

Thank You All for a Great 2013!

Your support of CACC has helped us to continue the important work of protecting Michigan's communities and watersheds. This improves the health and quality of life for everyone who lives and works in our beautiful state. Thank you to our volunteers, donors, members and the CACC Board of Directors!

Just this year alone, CACC has been busy on a number of fronts that affect you directly.

We provided much needed education on the critical problems associated with nuclear energy to a variety of groups in the state.

In March, CACC held a public workshop in Port Huron for local members of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association about a nuclear waste dump proposed to be built deep beneath the shores of Lake Huron.

Also in March, CACC co-sponsored two public meetings of a Great Lakes tour by Cecile Pineda, author of a book exposing the dangers of the global nuclear industry, seen through her personal observations of the nuclear catastrophe at Fukushima. Speaking during the anniversary week of Japan's nuclear disaster, the award-winning author and activist urged citizens to create a healthy carbon-free, nuclear-free future.

In August, CACC, along with the Peace Education Center of Greater Lansing, co-sponsored a visit by Mary Olson, staff biologist for the Southeast Office of the Nuclear Information and Resource Service. Mary spoke at public meetings held at Michigan Environmental Council's Lansing office and in East Lansing. She addressed concerns in the proposed national energy bill and presented information to help citizens prepare for national public meetings on U.S. irradiated fuel storage at reactors and possible alternatives. (See CACC's online calendar at www.caccmi.org for a meeting Dec. 2 near Toledo, Ohio.)

We participated on your behalf in key decisions on nuclear waste disposal in the Great Lakes.

CACC intervened in hearings on Ontario Power Generation's proposed deep underground nuclear burial site. If approved, dangerous, long-lived reactor wastes would rest beneath Lake Huron's shores.

CACC is part of a coalition that intervened in hearings this fall before the federal Atomic Safety and Licensing Board. The coalition opposes construction of a new, unneeded and costly nuclear reactor, Fermi 3, in Monroe, Michigan, urging utilities to utilize conservation, efficiency and renewable energy instead.

CACC explored the history of Michigan's environmental laws and the high profile issue of fracking at our annual general membership meeting.

In May, CACC enlisted veteran environmental attorney Jim Olson to give an overview for our membership and the general public, of environmental legislation in Michigan from 1978 to the present. Jim represented CACC at our very beginnings, in a lawsuit that won critical rights for Michigan citizens with regards to aerial spraying of pesticides. He, along with members of Michigan Land Air Water Defense, informed us of a lawsuit aimed at stopping fracking on public lands in Michigan. Fracking, a procedure used by oil and gas companies to access natural gas that requires massive amounts of water, uses hundreds of toxic chemicals, and endangers water quality and public health. (As usual, there was a delicious potluck and Stas Yascolt, CACC's entertaining auctioneer, took final bids on our Silent Auction!)

CACC networked with key environmental groups in the state, region and country on issues important to you.

HEAL, the Huron Environmental Activist League, CACC's chapter in Alpena, worked with Earthjustice and other groups, to achieve their goal for cleaner air, via the groups' lawsuit aimed at making the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency enforce new cement plant and power plant pollution regulations. This would lower air pollution emissions considerably at the Lafarge cement plant in Alpena, which HEAL has been urging for years.

In May, CACC endorsed and participated in the Bay City Clean Energy Walk / Green Cruise, where Peter Sinclair, producer of the popular "Climate Denial Crock of the Week" videos, spoke on climate change.

In August, CACC Chairman, Great Lakes songwriter and musician, Victor McManemy performed on behalf of CACC at Circle Pines Center for The People's Institute.

CACC continued to participate in EarthShare, and coordinate work with the Michigan Network for Children's Environmental Health, Michigan Environmental Council, and other regional/national environmental organizations.

And then there was Wheatland 2013

CACC fed good food to attendees of the internationally-famed Wheatland Music Festival in Remus, all while having our biggest fundraiser yet, at the 40th anniversary of the festival! CACC's food pavilion provided hot cooked meals for the crowds of festival attendees. Huge thanks to everyone who helped make our annual Wheatland fundraiser possible! It is an annual reunion that is appreciated more each year that passes. Please check out Gretchen Michael's article on Wheatland on page one.

Very special thanks go to

Annie Hunt for both her vision and stewardship. She remains the heartbeat of CACC.

Pam Warren for maintaining CACC's website at www.caccmi.org.

Joseph Badura for leading CACC's successful Lansing area canvass.

Angie De La Rosa, designer, and Tanya Cabala, editor, of our quarterly newsletter, "The CACC News."

Kay Cumbow and the many dedicated contributors who write for our newsletter and website.

On tap for 2014?

Simply put, we plan to continue to collaborate with other like-minded groups in our efforts for clean watersheds, clean energy and healthy communities - not just for today, but for the future. Also, a long-awaited renovation is planned for our office in Lake, giving us a more viable place to meet and work.

We need your help!

Please donate! You have the opportunity to help us with this important work by your contribution right now. Because we value your support, we've made it easy for you to donate at our website, www.caccmi.org or by mail to: CACC, 8735 Maple Grove Road, Lake, MI 48632-9511. Your generous gift will be spent wisely.

We invite you to join us! Come to our meetings and events! Bring your talents and the issues that concern you most. What we do together now will have a lasting effect on this place we call home.

