

## Fall 2023 Update

# NEWS FROM THE CHARLEVOIX AREA COMMUNITY POOL

The Charlevoix Area Community Pool (CACP) has been busy since January 2023 serving our communities. Here are some highlights:

On June 28, 2023, we hosted our annual fundraiser, Aqua Silver Gala, at the Charlevoix Yacht Club Event Hall. We celebrated our 25th Anniversary and received donations to our auction from 60 individuals and businesses. In addition, 13 major businesses signed up as sponsors to support our programs year round. The event, enjoyed by 130 patrons and friends, met our funding goal. Funds raised support senior and youth swimming scholarships along with our operating expenses.

On August 19, 2023, we hosted a community BBQ and free swim to continue our 25th Anniversary celebration. The Charlevoix Lions Club served 130 of their famous chicken BBQ dinners with Cherry Republic providing dessert. Attendees enjoyed tours of our facilities with many commenting that they had never been in our building. It was a great way to let our community know more about our mission and programs.

We continue to host fun events for families including the Aqua Egg Hunt, St. Patrick's Day party, and Spooky Swim. Children enjoy the goodie bags and pool fun with their friends, family members and float toys.

### Swim Programs See Expanded Attendance

All of our programs saw increased attendance this year. The Aqua Ex classes had 113 new clients giving the program a 23% boost in attendees. Lap Swim, which is popular with retirees and working parents, saw 21% more users and Open Swim, including special events, saw a 90% increase in visits primarily due to more organized activities for children.

Lifeguard classes are also offered regularly to help fill our constant need for lifeguards. To date, we have had 48 people take lifeguard classes; some were for recertification. Like other businesses in our area, we struggle with staffing issues to keep a full weekly schedule.



The Aqua Silver Gala celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the CACP.



Charlevoix Lions Club hosted a BBQ at the pool to celebrate the pool's 25th Anniversary.



Aqua Ex classes saw 23% more users in 2023 than in 2022. (year to date)



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2023

The Charlevoix Area Community Pool is still focused on helping the children in our community—including Boyne City, Boyne Falls, Charlevoix, Petoskey, and Ellsworth—learn swimming and water safety skills. Most schools were back on track to bus students to the pool during the school day for water safety instruction and group swim lessons. As of October 1, 423 children took swim lessons or water safety instruction. Thanks to the generosity of donors, we offer group swim lesson scholarships for students who qualify.

Large projects in 2023 included landscaping around the building. After our parking lot expansion a few years ago, our outdoor area looked pretty bleak. Volunteers did all the planting. A grant from the Charlevoix County Community Foundation, along with donations, funded the project.

Many organizations and individuals continue to support the pool financially so we can keep our user fees low and avoid charging an annual membership fee. Donations and grants from January 1 to October 1, 2023, have been received from: Charlevoix County Community Foundation, Charlevoix Elks Club, Charlevoix Rotary Club, Leo S. Guthman Fund, Ethel W. Coeling Fund, Chicago Club Fund, and the Bruce and Barbara MacArthur Fund. Tax revenues from the City of Charlevoix, Hayes Township and Charlevoix Township, continue to fund about 47% of our annual budget. Residents from these areas receive 20% off pool services.

We also want to thank these businesses for their year-long pool sponsorships: Harris Law PC, Bergmann Marine, Fernelius Auto Group, Bayshore Animal Hospital, Bayshore Steel Works LLC, Irish Boat Shop, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services and Real Estate, St. Marys Cement, The Manthei Group, Princeton Management/Lake Michigan Heights, Fletch's GMC/Buick/Audi, and Bingham Insurance Services.





423 children took swim lessons or water safety classes. (1/1/23 to 10/1/23)



New landscaping installed by volunteers.



Patrons enjoying some pool fitness and fun.

  Keep up-to-date on pool news on our website or Instagram and Facebook pages.

## CHARLEVOIX POOL STAFF

- Kathy Klimas, Pool Manager
- Chelsea Biddick, Program Coordinator
- Janet Chambers, Manager of Marketing & Development

The CACP is overseen by an all volunteer Board of Directors from our community.

### CONSIDER SUPPORTING THE POOL

To donate to the CACP, mail a check, call the pool and pay by credit card, or make a donation on our website using a credit card.

*The mission of the Charlevoix Area Community Pool is to provide a wide range of aquatic programs promoting health, fitness, recreation and water safety.*

**[www.CharlevoixPool.org](http://www.CharlevoixPool.org) | 231-547-0982**

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CACP is a 501 c (3) non-profit organization. All financials are audited annually.

Photo Credit: Some photos supplied by volunteer, Kevin Dietrich.