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moenlakechain.org

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Spring, 2012

FROM THE PRESIDENT

*They come! The merry summer months
Of beauty, song and flowers;
They come! The gladsome months
That bring thick leafiness to the bowers.*

*William Motherwell
1797-1835*

What a fun and different spring we have had. Warm and sunny weather one day and snow flurries the next! The good news is that summer is coming and, for the most part, we have actually had a spring. And in keeping with the spirit of the season, your lake association held its spring meeting on April 16. At that meeting, Dan Carlson reported that the new channel markers have been delivered and Dan and his committee will be placing them in early May. Some other related good news is that member DuWayne Witter has donated a 20 foot pontoon boat and a 25 horsepower motor to our lake association. We will use this craft as a "buoy barge" to place the channel markers. In other good news we have received word that the DNR has approved our Clean Boats Clean Waters grant for the 2012 year and our CBCW Coordinator, Kathy Winkler, will be back with us again this season. Plan to make Kathy's job easier, as well as to help protect our lake waters from invasive aquatic species, by contacting Kathy at 715-369-1868 and letting her know that you and other family members can be counted on to donate some volunteer hours at the public landing educating boaters about their AIS prevention responsibilities. And if you have not paid your lake association dues yet for 2012, use the membership form contained in this newsletter to get paid up for this year. You can also show pride in your lake association by proudly wearing or displaying MCLA shirts, caps, jackets and flags. Contact Sally Latimer at 715-362-1714 to find out how to purchase these items. I'll be looking forward to seeing you at our MCLA Annual Meeting on July 7 and give me a wave when you pass me in my pontoon boat or kayak as we all navigate our beautiful lake chain this boating season.

Dan

ANNUAL MEETING

THE MEETING WILL OCCUR ON JULY 7 AT 10:00 AM

Pine Valley Lodge.

"Clean Sweep" precede

Progam - TBA

ANNUAL PICNIC

SCHEDULED AUGUST 5th

Birchwood Lodge

President: Dan Kuzlik, Vice President: Tom cutler, Secretary: Bonnie Montgomery, Treasurer: El Felton
Board of Directors: J. Pederson, Dave Hanson, Sue Ohman, George Schroeffer,
Committee Chairs: Gary Berweger, Dan Carlson, Bill Disbrow, Sally Latimer, Jim Pederson, Walt Gager (Editor)

TROLLING FOR HISTORY

Several years ago the Association received a donation, via Larry Worth, of \$600 in memory of Gus Tuske. Larry wanted to create an annual "fishing experience" for children, especially the under privileged and challenged. A real attempt to accomplish his vision was made but due to inadequate equipment, launching facilities and personell for such an idea, it never came to fruition.

Who were the donors? Who was Gus Tuske? Where is the money now? What will it be used for? Why didn't I answer these questions as long time ago?

Gus Tuske, and wife Edna, owned a cottage near the Birchwood Lodge. Rita and Sandy are two remaining of three daughters and the source of the donation. Gus frequented the Birchwood and became a good friend of Larry Worth. Gus loved to fish.

The Gus Tuske family moved to Rhinelander in 1946. They established residence on Moen Lake, renting James Cleary's cottage on "Wood Pecker Lane", now known as Moen Lake Road. (A wood pecker sign is still mounted near the entrance to the road). Later they built a home on Cresent Lake.

Gus's life began in farming and after the move here – trucking but he had love for the Moen lake chain of lakes – fishing.

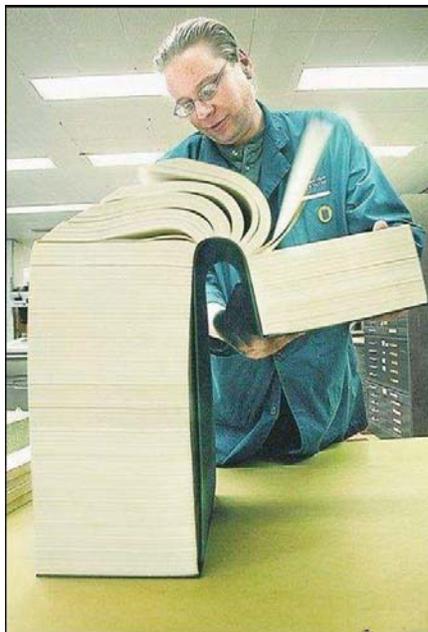
Rita and Sandy (and Lola, now deceased) were born in Monches (Town of Erin), Wisconsin and were just beginning their teen years during the move north. At age 11 or 12ish, both worked at Birchwood Lodge in the kitchen, cleaning cabins, as the salad girls and in the summer the "Ice Tea" girls. After their move to Rhinelander, while a home was being built on Crescent Lake, Rita babysat for Dr. Kirsch's children and later worked at the candy counter in the Newberry Dime Store (as did Sandy). After high school Rita moved to Deaconess hospital in Milwaukee for nursing school.

Ralph Staus and Rita were married in 1961 and recently celebrated their fiftieth anniversary. They have one son, two daughters and seven grandchildren. After graduating from Mortician's School, Ralph worked at several Schmidt-Bartelt outlets ultimately buying his own funeral home in Sheboygan Falls. Rita performed general nursing initially but became an operating Room nurse later.

After high school Sandy enrolled in LincolnCounty Teacher's College married and Dick Eddy in 1956. the couple moved to Rhinelandeer in 1958 and had six children. Later, Sandy married LaVerne Gasser in 1990. He died in 1994. At the time they owned a cottage on Jenny Weber Lake.

Both ladies held the memories of Moen Lake and the Birchwood Lodge close to their hearts and decided to do something to remember their father Gus Tuske. With their permission the monies they initially donated will now be used to refurbish the channel marker fleet. The Association contributed enough added money to the Gus Tuske fund to raise the total to \$1,000.

Rita and Sandy live in Rhinelander and have been invited to attend the annual meeting in July this year.



Our next Summer Newsletter?

Actually, there are plans afoot to phase out the Newsletter. Why? The cost, (We want to continue to keep our dues low), not enough members plus a duplication of the content. Bill Disbrow, our very competent web master, has done such a great job with the website that the Newsletter is rapidly becoming irrelevant. Anything you can read here is usually

present on the site earlier. The site also has massive additional content. Just about everybody has access to the internet now. An individual can tune to the site at their leisure.

The Board has asked all the committee chairs to contribute quarterly to the website about their activities. If you haven't logged on yet, please visit us at:
moenchainassociation.org

If this change occurs, it won't happen until 2013 (If at all)

NOW, for those that do not have access, or prefer the Newsletter in print. A version of the website content can be sent. If you fall into this category contact the Secretary at: 715-362-1253.

NOT A MEMBER?

If you are not a current member, or would like to update your membership, there is a link to a membership application. Now is a good time to join and make your voice heard. We want all the property owners to have a say in protecting our chain. (Also, added manpower would help with some of our programs). \$20.00 is a small sum, everybody can afford it. Dues in other lake associations are much higher. If AIS ever gets into our waters you would be unhappy. Wouldn't you like to be one of those preventing that from happening. If it does, we will all have to shell out BIG money to combat them. Pay the small dues fee. Help protect YOUR property. Take pride being involved. Help take the preventive action now. You needn't be a full time resident to participate. Your voice helps. C'mon, now is the time to step up and be counted. Be proactive. Be part of it. The Association IS on your side!

WORMY THOUGHTS TO FISH BY

No piece of paper can be folded more than seven times

The King of Hearts is the only King without a mustache

The first barcoded product was Wrigley's Gum

Venus is the only planet that rotates clockwise

THE "NUZ"

Long Term Planning

Vice President Tom Cutler had been hard at work on the Long Term Planning Committee. Tom is approaching the final phases of work and has asked property owners to identify concerns and make suggestions for the Chains future. The following is a short note from Tom:

There has been a good response to our website survey so far, and Tom encourage more contributions from all of you as he will soon compile and categorize your concerns and suggestions in preparation for presentation to the Association and you all for action.

A New Project Committee has been formed that will encompass projects meant to increase the quality and use of our lakes for all property owners and visitors. The Committee will begin to phase in activities as the Long Term Planning Committee presents it's conclusions and recommendations in the near future.

One of the projects to be pursued by the New Projects Committee will be working with the DNR in order to determine if our waters can sustain the perrennial natural reproduction of "wild rice" beds that we once had. The locations of two pevious beds are known (one each in North Pelican Fourth and Fifth Lakes). They will be used as a starting project for the restoration.

Another project would be for several members interested in doing research to identify the source of grants that could be used for the protection/enhancement of our waters and shorelines. The research could be performed in a casual fashion from ones home via the telephone, internet or mail. This may be a way to identify helpful landscaping, reduce erosion, improve lighting, prevent accidents, improve fishing, communication and more for us all.

If you would like to help on the New Projects Committee grant search or other upcoming projects, please contact me at: labsblk@frontier.com. Thank you, Tom Cutler.

Now is the time, folks, to step up and assume the responsibility for the future of YOUR take by active participation. You don't have to be a member of the Association to help but certainly the \$20 annual dues wouldn't hurt anyone.

WORK BOAT CONTRIBUTION

The Association is the recipient of an older Pontoon boat and motor through the generosity of DuWayne Witter of Rocky Road. The boat and motor needed some work and El Felton and Gary Berweger are doing that labor of love now. the boat is intended for the placement and removal of channel makers. As we have informed you in the past, new markers will be installed in phases beginning this spring. The old markers have performed way past their intended life. The new ones will be a combination of post and float types. The post type makers will be placed where it's too shallow to use the float type. The "work boat" will facilitate the removal of the float markers in the fall. Dan Carlson is the Chair of the Marker committee and is always open to offers of help. Contact Dan at: northpelicandan@yahoo.com.

CLEAN BOATS/CLEAN WATER

Efforts continue under the leadership of Dan Carlson to fight the invasion of unwanter plants and aquatic animals into our waters. However, in past Newsletters I told you that a Rusty Crawfish had been "sighted" but not confirmed. Well, one has now been confirmed. So far this is the only invasive water creature identified here. You are probably aware that Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) has been confirmed in the rhinelander flowage.



All the more reason for all of us to join hands and become active with the Association to prevent the same here.

AND pay attention to the next **TWO** articles.

ADOPT-A-SHORELINE

Our CB/CW coordinator, Kahy Winkler has done a superb job scheduling folks for the two hour monitoring shifts of boats entering and leaving Moen Lake at the launch site. However, an even more important job monitoring YOUR riparian (beachs) property is waning. We think the reporting system has made you all shy away from performing this simple chore. Now there are two ways to report your findings.

But first, what is this program? Simply stated, it is the time you spend inspectig your shoreline and the lake water and lake bottom in front of your property for anything you see that appears there unnaturally. For example: Beer cans, foam cups, plastic bottles, tennis balls, other flotsam, etc. More important, if you see an aquatic plant, snail, leech, or? that you have never seen before. Simply collect it, place it in water, call any member of the Association board (call me) so that it can be sent to the DNR for identification. You willl get a full report. We pick it up!

Now, here comes the part that people probably want to avoid but it is just as, or even more important, as above. Keep track of the time you spend doing this. That time must be reported to the DNR at the end of each summer season so that we can continue to receive cooperative grants under the States (DNR) Citizen help program. This time record can be downloaded from the webbsite and/or paper emailed to Kathy monthly or at the end of the summer. Please perform this simple job at your own speed and convenience.

CLEAN SWEEP

This program was instituted three years ago to occur in the hour before our annual meeting. A member of the DNR would be present to identify ANY plant, aquatic or shoreline, or ANY animal that you find on your property or in the water that you wish to identify. Written reports are completed right there. So far we have not found any invasive plants but we have identified several species that are rare but native. This is also a chance to learn more about the lake bottom plantss in your riparian spaces. These plants are important for health of the lakes. Learn how to live with them. Bring one or more specimans. then attend the meeting, member or not.

SPEAKING ABOUT MARKERS.....

When it was announced that we had to replace many, if not all the present markers, members and nonmembers were immediately helpful. Without a formal request for financial help, money came in. Many folks doubled (or more) their annual dues. Over \$420 has been sent in voluntarily. The Board wants to thank all you generous folks. It is just one more reminder that we have a viable organization that members support.

Marker Chair Dan Carlson had to submit requests to the three townships plus triplicate grant requests to the DNR in hopes for monetary support to offset the cost. (in the range of \$2,500).

The new markers are really neat. Most will be floaters and therefore must be go in and out annually. This will be made easier with the "work boat".

These markers are friendly for those individuals that are color blind. Their shape is different. The "domed" one is for red, the "flat topped" one is for green.

Contact Dan: 715-369-9162 If you would like to be on the marker committee.

WATER QUALITY (Jim Pederson)

The committee continues to measure the quality of the water throughout the chain. Clarity, chemical content (Phosphorus, etc), and the depth. Our water levels are normal for this time of year. The reports sent to the DNR show that there have been some fluctuations over the past few years but are stable when compared to years past. Jim covers Moen Lake and Don Mevis covers N.P. Fifth Lake. Thanks gentlemen.

FISH & HABITAT (Gary Berweger)

Gary invites you all to participate in the **Nineteenth Annual Fishing Has No Boundaries**. Lake of the Torches is a sponsor and it is held on the Eagle River Chain on June 1-3. The organization is based at the Wild Eagle Lodge this year. This is an event for individuals with disabilities guided by qualified professionals and volunteers. There are door prizes and much, much more. Registration is limited to 120. A telephone call and \$10 by May first holds your reservation. If you would like to sponsor an individual, it costs \$30. For information: 715-479-9309 wbc1@newnorth.net

WHO SAID THAT?

Be careful about reading health books,
you may die of a misprint!
Mark Twain

Santas Clause has the right idea: Visit
people only once a year.
Victor Borge

ELECTIONS

BYLAWS:

President & vice President may be elected for a one year term for three consecutive years

Secretary/Treasurer may be elected for a one term for four consecutive years.

Board members may be elected for three year staggered terms.

President:

Dan Kuzlik

Vice President:

Tom Cutler

Secretary:

Bonnie Montgomery

Treasurer:

El Felton

Board:

(confirm '11 -14)

Sue Ohman

(Elect)

one member: '12-'15

WEBSITE (Bill Disbrow)

Our website is a wonderful place for news, weather and sports" (fishing). Our Web Master, Bill Disbrow, has done a bang up job creating an interesting and easy to use instrument. The information contained on the site should be "must" reading for all property owners. It is a place where an individual can get information on how to contact any of the board members or committee chairs. The site is a wealth of information about our chain and the activities of the Association. There's even a full Archive of past Newsletters dating back ten years.

For example, when you go to the site the opening page gives you immediate glimpses of: Association activities: long range planning; Clean Boats/Clean Water, Loon Watch; weather; fishing information, bag limits, tournaments, fish habitat, etc.); Boating news and information on the DNR required boating safety course.

On the right side of the page a full index of links under the headings of "Our Chain", "Life on the Moen" and "Walk the Talk"; membership information as well as how to obtain Chain Gear (pennant, T-shirts, etc.); a photo gallery and much more. Bill is still hoping that folks will contact him and add content to the site. He's looking for human interest, historical vignettes etc. You'll be impressed. We need everybody's input. Become a member, if you aren't one already. (The annual dues remain only \$20.00. Anybody can afford that). Contact us. Make requests. Give suggestions. If you haven't had the opportunity to visit the site, please do.

CONTEST RESULT

Define **PALINDROME**: A word, phrase or a series of numbers that can be read forward or backward.

Example: Otto, Racecar

The challenge: Find the longest word palindrome you can.

The winner: None, no entries offered.

The Prize: A beautiful, hardcover dictionary.

Geez! What did I do wrong? Anybody out there? Is the Newsletter read? You ALL don't like contests? How about your children? Grandchildren?

VOLUNTEERS--(Results of activity)

Volunteer hours last year:

Boat inspection:	362
Adopt a shoreline	153
Clean Sweep	7
Annual meeting	112
Board meetings (2)	53
Water quality	30
Secchi disc	15
Zebra mussle monitors	40
Rusty Crawfish Traps	20
DNR Grant writing	40
Newsletter	32
Miscellaneous	6
TOTAL HOURS	870

(And that's probaboly low)

ANNUAL MEETING

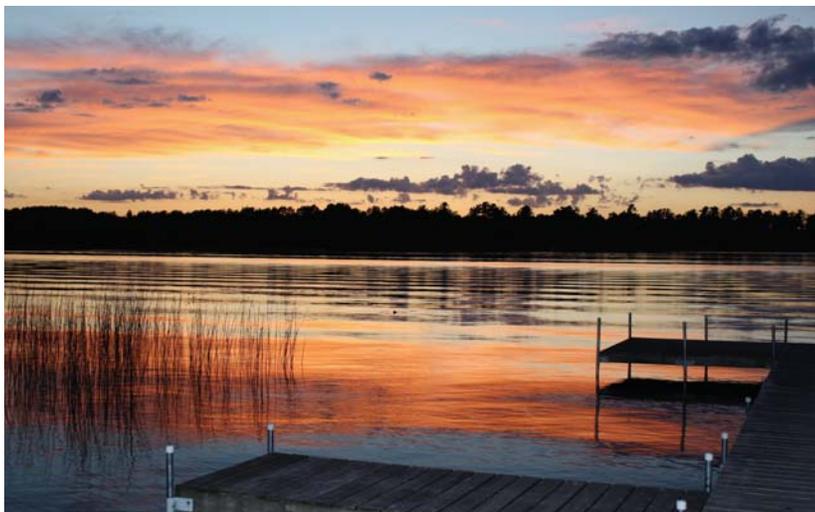
As usual the annual meeting is held on the first Saturday after July 4th. This year the meeting will held on JULY 7 at 10:00AM at Pine Valley Lodge.

CLEAN SWEEP will be held right out front one hour before the meeting begins (9:00 AM). If any of you have any specimens place them in a baggy with a little water to keep them wet. Call Dan or me and we will arrange to pick them up. Remember, non-members are invited to attend.

The program TBA

ANNUAL PICNIC

Currently planned for August 5
Birchwood Lodge
4:00 PM



Ain't
it
a
Beaut?

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

PERMANENT ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS for USPS MAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

e-mail address: _____ DUES: (\$20) \$ _____

DONATION: \$ _____

NEW RENEW UNSUBSCRIBE

TOTAL: \$ _____

MAIL TO: EL FELTON, TREASURER, 4182 SHADY LANE, RHINELANDER, WI 54501