

MOENBEAMS

moenlakechain.org Facebook

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 1

W. Gager B. Mongomery, Co-eds

WINTER '14

INSIDE

WELCOME New Members

> A Disaster waiting to happen

13 years of MLCA effort

Wormy thoughts

Musky Tourney dates

Committee Who's Who photo gallery

Lakes Commitee

2014 DATES TO REMEMBER

ANNUAL MEETING
JULY 5, 2014
10:00AM
PINE VALLEY LODGE

ANNUAL PICNIC

August Date TBA

PREZ PROSE

"Winter still I see, Many charms in thee. Love thy chilly greeting, Snow-storms fiercely beating...." Ludwig Holty

As I key up this article in early February, sitting in front of a cozy fire while gazing into our woods covered with a beautiful frosting of snow and enjoying the the warmth of a bright sun reflecting off of the frozen river, I mostly agree with the poet that winter in the Northwoods holds many charms. However, this current winter season is challenging some of my previous beliefs. Day after day of below zero temperatures and wind-chills dipping into -50 category have me longing for an early spring. As I ski and snowshoe down the frozen North Branch, I anxiously wait for days when I will be kayaking, in a warm summer sun, on the very path where my winter journeys carry me.

But if the groundhog, who saw its shadow this morning and scurried back into his burrow to wait out many more weeks of winter, has anything to say about it, it looks like we will all need to do our best to enjoy the charms of this winter.

While winter is usually a quiet time for your lake association, there are a great many things occurring behind the scenes to carry out the work of the MCLA. DNR Clean Boats Clean Waters grants are being written, valuable information is consistently being posted on our web site, the board is planning for its spring meeting in April and committee chairs are preparing their budgets for the coming year.

As association members, you too can start to do some planning for our upcoming warmer seasons. Plan to attend our MCLA annual meeting on July 5, plan to participate in our annual picnic in August, and take out your calendar now in the midst of a very cold winter and mark the weekend days when you can volunteer as a Clean Boat Clean Water monitor at our public landing.

So, enjoy our winter for the charms it brings, secure in the knowledge that spring and summer will soon come.

Dan Kuzlik



Aimee Halvorsen, A Gager grand daughter, 20 years ago

The NUZ

Actually, have you seen our website lately? I mean, really, have you? All the news, events, activities, committee actions. Who's who (whom)? Tons of information and pictures gallore. In fact you can post your own articles, pictures, etc. All the information should be germaine to our chain. Bill Disbrow, our Webmaster, is continually looking for things of interest. View! contact! participate!

Along this line of NUZ, let me pose a question. First some information. Annual postage is just short of \$1,000. Here in the Moenbeam's spaclous offices we have been kicking around ideas. One of them is to place articles continously on the website in a Newsletter link. Access is at your convenience. It would save the Association a lot and help keep the dues low. There would be more shorter, timely articles. Selected Articles could be placed in the current Newsletter form and mailed to those who prefer the printed quarterly version. This subject is open for discussion. your thinking. Your comments -- PLEASE! to me:

wegager@gmail.com

ed

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Jerome & Nancy Tegen
Jim & Pamela Jarvis
Shane Meyer
Jim and Mark Schwaller
Robert Gay

A DISASTER WAITING TO HAPPEN

You've heard enough about Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Right? Boring, right? Well, then, what disaster? Three questions and one answer:

THIS article is not about just AIS but what we may face in the future if several incidents affect our chain of lakes. This information may stagger you and open your eyes to what the future could hold for us if we, all of us, aren't continually vigilant.

Ten years ago, because of changing watershed, water quality and invasive species, the Minocqua/Kawaguesaga Lake Protective Association (MKLP) sought governmental help. The DNR requested a complete comprehensive lakes management plan. Six individual studies were undertaken; \$472,890 and eight years later the plan was presented to the Minocqua Town Board. The six studies were:

Septic systems impact on ground and surface water quality - \$15,200

U.S. Geological study of water quality - \$34,500

Creating a water quality plan for the future - \$40,000

Aquatic plant management plan - \$23,150

Water quality study for the effects of phosphorou from urbanization - \$330,000

Watershed management plan - \$30,000

Of the total cost of \$472,890 the MKLPA paid \$50,364.

The four most important areas of immediate focus for the future are:

Sediment reduction, storm water control

Reduction of phosphorous introduction

AIS management

Habitat improvement

(Paraphrased from an article by Joe VanDeLaarschot, Lakeland Times, September 18, 2012)

Why the above article? MKLPA's situation is entirely possible here if we don't work hard to prevent it. The state picked up most of the cost but you can not depend on that all the time. Property owners will be responsible!

So, what should we, all of us, do?

Support your Association by being a member
Become involved, volunteer if you can. One could do something
Educate yourselves; understanding the issues is half way there
Encourage neighbors to become a member and get involved
Twenty bucks is a small salve for the conscience, become a member and
feel good about yourself.

ed.

WORMY THOUGHTS TO FISH BY

A penny saved is a government oversight
The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting
in line for
Lord, keep your arm around my shoulders and your
hand on my mouth

THIRTEEN YEARS OF MLCA ACTIVITY

Measuring water Quality including monitoring water chemistry

Monitoring boats launched at our one public launch site for AIS (including educating the boat owners themselves)

Searching for Zebra mussels at 12 different sites throughout the chain

Encouraging the "Adopt-a-Shoreline" program to involve property owners in identifying any aquatic species, native or not

Providing information via several venues: meetings, Newsletter,
Facebook and our wonderful, informative website:
"moenlakechain.org"

Improving safety with revision of the channel markers and their maintenance.

Increasing communication and cooperation with governmental bodies

Researching and applying for grants to keep our annual dues affordable (Our dues are lower than ANY lake association in the state)

Recently creating the "Lake Committee" (to increase communication with all property owners)

A working Grant search committee

Created a "Project Committee" to follow progress on Long Term Planning recommendations

THE FUTURE

Increase membership
Involve more members in Association activities
(especially in boat inspections at the boat landing)
Continue to improve communication with property owners
(Get the Lake Committee up and running)
Maintain dues level IF possible
Maintain communication with local governmental bodies and the DNR
Offer special programs? Seminars?

FISHING TOURNAMENTS:

The Charlie Baker Memorial Musky Tourament June 28-29, 2014 Moen Chain

> The Hodag Musky Challenge September 21, 2014 Boom Lake Crescent lake Lake George Hancock Lake Moen Chain Lake Thompson

> > Pelican Lake

When spring/summer fishing comes around, don't forget to replace your lead weights/lures with new steel ones. Protect out Loons/fish/ducks & me!

2013 Committee Reca

Meet the heart of YOUR Assocciation:

FISH & HABITAT COMMITTEE

Chaired by our new Treasurer Gary Berweger, this committee is to thank for the stocking of our chain with more than 9,500 7-9" long walleye fingerlings (4600 on Moen, 2580 on 4th, and 2400 on 5th Lakes).





CHANNEL MARKER COMMITTEE

Chaired by Dan Carlson, we thank these gentlemen for the annual placement and removal of all our channel markers, old and new. They also remove and repair, when possible, the old pipes. Would you like to help?



El Felton, of the channel marker committee, has done a fabulous job of repairing and maintaining our work boat, (previously donated by DuWayne Witter), while keeping costs to us minimal. Thank you El!





CB/CW

Nancy Sattler is now our Clean Boats/Clean waters coordinator. Nancy is relentless in protecting our chain from AIS. This year she will be doing the training and volunteer scheduling for CBCW & citizen lake monitoring. It is never too early to volunteer, so when you are planning your summer, set aside a few hours for launch monitoring!



WEBSITE

Bill Disbrow is our wonderful website guru. Bill is always on top of things, and has put countless hours into the restructuring, maintaining, & updating of our website with the latest news. Have news or photos for him to add? Check it out, contribute, and keep checking in:







NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Walt Gager, & co-chair Bonnie Montgomery, continues to be instrumental in keeping us all up to date on the chain's news. Walt is also forever coming up with new ideas to improve our communication, such as the formation of the Lake Committees. This requires a spokesperson, a go-to person, for each of our lakes. Thanks to John Sheedy for volunteering for Third. Any other takers? Contact either one of us.



PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Sally Latimer (along her other duties as Secretary) with Walt Gager, is in charge of our social events, planning our annual meetings, picnics, etc. Many of you have suggested more social events. Care to join this committee and help plan them?



PROJECT PLANNING COMMITTEE

Chaired by Tom Cutler, this crew is responsible for researching & providing insight into projects that are considered beneficial to the current, as well as future, health of our chain. Have any insights or ideas of your own? Please share!

You know you're growing old when everything either dries up or leaks!

THE LAKES COMMITTEE

What is the "Lakes Committee" (LC)? With six lakes in our chain and a long narrow water-way there is a great difference in properties and owners, their concerns and needs and even opinions. The Lake Association is committed to representing them in any way they are able. Responding to their concerns and needs is priority one. Currently, the board does not have a member on all lakes. The LC is intended to answer that need.

One individual on each lake will act as a kind of ombudsmen or representative for the property owners. He/she would convey their questions, comments, opinions, and recommendations directly to the Association Board via the Vice President and return the board's response to them to the member or property owner. In effect, this is the Democratic way. The big advantage is that it gives a direct loop to the Association Board.

Initially, the Vice President would be the chairman of the Lakes Committee. It's possible that the VP could be the LC rep. of his/her lake also. If not, he would be the tie breaker in tie votes that could occur if the LC had need for a meeting on an controversial subject. If he is the representative, then the President is the tie breaker. An LC meeting is optional but usually not needed.

With a little imagination one can see that with time the LC could become the actual board. What better board than one made up of representatives of all the lakes. If that should happen, and it probably will then, as noted above, the president of the Board would be the tie breaker.

Obviously, one stumbling block is the Bylaws. An Ad Hoc Committee will be appointed at the spring Board meeting to address that need.

This article is an open Forum and we encourage your comments. This is in the early stages and now is the time for you all to become involved in shaping this new concept into something that we can all support. Please send comments and recommendations to me: wegager@gmail.com or 3302 W. Cottage Rd, ed

Here's something to while away your wnter blues. Four speaker Stereo, heaated seats, and much more......



PLACE ON YOUR "BUCKET LIST"



Cold WI Winters.

Did you know....

Many **Butterflies** survive WI winters by entering a state called "diapause," in which their bodies create an internal "antifreeze" which keeps their cells from freezing.

Birds are thought to have an internal heating system for their feet. Blood vessels carrying warm blood from the heart are able to transfer heat to the vessels of the feet, keeping the feet from freezing.

Flying Squirrels do not hibernate. Often more than 2 dozen of them will huddle together in nests/cavities.

Most **Turtles** winter under the ice. Some bury themselves in the mud. But they do not hibernate, & can occasionally be seen moving beneath the ice.

In many **Mosquito** species, the females only can survive the winters in protected places, logs, animal burrows. In the spring, they need that bloodmeal to develop their eggs. And we all know what happens then.... bm

Are you dreaming of spring? Are you ready for it?

If not, or you're not sure

Visit the last page and select that which you need

Prices are good until the Annual meeting
(and probably longer)





When I'm feelling down, I like to whistle. It makes the neighbors dog run to hte end of his chain and gag himslef.

MOEN LAKE CHAIN ASSOCIATION, Inc. (Order blank and Membership application)

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CAN KOOZIES (New Item):					4.00		
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