines:

- Host workshop(s) on impact of 'Hardening of the Shore and Erosion.' Local professionals discuss water-friendly options.
- Continue in-person shoreline consults with lake biologist as requested by ESLA members. Assessment addresses concerns and offers plant recommendations, contacts for professionals and educational materials.
- Continue Road End Surveys with volunteers looking for signs of erosion, invasive species and improper lake access.

Adopt-A-Stream Program:

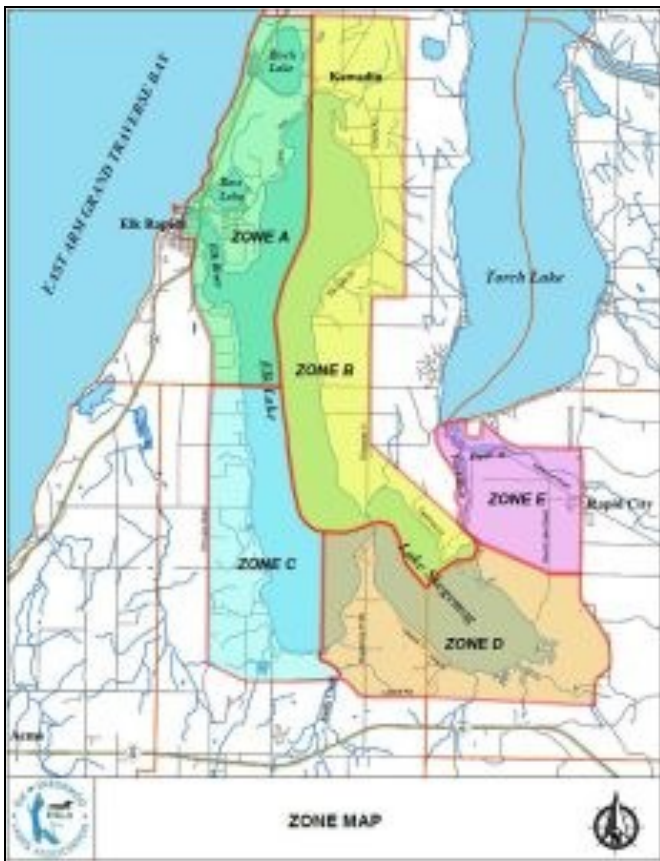
- Focus on the Rapid River and Spencer Creek with sampling for macroinvertebrates, a key water quality indicator, as well as habitat assessment surveys.

Lake Learning Tours:

- Host 4, 2-hour pontoon tours where members learn about lake biology and history. Think fish, plankton, aquatic plants, shorelines and invasive species. Pontoon courtesy of the Elk Rapids Marina on Elk Lake.

Do You Know Your Zone?

See the map below of ESLA zones (riparian service areas). Contact your Zone Captain if you need assistance or have questions or suggestions.



ESLA Board and Support Feb. 2024

Contact: elkskegemoglakes@gmail.com.

Officers

Bob Campbell	President
George Seifried	V.P.
Linda Slopsema	Rec. Sec.
Nancy Schreiber	Corr. Sec.
Phil Spangenberg	Treasurer

ZONE A

George Seifried	Zone Capt.
Deanna Seifried	Membership 937-602-2295
Steve Francis	Legal
Bob McCririe	ER Marina Liaison
Nancy Schreiber	Business Membership 954-240-2954

ZONE B

Ruth Bay	Capt./Shore Things
Dale Claudepierre	
Dean Ginther	Newsletter
Andy Hogarth	
Ken Krentz	Fisheries
John Spevacek	Water quality

ZONE C

Jan Garvey	Capt./Environment
Linda Slopsema	

ZONE D

Bob Campbell	Zone Capt.
Phil Spangenberg	
Bob Reider	

ZONE E

Mary Beth Kazanski	Zone Capt.
--------------------	------------

SUPPORT

Samantha Ogle	Lake Biologist
Michael Ogle	Admin. Assistant

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

Three Ways to Pay 2024 ESLA Dues

1. Go to: <https://elk-skegemog.org/become-a-member/> and scroll down and 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 in the attached dues envelope to: P.O. Box 8, Elk Rapids, MI 49629.

