



Moen Beams

moenlakechain.org

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 2

Spring, 2011

EDITOR: WALT GAGER

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Newsletter:
W. Gager

++On January 1, 2011++
Annual Dues: \$20.00
Mail to:
El Felton
4182 Shady Lane
Rhineland, WI 54501

ANNUAL PICNIC: 8 / 21

ANNUAL MEETING:
10:00AM, JULY 9, 2011
PINE VALLEY LODGE
3980 LAKE SHORE DR

++INSIDE++

Our towns
Trolling.....
About "Troll..."
Nokomis Lake...
Rain Garden
Adopt-a- Shore
Hidden pollut...
Board meeting
PERCH ALERT
Fishwys
"Recycled Fish"
Picnic

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

"A Little madness in the Spring,
Is wholesome, even for a king"

Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

As I write this President's Column on April 16, for our spring edition of the Moen Beams, I'll have to agree with Dickinson, that spring in the Northwoods certainly brings some madness. In just the past two weeks our spring has been "lion-like" with 16 inches of snow, then 70 degree weather followed by fierce storms and today more snow! I hope a more "lamb-like" spring will soon be forthcoming.

We did receive good news this past week that we have received yet another Aquatic Invasive Species Control grant from the DNR in the amount of \$6,030.00. A sincere thank you goes to Dan Carlson who stepped in at the 11th hour to be our "Clean Boats/Clean Water" (CBCW) committee chair and worked with me to get this grant application into the DNR within the allowed timeline. This is fabulous news, given the severe cuts to all state agencies, including the DNR. These grant funds will again allow us to hire a coordinator to recruit and train, if necessary, volunteers to screen watercraft traffic that enters and leaves your lake chain at the public landing. Survey after survey has confirmed that the most effective way to educate lake and river users about the perils of aquatic invasives is to interact with them at the landings where they launch their watercraft.

Of course these grant funds will accomplish nothing if our Moen Chain Lake Association membership will not "step up to the plate" and volunteer to be water craft monitors and shoreline inspectors this coming season. Make a plan now to set some weekend time aside to do your part to keep your beautiful lake chain free of invasive species. So, when our CBCW volunteer coordinator calls, you will be ready to commit to several 2 hour blocks of time to help monitor water craft.

Have a great remainder of our spring season and look for Sally and me on Your waters on our pontoon boat or in our kayaks.
Dan Kuzlik

In concert with Dan's note may I just add: Although we hope ALL property owners will become a member of the Association, you need NOT be a member to volunteer to monitor water craft at the landing.

ALSO

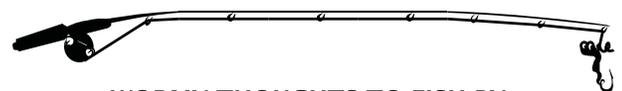
Please remember to keep track of the hours you spend monitoring your own shoreline and/or lake waters. Those hours at the end of the summer collectively weigh heavily in our ability to continue the aquatic invasive prevention activities we perform.

ALSO

Note the dates of the annual meeting above the "INSIDE" notices and the date and time of the annual picnic at the Kuzlik's

This Newsletter and all future Newsletters will be sent to all property owners on the chain. In order to accomplish this we need to send out as many via the electronic media as possible. This saves a great deal of money AND you get all the pictures in living "Technicolor". Please send your e-ddresses OR ANY CHANGES to our secretary, Bonnie Montgomery at:

3116 E. Cottage Road
Rhineland, WI 54501
or
bonseden@gmail.com



WORMY THOUGHTS TO FISH BY

Knowledge is knowing that a tomatoe is a fruit,
Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

You do not need a parachute to skydive, you only need a parachute to skydive twice.

OUR TOWNS

Our chain of six lakes fall within the jurisdiction of three separate townships. Each has a similar but different history. Where did they come from? This is the first of four articles in the series –

TROLLING FOR HISTORY

*T.V.Olsen, "Oneida County", 1847-1987

I. The Geographic Anatomy & Early Regional History

Our lake chain, in as all northern Wisconsin, was formed by the five separate arms of the Wisconsin glacier. It was the Chippewa lobe that covered most of Oneida County*. The state, incorporated in 1848, consolidated the county borders, divided them into sections and then townships.

The Township of Pine Lake includes all of Moen Lake within its eastern border with the exception of the "narrows" and Cambria Point. Those two geographic points are supposed to be in the Town of Stella. The straight south line of the western border continues to include some of the western shore of Second Lake and the eastern one third of Third Lake.

The Township of Stella's western border cuts a line straight down from the Moen Lake narrows south to include the above two geographic points, some of the eastern shore of Second Lake and all of the western shore of Third Lake, continuing across Highway C to Limberlost Road. The southern border of Stella moves east just skirting the north edges of North Pelican Lake (4th & 5th).

The Town of Pelican encompasses all of North Pelican Lake and the entire North Pelican river from the outlet at the east end of the lake to the junction with the Wisconsin River in Rhinelander.

The Early Inhabitants

The earliest Indians confirmed in Oneida County were the "Santee" Sioux initially encountered by trappers and explorers in 1618. The Canadian Ojibway (later known here as the "Chippewa") forced the Sioux out in the late 1600s to the early 1800s. One of the last and most savage battles occurred at the junction of the Pelican and Wisconsin rivers.

The first European influence actually began in 1492 when Columbus landed with a papal decree giving the discovery to Spain. The (French & British) arrivals arrived about the same time as the last of the great Indian battles above. Initially, the Indiana Territory comprised all the land west of the Ohio boundary. Wisconsin became a part of St. Claire County, Illinois. When Illinois became a state in 1818, the Michigan Territory (formed in 1805) enlarged. The west border of Michigan annexed Wisconsin and was extended to the Mississippi River, Upper Michigan and north eastern Minnesota were included. The territory was governed in Detroit. Michilimackinac was one of three counties created. The other two being Brown and Crawford.

The Wisconsin Territory was removed from Michigan in 1836. It included what is now the State of Wisconsin and extended west to the Missouri River which included all of Minnesota, Iowa and much of the Eastern Dakotas. In

1844 all of the land west of the Mississippi was detached. Newly formed Portage county now held the future Marathon, Lincoln, Oneida and Vilas counties. Statehood was finally approved by referendum in 1846 and the state was admitted as the 30th state of the Union in 1848.

Oneida county was slow to develop, mostly due to the resistance of the town of Jenny (later Merrill), which formed in the early 1850s. to allow separation. Jenny was part of Marathon at the time. In 1874 the new county of Lincoln was formed from the old Town of Jenny. It encompassed all of the current Lincoln County as well as all of Oneida, Vilas and parts of Langlade, Taylor, Price and Iron Counties.

The Brown Family from Stevens Point founded a settlement in Oneida in 1882 called Rhinelander (formerly Pelican Rapids) because it was in the heart of the great northwoods and they expected it to become the county seat (and, of course, it did). The current Oneida County was organized from part of Lincoln county in 1885. Only two townships were recognized at the time – Pelican and Eagle River. The current boundaries were not finalized until 1893.

Next: The town of Pelican

QUOTABLES?

GIVE a man a fish and he will eat for a day!

TEACH a man to fish and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.

STUFF:

moenlakechain.org

Our web site chairman, Bill Disbrow, has done a bang up job reinventing the site on a regular basis. If you haven't had a chance to visit, please do. I think you will be surprised at all the information available to you. As a matter of fact, the web site has all the information that I can give you in the newsletter and more, with exception to the questionable humor, of course. There is even an archive of past Newsletters.

"TROLLING....."

And that brings me to another point I wish to make (ask). History is very interesting and the families on our chain have a lot of it. We asked in the past to contact us with your family stories. We promise not to print anything you'd prefer not too and even will give you the article before hand for your approval. So, how about it? Can we have your family stories for the "Trolling....." section?

NOKOMIS LAKE DISTRICT

The difference between a lake district and a lake association is that an association is a group of people gathering together under a corporate cover to accomplish something, mostly with volunteers. A lake association has the sanction of their County to gather as an district with the right to tax property owners in order to accomplish certain aims. 51% of the lake property owners must approve in order for one to be created. This is very difficult to do. The lake Nokomis Lake Association sought the latter designation and was refused by the Oneida County Board. The cost of fighting the Invasive Species present there is significant.

We must indeed all hang together, or, most assuredly, we will all hang together
Ben Franklin

RAIN GARDENS

What is a Rain Garden? It's a planted area that absorbs rain runoff preventing the runoff from getting directly into the lake. Basically, they are a way to beautify your yard and improve water quality at the same time. Rain Gardens are one of the mitigation systems that can be used if the impervious surfaces on your property exceed the limit in the new regulations. (Remember, impervious surfaces include asphalt or concrete surfaces, hard packed gravel and the square footage of your roof area). This is nature's way of protecting your waters. This is why property owners are encouraged not to clear their shoreline. The natural growth there protects the lake.

Think about this; grass roots go only as deep into the ground as the grass is tall. Native wildflower roots go deeper – twice as deep or more! They absorb more water, allow better filtration of runoff and thereby protect the lake waters. Runoff can contain a whole host of contaminants such as fertilizers, pesticides, pet waste and more.

These gardens can be planted anywhere the runoff flows. That means that it doesn't necessarily have to be right at the shoreline. The rain garden area can be 1/3 the size of the runoff area so they don't take up an inordinate amount of land surface. They can be wild or formal plantings.

This summer is a good time to begin planning where you will put your new RAIN GARDEN and what plants you want to enjoy. Next fall is the ideal time to plant. Begin now while you're excited!

ADOPT-A-SHORELINE

This is a program that is poorly understood and needs to get your attention and personal support. It can be done at your leisure, no one will call (almost) and all you have to do is enjoy your shoreline and near waters and their natural inhabitants.

Simply put, our CB/CW coordinator, Kathy Winkler, will provide you with a record sheet on which you record your observations on anything different, new, contaminants, flotsom, dead fish, funny aquatic growths, etc.

Your observations are important but the time you spend observing is just as important. You can do this while just enjoying the lake as you do most every day. No special trips needed unless you want to make a regular schedule. The time spent on each observation helps with the aggregate of all of us at the end of the season. The observation and the time spent go into the report to the DNR. This volunteer effort helps the DNR track problems with lakes and helps protect your lake. It also helps obtain annual DNR grants to fight invasive species on your behalf.

The second call to collect the information may be the only one if you make the first call to Kathy to get the needed forms. SO! It's your lake, help protect it. Sign up now!

Kathy Winkler (Coordinator)
715-369-1868

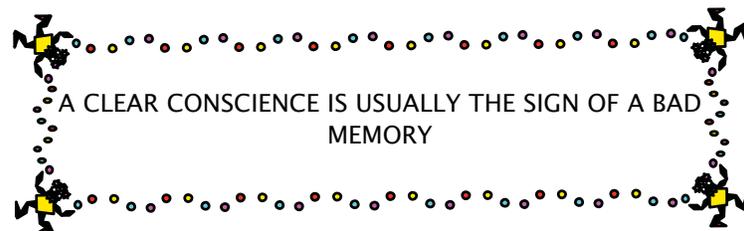
Dan Carlson (Chair, CB/CW)
715-369-9162

Probably your biggest concern about your lake is the level and water quality. So far we have been successful in keeping our chain clear of Eurasian Milfoil and zebra mussels. Your help is critical to a continued success. **You don't have to be a member.**

HIDDEN POLLUTION

Besides surface runoff pollution there are other sources that are not so apparent. One of them is the septic system. Oneida County has mandated a three year cycle of tank inspection and reporting. Each tank must be drained (pumped) and inspected. The result must be reported to the county. In the recent past, only those tanks back to 1980 installations were included. Now, ALL tanks are in the mandate. So, now is the time to jump the line and get yours pumped and inspected before the mandate gets to you.

Another source of hidden pollution is the type of soap you use. Check to see that your laundry and dish washer soap contain no phosphorus (-ates).



BOARD MEETING

The spring Board of Directors meeting, including all committee chairs, was held at President Dan Kuzlik's home on April 11, 2011. The highlights are:

-Following acceptance of last falls meeting and the treasurer's report Dan Carlson, Chair of both the CB/CW and channel marker committees, summarized last years battle to prevent invasive species and the New DNR grant.

-Carlson then described the necessity to repair and/or replace many of the marker pipes and caps. A pipe bender was approved for purchase to straighten pipes.

-Water Quality is stable. The water level is normal but the color is darker due to the washing out of the wetlands by the heavy rains last year.

-In Bill Disbrow's absence, the web site was discussed and the committee chairs were asked to submit a summary of their mission. Bill has asked for more input from the membership toward experiences or history. (Great site, visit it)

-Membership chairperson, Sue Ohman, discussed the recent letter sent to all property owners pleading for more active members. We now have almost half of all property owners but would like to have all of you. (dues are a reasonable \$20)

-The Gus Tuskey account remains intact. The Association is trying to develop an appropriate activity for it.

-Program/event chair, Sally Latimer, discussed the possible programs for the annual meeting on Saturday, July 9th.

-Gager made a plea for more contributions to the Newsletter.

-Tom Cutler discussed the long term planning briefly.

-Gary Berweger discussed the "Loon Watch" Program. Information is available on the website if you are interested in participating. There are two categories of involvement: one is to monitor and count. The second is to participate in the identification and follow of the birds.

One of the real hazards for the survival of the loon is the lead in fishing gear. Autopsies confirm up to 30% die from lead ingestion.

Our website follows of the loons as they travel south. Cool!

PERCH ALERT

DNR John Kibisiak, told Gary that a perch with tissue resembling "cooked white meat" was reported found in Moen Lake. He would like to hear from anyone with a similar experience. He is concerned that it could be a Heterosporis virus. Contact: dnr.wi.gov/fish/health/heterosporis for info.

-Gary also spoke with fisheries biologist John Kubisiak about fish stockng. Kubisiak said that the "habitat of our chain was adequate to support natural reproduction". "No stocking is required or recommended. Past stocking was limited" and probably was "to satisfy social pressures rather than a biological need".

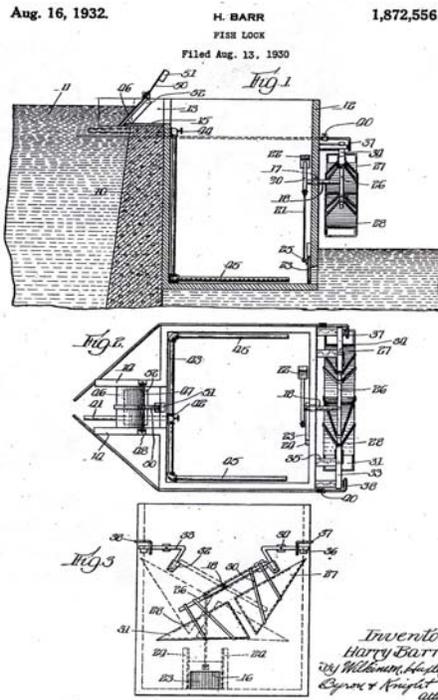
FISH LADDERS

At the annual meeting a question was raised about "fish ladders" and whether or not there should be one on the Pelican Dam.

Berweger asked Kibisiak and he described the past use of a fish ladder or lift that once graced the Pelican River Dam. In the early years there was a ladder or fishway on the east side of the sluice way. It was removed in the late 1940s because the fish entering the lake were determined to be "undesirable".

The original fishway was patented by Harry Barr in 1932. It was not a "ladder" but a "bucket" lift. The fish on the downstram side would swim into the open "bucket" which would then raise up to the upstream level and dump them into a large holding tank from which the fish could swim out a small opening into lake. Monitoring of the fishways ultimately found them ineffective. What the fishways were passing were rough fish, like suckers, and other species that were detrimental to the lake. The fishways were discontinued in 1947 then removed.

THE BARR TYPE FISH LOCK Patented August 16, 1932



Visit Our website for a more.

"RECYCLED FISH"

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, April 20, 2011

Recycled Fish is a non-profit organization that encourages "catch and release". The idea is to protect our fishing waters and at the same time maintain a healthy supply of fish. "A recently released report from the **Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies** found allmost 40% of the nations freshwater fish species are considered at risk or vulnerable to extinction". "Fishing pressure is reducing the size structure and population of panfish".

Recycled Fish encourages anglers to "expand their roles as stewards to decisions they make off the water". An example is to be sure never to transport invasive species and aid in educating others. They have developed a "Sportsman's Stewardship Pledge":

- ✓ I Pledge to live a Lifestyle of Stewardship on and off the water. Living as a steward means making choices throughout my daily life that benefit lakes, streams and seas – and the fish that swim in them – because my Lifestyle Runs Downstream.
- ✓ I will learn the fish and game laws where I hunt or fish and always abide by them.
- ✓ I will practice Catch & Release and Selective Harvest faithfully and responsibly.
- ✓ I will "police my resource" by turning in poachers and reporting polluters.
- ✓ I will make up for "the other guy" by cleaning up liter wherever my adventures take me.
- ✓ I will boat safely and responsibly, never trespass, and treat other enthusiasts respectfully.
- ✓ I will take steps to see that my home, lawn, vehicle, workplace and everyday lifesstyle are as fish-friendly as I can make them by reducing my water, energy, material and chemical footprint.
- ✓ I will encourage others to take on this ethic and will connect others with the outdoors to grow the stewardshop community.
- ✓ I choose to serve as a role model in protecting what remain and recovering what's been lost of our wild and natural places.

To take the pledge or for more information: recycledfish.org

THE LAST RITES

Newspaper folk say "put her to bed" when the edition is ready to print. I never know whether or not the Newsletter is ready to read or just ready for recycled paper. Another reason for you all to **send your e-ddress** so I don't have to worry so much.

The Don'ts:

- forget to pay your annual dues. They're due January 1 (\$20)
- forget the annual meeting on July 9 at Pine Valley Lodge.
- forget the annual picnic at the Kuzlik home on August 21.
- forget to volunteer for boat launch monitor time(s).



g'Nite.....!

ed

MOEN LAKE CHAIN ASSOCIATION, Inc.

Order Blank and Membership Application page

For **EMBROIDERED APPAREL** mail or call:

METRO PRINTING - 510 LINCOLN STREET, RHINELANDER, WI 54501 - 715-365-3195

PENNANTS	Qty	\$\$\$\$	TOTAL
(Mounting clips &/or posts at Shoeder Marine (See Casey)	_____	11.00	_____

SILK SCREENED APPAREL: (Large MLCA logo on front with Red M and Black Chain)

ORDER (CIRCLE):	COLOR	SIZE	QUANTITY	\$\$\$\$	\$ TOTAL
Tee shirt:	GREY	YOUTH	_____	13.00	_____
Long Sleeve Tee Shirt	WHITE	SMALL	_____	16.00	_____
Crew Neck Sweatshirt	KHAKI	LARGE	_____	23.00	_____
Hooded Sweatshirt		X LARGE	_____	28.00	_____
		XX LARGE	_____		_____

DARK COLORS:

REQUIRE DIFERENT MLCA LOGO COLORS

CHECK WITH METRO FOR MATERIAL & LOGO COLORS, PROVIDE LIZ WITH CHOICE FOR ORDER

**NOTE: METRO REQUIRES A MINIMUM ORDER OF 12 WITH THE SAME LOGO BEFORE PROCESSING DARK COLORS

MODIFICATIONS AVAILABLE:

LARGE LOGO ON BACK ONLY

SMALL LOGO ON FRONT ONLY

SMALL LOGO ON FRONT, LARGE LOGO ON BACK (EXTRA CHARGE PER SIRT): _____ \$3.00 _____

MAY REQUEST DIFFERENT LIGHT COLORED MATERIALS WITH STANDARD RED "M" & BLACK "CHAIN"

COLOR REQUESTED: _____ ORDER TOTAL: \$ _____

SEND TO: Liz Richmond, 1840 W. Placita del Zacaton, Green Valley, AZ 85614

HAVE ?? AZ:520-393-1967; WI: 715-362-3426 OR SALLY LATIMER: 715-362-1714

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

PERMANENT ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

RHINELANDER ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____

e-mail address: _____ DUES: \$ _____

CONATION: \$ _____

TOTAL: _____

NEW

RENEW

UNSUBSCRIBE

MAIL TO: EL FELTON, TREASURER, 4182 SHADY LANE, RHINELANDER, WI 545-1