



Looking Back at 2022 –

The Partnership strives to remain fresh and pertinent while supporting a vibrant membership which has a variety of interests and needs. So, how are we doing? And where are we going in the years ahead? Your fantastic board of directors is constantly asking those question while measuring our performance and flexing our focus and tasks to fit what we hear from you and what we see at our own favorite lakes. Here are some things we notice.

- Years ago, when we incorporated in 2014, we had to prompt participation in various programs. Now, people seek us out not just for basic EDUCATION about lake matters but also for TECHNOLOGY guidance and support. Who would have expected to find so many lake science nerds on local lakes ☺
- Our membership continues to creep upwards; paid memberships in 2022 exceeded 260. And those single memberships are oftentimes couples. We have a lot of eyes and ears paying attention to our events, projects and a myriad of activities we support. That AWARENESS of lake and stream matters is one reason we created a Facebook page (now with 155 followers) and a website.
- Creating COOPERATION between lake and stream interests was the basic idea around which the Partnership was created. More than cooperating with stakeholders, we have created friendships and the resultant respect that is sometimes needed to address difficult lake and stream issues. We have avoided creating “us vs. them” situations.



Looking Ahead to 2023 –

As mentioned, your board of directors is in an ongoing process of assessing our effectiveness with various projects and events and then setting the activity agenda for 2023. While our plans are unfinished since we are working on them as you read this, here are some things you can expect for 2023.

- We want to get even more lakes involved in Michigan’s Cooperative Lake Monitoring Program. Iron County is very active in this program but we can support more. This long-standing program is designed to get non-experts involved in learning about their favorite lake at a level of knowledge

they are comfortable with. Check out the program at www.micorps.net/lake-monitoring/ and then get back with us with your questions about getting involved. This would be a great program for high school and college students who have a science interest to get involved with.

- We are delighted to once again host Jo Latimore and Erick Elgin from Michigan State University during late July-early August. They know the area well and love show-and-tell opportunities specially crafted for local interests and for small or large groups. Maybe you want them to present a basic topic at a lake association meeting or, on the other hand, get into the nitty gritty technical details of what makes your lake tick with just a couple of people. From water quality, shoreline health, invasive and native species, they have “been there, done that” with many, many lakes and groups around the state and in Iron County. Talk to us and we can figure out what works best for your favorite lake, groups or individuals.
- Online Training sessions. At your pace and at your level there are a number of programs available that we very much support. We will be announcing those and providing details in hopes of getting you interested.
- Annual Membership Meeting: Out of an abundance of Covid caution we have not had one of these since 2019. We really want to get back to these as they have been wonderful opportunities for socializing and meeting people and getting our members to better understand the Partnership. While always a scheduling challenge, let’s do it!!
- We want to increase the frequency and upgrade the content of our newsletters. Several directors with writing, content and production skills have stepped up to this challenge.
- Likewise, we may utilize other media to reach out to the community to provide awareness and education opportunities, both of which are powerful tools in the fight against aquatic invasive species. So, follow us on Facebook as well as our website and maybe in local papers as we utilize content there to reach a variety of members and others in the community.
- We have been trying to build a basis for a statement about the economic impact of healthy lakes on the local community. This is a really, really challenging task but several directors are trying to make progress on this. If we can make progress we know we will have a powerful tool which we can use in many ways.

What’s in all this for me?

Like all organizations, the vast majority of our members tend to watch from the sidelines. But Iron County is rich with folks who have a hobby or a special interest that they find can be enhanced by their participation in the Partnership. We are all very busy with family or work obligations of many sorts along with all the other distractions that come with life. So, how is it that year after year we find people who get involved in our various projects, lend a hand or deep-dive into those things? The answers vary widely. How can the Partnership match up with your personal interests, family interests, hobbies, career interests within the limited time and resources you have? Think about it and then let’s talk.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION about Iron County Lakes & Streams Partnership

- Use our email iclakesandstreamspartnership@gmail.com to get in touch
- Follow us on Facebook
- Visit our website for more information <https://www.iclakesandstreamspartnership.com/>



Return enrollment and election form to:
IRON COUNTY LAKES AND STREAMS PARTNERSHIP
P.O. BOX 194
CRYSTAL FALLS MICHIGAN 49920

PARTNERSHIP FINANCIAL STATUS

Thank you for your financial support and participation!

We have \$20,600 of your money in the bank thanks to paid memberships and generous donations. While we review our financial activity at our monthly board meetings, as always we welcome your detailed inspection of our spending and record keeping and any questions or suggestions you might have. As we plan and execute Partnership activities, some of which are sketched out in the enclosed newsletter, we routinely and continuously ascertain that we are being prudent and thoughtful with the funds you contribute to the Partnership and that the investments we make in various projects create positive impacts for local lakes and streams and for the community.

CONSENT FOR ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

We again decided to not hold an annual member meeting where directors usually are elected. Therefore we ask that you now give your consent to the re-election of 5 board members whose 2 year terms expire (6 other directors are mid-term) and elect 2 new board members as follows:

Re-elect Mike Golas from Sunset Lake, Mike Bukovitz from Hagerman Lake, Deb Twardowski from Stanley Lake, Tom Madden from Stager Lake, Jim Novitski from Perch Lake

Elect Laurie Netzow from Lake Ellen, Vicki Browne from Chicaugon Lake

_____ *Yes, I give my consent to the election of the above slate of board members*

2023 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT – Please complete and return to address above

Name of Individual, Business or Organization _____

Mailing address _____

If you own lake or stream property, name of lake or stream _____

Your special interests: Event planner, educator, gardener, IT, hobbyist, scientist, etc.

Email (Optional but very helpful so we can send newsletters and other information without paying postage). **We keep your address confidential and do not share it:**

Please print

Indicate amounts paid:

Individual Dues (\$10) \$ _____

Child under 18 Free

Business/Organization Free

Donation \$ _____

Total \$ _____

**We are incorporated as a 501c3 non-profit,
charitable organization.
Your contributions are tax deductible to the
extent allowed by the IRS.**

Thank You!

Comments/Questions: Use back side. **Thank you very much for your thoughts, concerns, ideas!**

We welcome new board members. Contact us if you are interested.

Email us at: iclakesandstreamspartnership@gmail.com

Form 2023R