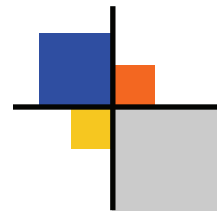




Volume 5, Issue 4

Moen Lake Chain Association Newsletter



Fall 2007

FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a year! The members of your Association accomplished a great deal. Most importantly, the CLEAN BOATS/ CLEAN WATER effort was a success. Much credit and thanks must go to Kathy Winkler who coordinated all the efforts. Kathy reports that volunteers staffing the launch sites inspected 343 cars, boats and trailers (an increase of 124 over 2006). This included 507.5 hours of volunteer time at the landings averaging 162 - two hour shifts by 82 trained individuals (fifty families).

One trailer was identified as having zebra mussels when the boat was leaving the lake. DNR scrutiny considered the zebra mussels dead (they die if they are out of the water more than five days).

Thank you and congratulations to all for a job well done.

We can always use more volunteers. The more we have-the fewer two hours (or less) would have to be spent at the landings. Training is easy and so is the job. Even if you only come to your cottage for one, two or three weeks a summer, donate two hours of your time to protect YOUR lake. Contact Kathy at 369-1886 or me at 369-9142.

The DNR has placed our chain of lakes on the watch list for Zebra Mussels because of the landing incident detailed above. Pete Boettcher mentioned that he has a device made of four PVC plates attached to his pier that he raises periodically to see if any of the little buggers have arrived. The plates are in descending sizes of 12, 10, 8 and 6 inches in a pyramid configuration.

I spoke to DNR Sandy Wickman about the desirability of placing a dozen or so about the chain and she was enthusiastic about it. I ordered a dozen and will distribute them to volunteers evenly down the chain next spring. If you are interested in having one - call me! 369-9142

The Water Quality committee continued to monitor clarity and now chemical analysis has begun. The following comments are from Chair Donna Gager. "Wisconsin Self Help Lake Monitoring, sponsored by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, depends on local residents to carry out this mission.

In 2005, 616 lakes and 742 individual sites were monitored by this program. The Water Quality Committee of MLCA is a part. I would like to acknowledge the contributions of the following volunteers: Jim Pederson - Moen Lake
Ron Geske - Second & Third Lake
Dan Kuzlik - the river
Don Mevis (quality & chemical) - Fifth
Donna Gager - Fourth Lake".
Cheers and thanks to all!

The channel marker maintenance and placement commenced well, after recovering poles from the lake bottom (winter ice). Bob Wilkins and Cal Weck went to work. Thanks fellas, great job.

The fish survey last summer will continue on into this fall and winter. The results will be reported at the Annual Meeting at Pine Valley on July 7, 2008. Put the date on your calendar now. Eighty people attended the annual meeting last summer. Were you there?

New members of the Board of Directors are Jim Pederson and George Schroepfer replacing Bill Bethke and Vicky Houston. Thank you Bill and Vicky for your contributions in the past.

The Pine Island Picnic on August 13th was great. Forty eight members attended. The food everybody brought was deeeee-licious! Joe and Sue Ohman arrived in a dingy, made for one, (which looked like a bathtub). The Pallagis arrived by canoe. The base pontoon boat (mine) got stuck on the rocks leaving. Low water levels made getting boats off shore stations and moorings somewhat difficult but we persevered. Great effort! Thanks to all.

Next summer there will be a Float-nic in the middle of Moen Lake; the date to be announced in the spring Newsletter.

Speaking of Special Events, our members seem to enjoy the gatherings we've had and that suggests that we need a Special Events Committee. Our Association continues to grow and different special events in the future will allow us meet and greet our neighbors. Great fun. Any volunteers to chair this committee?

SILLY COMMENTS OF THE DAY

Everyone has a photographic memory. Some, like me, just don't have any film.

Middle age: when broadness of the mind and narrowness of the waist change places (I know, I know!)

Speaking of members, here are those folks who have joined us since last year: They are:

- ◆ Greg Barr
- ◆ Al Barrow
- ◆ Nancy Lorbetski
- ◆ Kevin & Kathy Black
- ◆ Don & Susan Broadbridge
- ◆ Walt & Shirley Dahlquist
- ◆ Paul Dean
- ◆ Dick Emerick
- ◆ Mark & Denise Ewe
- ◆ Glen & Laurel Fischer
- ◆ Lois Flad
- ◆ Larry & Judy Fritz
- ◆ Lorraine Frederick
- ◆ Bruce & Carol Lee Ginzl
- ◆ Dan & Janet Groleau
- ◆ Mark & Joan Gummerson
- ◆ Melissa & Jeffrey Hayes
- ◆ Roberta Hill
- ◆ David & Joan Kaul
- ◆ James Kelly
- ◆ Kent & Lynn Lagowski
- ◆ Elmer & Marcia Legrey
- ◆ Brian & Kelly Mattson
- ◆ Jim McBride & Barb Feldt
- ◆ Bonnie Meyer Montgomery
- ◆ Virginia Powers
- ◆ Jerry & Darlene Redfield
- ◆ Tim & Rhonda Reinecke
- ◆ Vern & Rosemary Schaller
- ◆ Gil & Jean Spafford
- ◆ Joseph & Karla Stafford
- ◆ Dave & Linda Struursma

Welcome! We look forward to meeting you all at next summers annual meeting.

YOUR MLCA OFFICERS

President—Walt Gager—369-9142
Vice Pres. — Pete Boettcher—369-9267
Treasurer—El Felton—369-0662
Secretary—Linda Wilkins—369-5511
Board Members
Cal Weck—369-9065
Tom Cutler—920-338-1553
Sue Ohman—369-1480
Jim Pederson—369-3420
George Schroepfer—369-0505

By the way, since we are a non-profit organization our dues can be considered donations and are therefore tax deductible. So, although we recommend a \$20.00 to \$25.00 donation, you are free to donate less or more to match whatever you think your membership is worth to you. Keep in mind the expenses we are experiencing and anticipate those that we may have to face in the future and that all the Association's activities are for your benefit. Welcome!

WORMY THOUGHTS TO FISH BY

Politics is supposed to be the second oldest profession. I have come to realize that it bears a very close resemblance to the first.

On an average, right handed people live nine years longer than left handed folks. What about ambidextrous individuals?

DID YOU KNOW?

That 17% of people can't wink
Nobody can lick their elbow (Ha!, you tried it didn't you?)
There are no clocks in Las Vegas gambling casinos
No words in the dictionary rhyme with orange, purple and silver.



NEWS

Be aware of the new law on Boating Certification. We are all familiar with the current requirement that no-one under the age of 10 can operate a motor boat. No one under the age of 12 may operate a personal watercraft. Between the ages of 10 & 16, a parent or guardian or an individual 18 or older designated by a parent or guardian must be present unless he/she is the holder of a student safety boating certificate. Now check page 6 in your boating manual. A recently passed law states that "anyone born on or after 1-1-89 and at least 16 years of age " is required to "have a boating safety education certificate to operate a motorboat on Wisconsin's waterways". A list of boating classes can be viewed at www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/enforcement/safety/upcoming.htm or use the link there to the online classes. Also there is a sample test available.

I bet you noticed that we had a lot more weeds in our lakes this year. You also noted that the water was clearer than usual. Why? Because we had a paucity of rain, the lakes were lower than normal creating a much larger riparian zone and the swamps didn't wash the normal amount of tannin into the lakes. This situation allowed sun to reach the bottom farther out in the lakes and aquatic plants not usually bathed in sunshine could now grow.

Here's another new term for your vocabulary: benthic. It means "lake bottom".

Have a Happy
Holiday Season!

TRESPASSING

Who is? Where is it? What is it? The questions have come up time after time and so I thought maybe it would be a good idea to give it a definition.

The Law in Wisconsin gives landowners rights and responsibilities. There is a Civil section and a Statutory section. Here is very condensed synopsis.

The Civil section allows landowners to recover proven damages caused by a trespasser (on the property without permission) and the property does not have to be posted. The Statutory section allows the state to levy a fine if an individual has trespassed (no permission) or if an individual has been notified that he/she is not allowed on the property (posting prior to the incident of trespass is presumed notice). Posting land constitutes conspicuously placing two signs for every 40 acres to be protected (blaze orange signs are illegal). A landowner can use reasonable force to protect his property but deadly force is against the law in Wisconsin.

That said, the law states that the landowner has responsibilities to trespassers. The landowner cannot intentionally attempt to injure by creating a dangerous situation to exist. However, if one exists, he/she has no obligation to warn a trespasser about possible dangers. An exception to this part is a defined responsibility of the landowner to protect children from injury even if they are trespassers.

One caveat. If a landowner gives permission to an individual or group to use the property (hunting, etc) there is a higher degree of responsibility to reasonably protect the user from injury. However, to lower the risk to landowners, Wisconsin has made the law the same as if it were a simple trespass as long as the landowner is not "selling" (renting or leasing) the use of the property. To determine if a landowner is "selling" his property, there are limits to the amount of money that one can receive beyond which he is legally "selling".

I'm still soliciting ideas, news, history, etc. for the Newsletter - got any?
Have a warm and fruitful Winter!

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: Moen Lake Chain Association
c/o Linda Wilkins
3786 Port Aurora Road
Rhineland WI 54501

Yearly dues are \$20.00