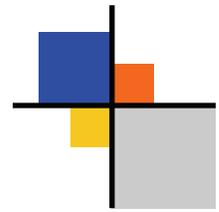




Volume 4, Issue 4

Moen Lake Chain Association Newsletter



FROM THE PRESIDENT

This past summer our CLEAN BOATS/CLEAN WATER committee began aggressively protecting our waters. The group started with a small number of dedicated volunteer inspectors and grew thanks to a state DNR grant which allowed MCLA to hire Kathy Winkler as the CLEANBOATS/CLEANWATER volunteer coordinator. Kathy contacted and scheduled the volunteer's times at the public landing and has done an extraordinary job. Here is her report::

"It was my pleasure to serve as the CLEAN BOATS/CLEAN WATER coordinator this past summer. I appreciated the willingness of members of the Association to be trained and to volunteer. As I learned by attending a state training session, education is the best measure of prevention - informing boaters of the law (it's against state law to transport a boat and/or trailer with ANY vegetation on them) and the need to be precautious in removing all weeds. Here are some amazing numbers to show the effort volunteers made:

- 30 individuals stepped forward to be trained.
- 56 volunteers manned sites for boat inspection.
- 97 - 2 hour blocks of time were covered (194 hours).
- The number of times individuals were available to volunteer ranged from 1 - 8.
- 189 boats were inspected entering or leaving Moen Lake.
- 418 contacts were made with individuals by inspectors to promote protecting the Moen Chain of Lakes from aquatic invasive species (AIS).
- 14 contacts were NOT aware of the state law.
- Two Samples sent to the DNR were positive for AIS.

The more MCLA members (non-members are welcome) that take an interest in keeping the chain free of AIS, the less time each will need to be contacted. A number of members are already planning to be trained in the Spring of 2007. If you haven't been called, think about committing time in 2007 to be trained and volunteer to help keep the waters clean. It will be worth the effort. Thanks for the support". Kathy Winkler, AIS coordinator, 2006

Let's hear applause and accolades for Kathy and the volunteers of 2006:

- Gary & Judy Berweger
- Adrienne Birkholz
- Pete & Jean Boettcher
- Roger & Gerane Brandt
- Don & Susan Broadbridge
- Frank Carlson
- Keith & Judy Carlson
- El & Laurie Felton
- Joanne Franzen
- Walt & Donna Gager Dan
- Janet Groleau
- Dave & Nancy Hansen
- Jackie Hebein
- Vicky Houston
- Bill Huber
- Sam Kaprelian
- Bob Kerber
- Kris Krause
- Dan & Donna Krejci
- Walt & Shirley Kunde
- Dan Kuzlik
- Jeff & Wendy Larson
- Paul & Angela Lorenzen
- Mark Marek
- Craig Martin
- Bob McCall
- Jane McConnell
- Don & Elaine Mevis
- Marcha Moore
- John & Mike Nevins
- Jay & Patti Pazerra
- Jim & Jeanne Pederson
- Neil Richardson

Lloyd & Liz Richmond
Bob & Nancy Rosersa
Cal & Carolyn Weck
Linda Wilkins
Kathy Winkler

I suppose this (Aquatic Invasive Species - AIS) is becoming a tiresome subject but consider the alternatives: Eurasian Milfoil (EM) grows to the surface in water as deep as 25 feet (our lakes average 12 feet in depth) and get so thick that you cannot operate a motor boat through them. Worse, they kill all native vegetation and basically eliminate fish habitat. If EM is introduced into our chain the cost of control (almost impossible to eradicate) would be in the thousands of dollars a year. Guess who pays?

Zebra mussels adhere in solid sheets to every submerged surface - boat bottoms (shades of the barnacle), pier pilings, rocks, raft chains, anchors, etc. I saw them in Big Cedar Lake and believe me, we don't want them.

Rusty Crayfish destroy the natural lake vegetation, destroy water quality, ruin fish habitat, and allow algae and other undesirable water plants to grow.

The Spiny Water Flea and the Fishhook Water Flea are more difficult to identify but can cause damage to our water and fish habitat also.

If you would like to join the above volunteers to protect YOUR lake call Kathy (369-1868) or me (369-9142) and join up. Nonmembers are welcome.

ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting on July 8th, graciously hosted by the Schroepfers at Pine Valley, was gratifying. Each year the group grows and discussions improve. Talk up the organization and get your neighbors to join. The more voices, the stronger the Association.

Next summer's annual meeting will be on July 7th at 10:00 AM at the Pine Valley Lodge, the generosity of the Schroepfers willing.

On a related note, I know that it's easy to forget to pay the pricey annual dues of \$20.00. In fact, at the Float-nic when Linda Wilkins thoughtfully gave me an updated list of members, including those having their dues paid to date, I noted some members had not paid the '06 dues - one of them was me. The president in arrears! (oh, the shame of it!)

Well, no more. I immediately took out an equity loan on the house and ponied up the \$20.00. If you are in the same boat as I, please do the same. Do it now so you don't forget. If you have neighbors that you would like to have join but haven't, include their names and address and we will notify them of a one year FREE active membership at your behest!

WORMY THOUGHTS TO FISH BY

A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.

OK, you know the speed of light - what's the speed of dark?

FLOAT-NIC

On August 13th, the second Float-nic was held in the middle of Third Lake. According to Caroline Weck, twelve boats and 24 folks enjoyed munchies and great conversation. What a great way to meet and greet our neighbors. Attending were: Lloyd & Liz Richmond, Cal & Caroline Weck, John & Jane McConnell, Bob & Nancy Rosera, Walt & Donna Gager with daughter Kathie Halvorsen and grandchildren Aimee and Adam, Dave & Nancy Hanson, Joel & Sue Ohman, Wally & Shirley Kunde, Larry Fritz, Keith & Judy Carlson, Bob & Linda Wilkins and finally (but never least) Dan Kuzlik. Did I miss anyone?

The engineering to hook up all boats was amazing. The anchors held firm and everybody meandered from one to another. A pity there was no yellow brick road but the twists and turns between boats was interesting, to say the least. The treats brought by everyone were fantastic. Next summer the Board has chosen to repeat the successful picnic on Pine Island in Fifth Lake. The Association will provide a grill and condiments. **August 12th is the date.** More in future Newsletters. Other suggestions for future summer happenings are welcome. Any ideas? Contact me.

SHORELAND LIGHTING

In city settings we might never get to know our neighbors. Here on the Northwood's lakes, it's very likely that our neighbors are close aboard and easy to know. Sometimes making them friends is harder, especially if your property has some things that impinge on theirs. Things that come to mind are wood piles, outdoor equipment, landscaping, outdoor audio speakers, lighting and just junk. Let's look at lighting.

While the use of outdoor lights privately and commercially is legitimate, we must consider the people who can see them but do not use them. Preserve the beauty of the night by being aware of the three most annoying problems along the shoreland:

1. Lighting trespass is the result of light being improperly aimed or shielded and spills over to illuminate a portion of a neighbor's property eg: windows, a deck or portions of the yard. Waterfront lighting is subject to water reflection and can shine inadvertently on unintended areas. This is not a legal problem but rather a nuisance that can usually be handled by discussing the situation with the owners of the lighting.
2. Glare is the result of illuminating an area with an unshielded light system. This is especially apparent across bodies of water and open spaces even if the light source is not adjacent to your property. Proper light aiming or shielding is the simple solution. On waterfronts, it can be a challenge to install lighting properly and considerately.
3. Here in the Northwoods, the night sky is beautiful to behold. Exterior lighting has a tendency to shine upward creating a sky glow that washes out our ability to view the heavens clearly. Lights that are aimed improperly can add to the already present glow.

(continued)

ERRATA:

Summer Newsletter corrections/ additions:

In the third paragraph:
...a personal watercraft must be designed to seat three people in order to tow.

Property (shore land) lighting tips:

- Don't over light. Use just enough wattage to illuminate what you intend.
- Shield and/or aim correctly. Be aware of where the light plume goes. Especially be aware of the effect of lighting from tall poles.
- Try to use "full cut off lighting" fixtures. (ie: no light is emitted above the horizontal).
- Retrofit existing light that may offend with shields, commercial or home made.
- Use high efficiency lamps. (less glare, more efficient, cost savings)
- Don't use "dusk to dawn" lighting. Incorporate timers or motion detectors.
- Illuminate signs from above, choose the wattage carefully.

UW-Extension, "Sensible Shoreland Lighting"

RESOURCES

If you are contemplating shore line redevelopment (rain gardens, native plantings, etc.) or construction of some kind, the Association has gathered a goodly amount of information that you can tap into for guidance to avoid the visit from an authority that you would rather not see. Contact me if you are interested.

THE LOWEST FORM OF MATHEMATICS

Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter = Eskimo Pi

2000 pounds of Chinese soup = Won Ton

One millionth of a mouthwash = one microscope

Want more?

Under "Junk Food": Donald Duck Comics were banned in Finland because he didn't wear pants.

Enjoy the winter months, and an advanced Happy Holiday Season to you all.

Walt Gager
President

MOEN LAKE CHAIN ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Permanent Address _____

Rhineland Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

I would like to serve on the Moen Lake Chain Association Clean Boats Clean Water Committee

Signature _____ Date _____

Send to:

Linda Wilkins
3786 Port Aurora Road
Rhineland WI 54501

Yearly dues are \$20.00