



P.O. Box 294

Charlevoix, Michigan 49720

## Notice of Annual Meeting

**August 16, 10:00 AM**

### **The Depot Museum, Charlevoix**

Speakers will address the changing value of Lake Charlevoix waterfront property over the years. Walter Coyle from Char-Em Appraisal Service Inc. will explain why and how set backs and greenbelts matter. Valerie Olinik-Damstra, from the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council will review "The Treasure Lake Charlevoix Project. The association will elect board members and conduct a business meeting. Please join us for coffee and pastries.

## The Voixes Project: Knocking on i-Doors

When John Kiser was trying to convince people to treasure Lake Charlevoix 37 years ago, he had to knock on every door around the lake. His vision still guides the Lake Charlevoix Association, but now we are going to experiment with using html pages instead of shoe leather. Later this summer we expect to launch a new website, separate from [lakecharlevoixassociation.org](http://lakecharlevoixassociation.org) and dedicated to meeting the information needs of all of us who live on or around the lake or who use it regularly. The site, [Voixes.org](http://Voixes.org), is intended to be a meeting place for all of us who are concerned about the lake's past, present and future. Through it people in Charlevoix can  
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## Stay Up To Date Via the Internet

*In the past year, the LCA has gone electronic. We now have web page for the association and this summer will be publishing an online "newspaper" called [Voixes.org](http://Voixes.org) as described below. These two venues are only useful if you know what is there. Thus we very much want you to sign up to receive by email announcements of important association news and events as well as forthcoming articles in Voixes. So, before you read the rest of this newsletter, do this:*

*Turn on your computer, open your Web browser and navigate to [www.lakecharlevoixassociation.org](http://www.lakecharlevoixassociation.org). There you will find instructions on how to sign up to get these announcements and you will never worry about missing the news of our lake.*

*For those who are worried about privacy and not receiving more junk mail, be assured your email address will be kept confidential and only the president of the LCA and the editor of Voixes will be posting to those who subscribe. If you have any problems signing up, please email [info@lakecharlevoixassociation.org](mailto:info@lakecharlevoixassociation.org) or call 231-582-0117.*

***Don't put it off, sign up now!***

learn about the issues affecting Boyne City or East Jordan – and vice versa. Hayes Township residents will be able to stay informed about Eveline Township matters. We hope the site will be lively and interesting. In addition to news stories and features, it will offer a range of opinions about lake issues and an easy way for you to blog about the lake or to submit your own news stories.

A section of the site will list local volunteer organizations that need help, sources of locally produced food, pets needing adoption and governmental websites of interest to lake users. We'll tell you what the weather is like, how the fish are biting and where you could moor your boat. A travel center will tell you where the trouble spots are on the roads, how gas prices are running and, we hope, serve as a bulletin board for people willing to share a ride between the lake and downstate or even out-of-state locations.

We expect to have a classified ad section for buyers and sellers and possibly a link to the archives of other local publications.

Starting the site is possible because of a generous grant from the Charlevoix Community Foundation; sustaining it may require help from subscribers – like you.

If you've got ideas or suggestions, news tips or photos to share, please contact the site's editor, Jonathan Friendly at 547-0213 or [jfriendly39@gmail.com](mailto:jfriendly39@gmail.com).



### **Live Webcams for the Lake**

The board of the LCA has agreed to try to raise the funds from members and sponsors to put up live webcams at the three ends of the lake. When they are installed, anyone with Internet access will be able to check on the conditions on the lake at that moment. We expect this feature will be popular with and useful to our seasonal residents as well as year-round residents.

It will cost \$12,000 to buy, install and operate the cameras. We need sponsors, whose names will be listed on our websites, at three different levels:

**Producers:** \$1,000 plus \$100 a year for maintenance

**Directors:** \$500

**Contributors:** a minimum of \$100

If you are interested in helping or have any questions or suggestions regarding these cameras, please contact LCA President Sam Williamson at

[sam@lakecharlevoixassociation.org](mailto:sam@lakecharlevoixassociation.org)





## **Report on the Ironton Narrows Buoys**

On June 15, the Lake Charlevoix Association transferred ownership of the four newly built no-wake buoys for control traffic in the Ironton Narrows to the Landing Restaurant and they were installed that day. We also had the permit from the DNR to install them transferred to the restaurant.

This was done only after over two months of frustrating and unsuccessful attempts by the LCA to have Eveline Township, the Charlevoix County Commissioners or Charlevoix County Sheriff take them over. We were unsuccessful even though we had raised the money to build them and have them installed. The issue became one of liability, despite a legal opinion stating that "those governmental units would normally have governmental immunity since providing and maintaining such buoys would clearly be a governmental functions."

The board of the LCA decided that, as we are a small organization with limited funds, neither the association nor the individual board members should be exposed to a liability of the buoys that the county and the township were refusing to take.

Check your LCA website in the coming weeks for an article on the LCA website in which Paul Witting who was very involved with raising the money to build the new buoys will discuss these events more extensively.

Copies of the letters sent to township and county officials and the contract with the Landing Restaurant are on line at

[www.lakecharlevoixassociation.org/issues.html](http://www.lakecharlevoixassociation.org/issues.html).

We wish to thank those of you who contributed to our buoy fund in the last year. Your help enabled us to cover our expenses of over \$4,000 to build the new steel buoys, pay legal fees and cover other administrative costs.

## **Their Lake is Our Lake**

*From the Tip of the Mitt  
Watershed Council Newsletter*

Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council and the Lake Charlevoix Association hosted the 14<sup>th</sup> annual "Experience Lake Charlevoix" event on May 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> for sixth graders of the Lake Charlevoix watershed. Over 300 students from Boyne City, Boyne Falls, East Jordan, Charlevoix, Concord Academy-Boyne, and Northwest Academy came aboard the Beaver Islander to participate in the annual field trip adventure.

Students visited seven stations aboard the boat designed to teach them about Lake Charlevoix and its watershed, including water quality, ecology, and safety. Over 20 volunteers worked hard to help make this program a success.

*For reports the students wrote about the trip and photos of their time aboard, please visit*

*[www.lakecharlevoixassociation.org](http://www.lakecharlevoixassociation.org).*