



MOEN LAKE

moenlakechain.org

CHAIN

ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 3

WALT GAGER, EDITOR

SUMMER, 2009

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Program/ event
Liz Richmond
Sally latmer
Website
Bill Disbrow, Chair

VACANT:

Membersip
Historian
Long Term Planning

My-o-my what a great meeting this year's annual gathering was. Approximately 75 folks attended. Five (5) dozen donuts and a gallon of coffee were consumed. Many words spoken by yours truly, the committee chairs and members present. Our speaker, naturalist John Bates, was received with stand-up applause after a presentation ranging from native birds, animals, fish and plant life was sprinkled with wonderful humorous comments. His message was why and how do we live (and love) with our beautiful northwoods lakes. If you weren't there you missed a good show.

Jim Pederson was elected as the new Vice President; Dave Hanson was elected to the Board of Directors to replace Jim; and Gary Berwerger was appointed as Chair of the Fish Stocking/Cribs committee. Many grateful thanks: to Pete Boettcher who served as Vice President for nine years and gave sage and experienced advice to a fledgling organization and to Lenny Gescheldle who effectively monitored our Fish Stocking/Cribs committee for a like number of years. Lenny kept us on track when the DNR performed a fish survey on our chain. The entire membership thanks you for services rendered.

You know, members and non members as well as their family and guests are invited to the annual shindig. Bring a neighbor! Beg, plead, entice or drag your non member neighbors to join MLCA. We need all of them. The organization is active on the part of all land owners on the chain and each and every one should have a voice in how the Association is run.

MEETING SNIPPETS

Governor Doyle signed SB12 that establishes statewide "no Wake" llaw within 100' of any shoreline.

Oneida County Planning & Zoning committee is reviewing their shoreline ordinances to see what they may have to do to bring them in line with the new law.

Dan Carlson reported that the Mole Lake Chippewa band removed 163 walleys and 3 muskies from 5th lake. A total of 8,882 walleys were taken from Oneida and Vilas counties.. Last year 5,652 were taken. What do they do with them? The total removal for all Wisconsin tribes this year was 31, 855 walleye as compared to 2008 of 27,320 walleye. This harvest is from 212 lakes. Wanna buy my fishing tackle?

Annual Dues: \$20.00
Jan. 1, annually
Mail to:
El Felton
4182Shady Ln
Rhinelander, WI
54501

SNIPPETS CONT'D.

The MLCA pennant proved popular. The program committee co-chaired by Liz Richmond and Sally Latimer sold out



their supply. They also described where you can get clamps and small poles to mount them on boats. Logo T-shirts, jackets and the like are available at the Metro Screen Printing, 510 Lincoln St. (across from Arby's). Sally also announced a pot-luck picnic on August 8, 5-8PM at the Kuzlik home. SEE INSERT! A boat Rally (read: Road rally on water) was mentioned. Comments? Suggestion?

If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?

A Complete description of what's involved in being a volunteer at the boat launch was undertaken by Kathy Winkler. Several new volunteers signed up for training. The process is a simple one and all who have volunteered have said they enjoyed the two hours on the launch site, met some very nice neighbors and did not find it difficult or a waste of time. We need more of you to sign up even if you are up only for weekends. The more we have the less call there would be to monitor the launch site.

Bill Disbrow described his activities on the website. If you haven't visited it yet....do! You will find a wealth of information there. Maybe you would like to contribute a short story about your family history on the Chain's waters or are looking for an answer to a question you may have. An archive of Newsletters is there for your perusal. moenlakechain.org

In June, NR115 was introduced to the Natural Resources Board which approved the draft and sent it to the legislature. They will either approve it as it is, alter it or reject it. The new statewide ordinance has some sweeping changes for shoreline management. More on those changes when we get the final version.

Why does sour cream have an expiration date?

I announced that an Ad Hoc Long Term Planning Committee is being formed and asked for volunteers. If you have any interest in the future of your lake and would like to have input, contact me - 369-9142.

The Zebra Mussel plates are in the water for the season. Negative result to date....GREAT!

A discussion was held on the progress of the boat launch site repair. The Town of Pine Lake Board tabled my presentation. The Town Board has been looking for an alternate lake lot to develop a new launch site. They have been dickering with some land owners. To date they have not been able to locate one. It is now in limbo. We will keep you posted on changes.

Don Mevis found an unusual milfoil in Fifth lake. The DNR identified it as "Farwell's" milfoil, a rare but good native aquatic plant found only in the waters of northern Wisconsin.

A REMINDER

This Newsletter is the first one being sent only to paid members. Only the Spring Newsletter will be sent to all property owners. I hope your dues are paid. If not, you'll miss the fall and winter issues. Some members may find a reminder to bring their '08 dues up to date in this Newsletter. Also, if you have an e-address, we would appreciate knowing it. The future is electronic delivery of the Newsletter so that we can add all sorts of colored pics, etc. Why.....these Newsletters may become valued keepsakes!

WORMY THOUGHTS TO FISH BY

Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.

It's frustrating when you know all the answers and nobody asks you the questions.

Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional.

NEW CHIEF CONSERVATION WARDEN

A letter from the DNR introducing chief Randy Stark as the new Chief Conservation Warden was received and presented to the group at the annual meeting. Information concerning chief Stark and his duties are posted on our website (moenlakechain.org) in the "Life on the Moen"

section, near the bottom of the page under the "Wisconsin DNR Law Enforcement" link.

Bill Disbrow has done a bang-up job listing the various areas that affect the continued health of our Lakes. Peruse the document and refresh your knowledge of the regulations that affect us all.

While you're at it, under that same heading, review the section link concerning boating safety laws. Learn the difference between State law and DNR regulations. I know that we are all familiar with them but it never hurts to check our memories.

Lastly, review boating laws and boating courtesies. Wear a PFD (personal flotation device) where appropriate. Folks on the chain report to me that they have witnessed daily infractions of boating safety and courtesy. Slow down when passing a slower moving craft (or entering a channel), be aware of how your wake affects another boat. Always remain 100 ft. from shore except to pull a skier up. If you are running a personal water craft (jet ski) do the figure eights and rapid turn-about in deep water. Observe the regulation controlling the number of people allowed on a specific PWC.

I don't mean to lecture but residents members and non-members have called with complaints of the abuse of water borne activities near their properties and especially on the river channel between the Hwy C bridge and Fourth Lake.

Thanks for listening.

FYI

Now that we are learning which aquatic plants are bad and which are good, what can we do about those in our riparian space that tickle the legs when swimming?. Wisconsin differentiates between manual and mechanical removal of shoreline aquatic plants. Generally, a permit is required for mechanical harvesting and/or any other methods of plant control. Manual removal (cutting or raking) in a single area of no more than 30 feet along a shoreline is permitted provided that any piers, boatlifts, swim rafts, and other recreational and water use devices are located within the 30' zone. All plants cut or raked must be removed from the water.

CASTOR CANADENSIS

(The Beaver)

In a past Newsletter I described one of our water creatures, the River Otter. The beaver is not seen on our chain now but has been present in the past, evidenced by the presence of old beaver lodges. Beaver lodges were quite common years ago, especially on tributary streams. The water level of Enterprise Lake, about 15 miles south of us, was (and is) partially controlled by a beaver lodge dam.

The beaver is the largest rodent in North America (35"-40") including the flattened tail, which is used as a rudder during swimming and a support appendage when on land. They weigh between 45 & 60 pounds. The heaviest beaver caught in Wisconsin weighed 110 pounds.

The beaver can close its nostrils while swimming. The hind feet are webbed and the forepaws are small and dextrous allowing a good grasping ability. Its food is leaves twigs, tree bark, sedges, water grasses, water plant roots (lilies) and the like.

Beavers actually change their environment to suit their needs. This is evident by the position of their lodges that create ponds providing winter food. These ponds benefit other wildlife in the area as well. Northern and western Wisconsin have a good population of beaver. Restocking and the growth of Aspen forests has helped their return. Wisconsin's trapping seasons fluctuate from year to year and all beaver trapped must be registered with the state. Current management regulations vary by year and area dependent on the damage levels occurring from the beaver population and are structured to minimize the incident; harvest of Otters.

WALT GAGER

POSTSCRIPT

If you would like to learn more about our featured speaker, John Bates, grab the 2009 July/August, 2009 issue of *Living on the Lake*. Freelance writer Laurie Lenten seeks to unravel who Bates is and what his message has been to Northwoods folk over the past 20 years of writing in seven books and a biweekly newspaper column. Very informative and interesting.