

# MOEN LAKE CHAIN ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1

WINTER, 2009

WALT GAGER, EDITOR

## OFFICERS

Walt Gager, President  
Pete Boettcher,  
Vice President  
Bonnie Montgomery,  
Secretary  
El Felton, Treasurer

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## BOARD of DIRECTORS

Tom Cutler, '11  
George Schroepfer, '10  
Sue Ohman, '11  
Jim Pederson, '10  
Cal Weck, '09

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## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Fish stocking/cribs,  
Lenny Gescheidle  
Channel Markers,  
Lloyd Richmond  
CleanBoats/CleanWater  
Dan Kuzlik  
Coordinator  
Kathy Winkler,  
Water Quality,  
Donna Gager  
Website,  
Bill Disrow  
Program & Event  
Liz Richmond  
Sally Latimer

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## VACANT:

Membersip  
Historian  
Long Term Planning

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Annual Dues: \$20.00  
January 1, Annually  
Mail to:

El Felton  
4182 Shady Lane  
Rhineland, WI

My wish to you is that happiness, prosperity, and warm family ties be yours in 2009. Also, I wish that you all remember that Association dues are due on January 1st each year. They're still only \$20, inflation hasn't struck our chain yet. Better pay up and/or join now before it does. Mail your check to El Felton, 4182 Shady Lane, Rhineland, WI 54501

## THE MOEN CHAIN WEBSITE

(moenlakechain.org)

I am happy to tell you that our web site is up and running. You will find a wealth of information about the chain, the Association, our activities, historical items of interest, a Newsletter archives, membership, the dues structure - and more is being added regularly. Do visit and/or contact us for any information you may want or need. You will see that we are here to represent your interests and your lake. Please consider becoming a member and have your voice heard.

## NEWSLETTER MAILINGS

As announced in the Fall '08 Newsletter, this and the spring '09 Newsletter will be the last full Newsletter to be sent to all property owners on the chain. Paid members will continue to receive all four Newsletters via snail mail or via the web. Non-paid members will only receive the Spring Newsletter annually. We regret having to do this but the costs are prohibitive to continue to mail to all unless the membership increases substantially. Also, each Newsletter can be found on our website, although slightly delayed in being posted. If you enjoy the Newsletter, join the Association and get them all.

## SURVEY

A survey was included in the Fall, '08 issue. To date we have received 60 responses. If you have comments for us, please send them now. Our Secretary, Bonnie Montgomery, has summarized the current results.

Of the 60 returned; five were from non-members, all except 4 (who wanted to be dropped from the mailing list) desired to continue to receive the Newsletter. Half said they had paid up dues and expressed interest in participating in one or more of the Association's activities. 43 of the 60 did not understand the difference between a lake association and a lake district. (See differences following this section)

Many suggestions were received. Some will be instituted into the Association's operations, some may be used at an apropos time and some could not be used for various reasons. The following are some suggestions that I would like your input on:

- That the annual meeting be held on the July 4th weekend.
- That the annual meeting be held in June.
- Publish a list of members and distribute it to members.
- Suggest placement of "No Wake" buoys in the "lake 2 1/2" channel.
- Make the annual meeting a "pot-luck" mid-day picnic.
- At the annual meeting, members should gather in groups from each lake to meet their neighbors.
- Consider a "doorknob" literature drop solicitation.
- One suggestion, discussed in detail at the last (fall) Board meeting, was to allow paid advertising on the website to raise funds. The Board felt that members should be allowed to place personal adds free of charge and commercial members on the chain should be allowed to do the same since we exist for our members in support of all aspects of the chains members and activities.
- Other comments/suggestions included concerns about a "fishery", fishing "tournaments" and "jetskis". These subjects have been discussed regularly at our board and annual meetings. One comment was to "lobby" to remove the "authorities" that take the water out of the chain. That would be the Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company, which is a chartered organization of the state to control all of the many river

- reservoirs (we are the North Pelican Flowage) and we would never have enough clout to do that. (ref: '06 Summer Newsletter).

I want to thank those that responded with their appreciation for the Newsletter and their thanks to the Association for "doing a good job". It's the volunteer members on the Board of Directors and the various committees that make this organization tick. I pass that thanks and appreciation on to them.

FYI

#### **INCORPORATED LAKE ASSOCIATION**

##### **POWERS:**

Require dues/raise funds  
Borrow money (loans will need to be secured by assets)  
Make contracts  
Acquire and sell property  
Sue and be sued\*  
Have educational programs  
Communicate with units of government & others  
Conduct lake management activities

##### **ACTIVITIES**

Monitor water quality  
Inventory/monitor aquatic plants  
Manage invasive/nuisance aquatic plants  
Restore wetlands  
Develop erosion control programs  
Develop long-range lake management plans  
Develop erosion control programs

VS

#### **INCORPORATED LAKE DISTRICT**

##### **POWERS:**

Levy taxes and impose special assessments and special charges  
Operate water safety patrols  
Make contracts  
Enact boating regulations  
Exercise sanitary district powers  
Be eligible for state lake grants  
Borrow money (loans will need to be secured by assets)  
Make contracts  
Acquire and sell property  
Sue and be sued\*

##### **ACTIVITIES:**

Monitor water quality  
Inventory/monitor aquatic plants  
Manage invasive /nuisance aquatic plants  
Purchase lands to protect sensitive areas  
Restore wetlands

Develop long-range lake management plans  
Have educational programs  
Communicate with units of government & others

Some of the most important benefits to an incorporated lake association relate to the personal liability of its members and officers. This creates a "separate entity" and drastically reduces the exposure of liability for volunteers, directors, officers and members. In the event of a lawsuit, typically only the assets of the corporation are at risk.

#### **STUFF**

- The average household income of a runner in the NYC marathon is 135K.
- 72% of folks pull their toilet paper off the roll from the top.
- 40% of US dogs are overweight.

#### **AIS**

Our activities in the area of AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) continues. The spring Newsletter will provide information of the '09 summer activities. We will need volunteers to monitor the boat launch site. Begin now deciding that this year you will help protect YOUR property and lake waters.

In that vein, let me recall the "Adopt-a-Shoreline" program for you. We ask that you, the property owner (and/or members of your family), inspect your shoreline and the riparian waters of that shoreline, for invasive species, flotsam, and the like, once or twice a week or as your time "up Nort" allows and complete a VERY short report form (Aquatic Invasives Presence/Absence Report (AIP/AR). This can take only a few minute of your time. Contact Kathy Winkler at 715-369-1868 for more information, identification literature, training and report forms. We have a number of trained members that can help you get started. Member or not, this is an extremely important part of the Association's (& should be your) efforts to keep the chain of lakes clean and free of AIS. More this spring.

#### **VOLUNTEER BOAT INSPECTORS ARE TRUE CONSERVATIONISTS**

Submitted by: Dan Carlson, NPL#4

(Paraphrased from the Vilase County News Review)

As the threat of AIS increases we are fortunate that true conservatinists have stepped forward to protect our lakes. The DNR reports that 5,112 hours were logged by volunteer boat inspectors during 2008, accounting for an incredible 44% of the total volunteer effort in Wisconsin.

Because of their dedication and hard work, we (have acquired) vital information: 16% of boats had plants attached when arriving at the landing, and that 25% of the boats had been in another water body in the previous five days. This illustrates the imortance of having trained inspectors who can effectively approach people who are (using the lakes) and inspect their boats and gain their support.

The program meant the inspection of a record 41,656 boats across the state and some of these boats and trailers contained Eurasian Water Milfoil and other invasives that threaten (our lakes). A total of 91,706 people were contacted about the CLEANBOATS/CLEANWATER message.

However, 2008 was only three-quarters of what volunteers did in 2007! Why? Past effectiveness? Shift in volunteer efforts? Burnout? For whatever reason (all of us) should be extremely supportive of the volunteer program because it is staffed by citizens who care about the states (and your) resources. This volunteer effort is the most cost effective method to combat (AIS) and other invasive problems .

\* Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day, Teach him to fish and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day

\*\*If the #2 pencil is the most popular pencil, why is it still #2?

\*\*\*One nice thing about an egotist, they don't talk about other people.

**FROM THE MURKY BOTTOM**

On February 17, 2009 about 15 million analog TV sets will be rendered obsolete because of the transition from analog to digital transmission. Only 25% are expected to be recycled and this is important because one TV set put in the trash can leak eight pounds of lead into the environment. If you are going to dump your set the following may offer help in researching how.

- Initially call your recycling center, some will not accept TVs, others limit acceptance. A fee may be charged with pickup and/or drop off.
- Go online with the Consumer Electronics Association (CEA) at: ([www.mygreenelectronics.org](http://www.mygreenelectronics.org)) or contact [www.earth911.org](http://www.earth911.org). Enter your Zip code and a list of recycling centers appears with addresses and phone numbers. You can also contact the U.S. Environmental Hotline. Dial 1-800-253-2687
- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) lists it's "plug-in" partners on their web site: [www.epa.gov/rcc/plugin](http://www.epa.gov/rcc/plugin), which will transfer you to corporate sites that describe their recycling programs.
- Go directly to the manufacturers and retailers like Sony, Best Buy and others who have their own recycle plans.

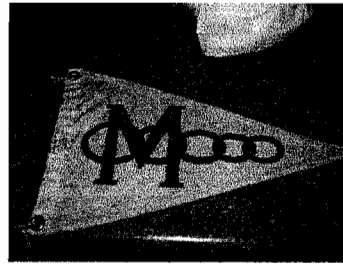
**DON'T BURN BABY, DON'T BURN - PROTECTING OUR PROPERTY**

Getting ready for spring, are you? 36% of all wildfires in Wisconsin are related to debris burning. As announced in an earlier Newsletter, the DNR has begun a new form of burning permit issuance. Landowners can receive a one-time ANNUAL permit for vegetative debris burning. With the permit you have two daily options: 1. Call a toll free phone number or, 2. check the DNR website. When you select the county in which you intend to burn, you will be informed as to the current daily burning restrictions. Since 98% of wildfires are human related, the DNR hopes that this method will be more convenient for the landowner and help fire officials to more efficiently suspend permits during high fire danger times. Remember, the landowner must have the permit available upon request and a citation can be issued if it is not. For more information about the process visit: [www.dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fire](http://www.dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fire).

Some Associations have formed Fire prevention committees to work with landowners on how to best protect their property from wildfires. The advantage is obvious to the landowner and the Association receives Hazard Mitigation funds to begin the program. This would entail helping landowners clear brush, trim trees, remove dead and downed wood and help or haul away the results. My question to you is whether or not we should have such a committee? The function of the committee could vary quite a bit from the above description of activities. Advisory only would be a good start.

**MOEN CHAIN LAKE ASSOCIATION PENNANT**

The Program and Event committee, co-chaired by Liz Richmond and Sally Latimer, have been very busy recreating the original Association's Pennant. In



those bygone days the members met monthly to celebrate all of that month's birthdays. Want one? They're \$11.00 Contact the Richmonds. @ 369-3426. A mounting clamp for the boat will be available soon.

Liz & Sally are also busy putting together an exciting program for the annual meeting. Be sure to put the date on your calendar. Thank you ladies.

**DATES TO REMEMBER in 2009**

January 1-Dues are due, dozey doe to the check book  
April 13,7:00PM Spring Board meet, 3302 Cottage Rd  
July11.Annual Meeting, 10:00AM @ Pine Valley.

I look forward to seeing you ALL at the meeting.  
Let's have a huge turnout and run out of donuts and coffee!!  
Might even have door prizes??

Walt Gager

**MOEN LAKE CHAIN ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

PERMANENT ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

RHINELANDER ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

e-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW RENEW UNSUBSCRIBE