



MoenBeams

moenlakechain.org

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 1

Winter, 2013

ATTENTION Points of interest Inside

'OPEN'
NEXT BOARD
MEETING
APRIL 23
6:00PM
CURRAN BLDG
315 S. ONEIDA.

ANNUAL MEETING
JULY 6
10:AM
PINE VALLEY
LODGE

OPPORTUNITY
KNOCKS
(Elections at the
Annual meeting)

MEET BRYOZOA

BUCKET LIST
Kovacs
planetarium

CALL FOR NEW
MEMBERS

WORMY
THOUGHTS TO
FISH BY

SUMMER PICNIC
Watch for date and
place in Spring
Newsletter

President's Column:

"Like an army defeated,
The snow hath retreated..."

William Wordsworth

As I reread Wordsworth's poem "March" which is referenced above, I recalled that in mid-March of last year, the snow had truly retreated, we were enjoying 70 degree days and the ice had left our lake chain for the season. Not so this year, as we seem to be oh-so-slowly creeping away from winter's icy clutch. But even those of us who enjoy all seasons, including winter, are heartened to dream that in only several weeks from now we will see boats, and not skis or snowshoes, making their way across the 5 lakes in our beautiful Moen's chain.

Looking ahead to our warmer months also reminds me that we have scheduled our lake association's annual meeting for Saturday, July 6. Again we are looking at holding our meeting at the Pine Valley Lodge on Moen's Lake from 10 am until noon. At that meeting we will be presenting a slate of nominees for lake association officers and vacant board seats. To develop a slate of nominees I have asked our current association secretary Bonnie Montgomery and current association treasurer El Felton to join me as a Nominations Committee. But to do our job, we need your help. Please contact any one of us with suggestions of members who you feel would be able to serve the association in one of these positions. Of course we definitely encourage self-nominations, so if you are ready to step forward to provide guidance and stewardship to the Moen's Lake Chain Association, please note our e-mails at the end of this article and give us your suggestions.

Another event scheduled is your MLCA Board of Directors spring meeting which will take place on Tuesday, April 23, at 6:00 pm at the Curran Professional Building at 315 South Oneida Avenue in Rineland. Our board meetings are open to all of our members so feel free to join us as we do our association's business.

In the meantime, get in that last cross-country ski, snowshoe or snowmobile outing or that final ice fishing excursion while you let your mind wander towards the warmer months of our beautiful Northwoods.

Dan Kuzlik, President
Moens Lake Chain Association

SECRETARY'S REQUEST:

Please send in your email address. The cost of mailing the Newsletter is becoming prohibitive. Without your address, you will miss some important notices in the future. **Send to: bonseden@gmail.com**

The ordinary high
water mark

President: Dan Kuzlik, Vice President: Tom Cutler, Secretary: Bonnie Montgomery, Treasurer: El Felton
Board of Directors: J. Pederson '14, Dave Hanson '16, Sue Ohman '14, George Schroepfer '16, Keith Kelling '15
Committee Chairs: Gary Berweger, Dan Carlson, Bill Disbrow, Sally Latimer, Jim Pederson, Walt Gager (Editor)

SOLUTIONS?

To what?

The following response may aggravate you or make you smile, frown, scream and otherwise get your blood boiling. If it does, GREAT! Now do something about it. Join the debate onsite or via the modern communication devices we have at our disposal.

As mentioned, in the Fall, '13, Newsletter, a controversy arose concerning whether or not the Association was acting like a "raging bull in a china shop" forcing decisions on the populace without "due diligence", ie: acting without full disclosure or without asking for input. Contrary to some, the Association has tried to communicate it's action via the Newsletter, the Website and the Annual meeting. Who should this "disclosure" and "input" go to and come from? Paid members? Non members? Who is the Association responsible to? These questions and much more are those that the Board of Directors began to sort through in a recent special meeting.

As I see it, the first question was: to whom is the Association responsible? Is it our Members? Nonmembers? All property owners? The three Townships? The State? I think that question is easy; the Association is primarily responsible to it's members. That said, In my experience, the Association has always moved to represent ALL of the Chain's property owners, if at all possible. Decisions made in the past always took property owners into consideration. Input was always asked for.

The brouhaha that precipitated this debate was the placement of "slow-no-wake" buoys (SNW) in lake 2 1/2 and in the channel between N.P. 4 & 5. Why someone would oppose these safety instruments is beyond me. The buoys were meant only for safety and to remind boaters that there is already a law requiring them to slow down. If the opposition lived in the area in question they might feel differently. This controversy may be a "pig-in-the poke" now because the Townships have verbally opposed their placement - not because of cause or safety, but money. A full discussion will be held on this subject at the Board meeting in April.

Other questions raised: should the Association be concerned with lake safety for all (or just some)? Should the Association be aware of the changing times, the size and use of larger boats and motors? Jet Skis? Should there be times for power boaters and a quiet time for fisherman and slow cruising? What would best keep our lakes the way we want them? How about Lake quality and the control of Aquatic Invasive Species? What would happen if Eurasian Milfoil got into our waters? Do you know what a devastation it can cause? Who would pay? (The answer may frighten you). The Boat launch site? Many more.

The controversy achieved something appropriate: The Association needed a "shot-in-the-arm". Tom Cutler's Long Term Planning Committee made very strong recommendations. Among the first was a complete re-organization of the board and committees. The second was the formation of a "Lakes Committee". Each of the six lakes would have it's own representative, reporting directly to the board. This could help get nonmember property owners to join the Association (and pay the astronomical dues of \$20.00 per annum)?

There are many more things that the you and the leaders of the Association must decide in the near future. Will you help?

With this move to re-organize the Association management and function, there will be many opportunities to participate in programs. If you have a particular interest, please voice it to me (715-369-9142 or wegager@gmail.com) or any one of our Board Members. MLCA will try very hard to meet your expectations.

We all should realize that THIS IS OUR LAKE AND PROPERTY and that there is a group of people trying to help maintain the pleasures we enjoy and also maintain our property values? All voices must be heard in open forum, not via a few e-mails or telephone calls. Currently, membership is up for 2013 but if you are not yet a member, PLEASE join! If you have forgotten to pay your dues this year, please due. (Ha!)

It is my hope that these editorial comments will not discourage any of you from helping MLCA achieve it's (your) goals. This is my interpretation of the needs to be met. **How we get there is up to you all.**
ed.

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

This certainly will be the year of change for the Association. As mentioned, the Long Term Planning Committee, lead by Tom Cutler, recommended substantial changes in the way the Association is to function in the future. In that regard, the Board met in February for a "brainstorming" session to further identify the areas in order of importance needing change. The summary of that meeting is not yet available but will be duly reported when it is. However there are some things that we can deal with right now.

A big change will be in leadership. Two position on the Board of Directors will need to be filled. The big adjustment will be with the officer position. The Secretary and Treasurer's elected terms have been completed. In fact both El Felton and Bonnie Montgomery have served beyond their terms. The President's and Vice President's terms are completed and new ones elected. WOW! all new officers. This is **YOUR** time. **step forward if you want to make your voice heard.** I think that it is the responsibility of all property owners to assume a role in managing our six lakes. If you think you would like to volunteer to be your lake representative or member of the Board, including an officer, contact Dan Kuzlik at 715-362-1714 or me at 715-369-9142.

WORMY THOUGHTS TO FISH BY

Never be afraid to laugh at yourself; after all, you could be missing out on the joke of the century.

Dame Edna Everage

It's all right to hold a conversation, but you should get out of it now and then.

Richard Armour, poet

They say marriages are made in heaven, but so is thunder and lightning.

Clint Eastwood

BUCKET LIST

A clear sky at night here in the north woods is a wonder to see. It's even more spectacular in the winter at night. However, we have our share of clouds that hide the stars. As a result we often forget to look up. How would you like to see the night sky while comfortably sitting down in a warm room with a person pointing out things to you. You can! Try KOVACS PLANETARIUM, just a few miles east on Highway 8, not quite to Monico.

Frank Kovac Jr. is an amateur astronomer who built the "world's largest mechanical globe planetarium" on his 22 acre property . It took ten years of work, largely at night, to complete it. The tour is an hour long "celestial experience". While most planetariums use projectors to show the night sky, Kovac built a 22 foot diameter rotating globe and used luminous paint to locate 5,200 stars inside the globe that replicates the night sky of the northern hemisphere. The globe rotation shows the seasonal changes in star position.

Contact: Kovacplanetarium.com or 715-487-4411



OUCH!!

ICK, UGLY!

Eeeuuuu! What is that floating in the water? A big mass of gooey transparent jelly with a delicate brownish spotted color slimy to the touch. Ugh!

That is the appropriate reaction to a BRYOZOA (Pectinatella magnifica). An aquatic animal made up of colonies of "budding" rosettes. Each rosette contains one to two dozen zooides. These rosettes live in a gelatinous mass that is 99% water. Each rosette makes up the Bryozoa and is solid but slimy to the touch. They are often referred to as "moss animals" and often adhere to pilings, underwater tree limbs and such. They can become as big as basketballs and larger. It's a "good" fungus. It eats algae. They are an indicator of fair to good water quality. Leave them if you see one.

OHW

The Ordinary High Water Mark is often misunderstood. They determine the boundaries between private and public ownership of land. Private citizens own shoreland up to (above) the OHWM. This waterfront land is known as riparian land. The citizens of Wisconsin own the lake beds of natural lakes. This is a little different on streams where riparian landowners own the stream bed to the middle of the stream. The citizens of Wisconsin have the right to use the stream water for activities such as canoeing and fishing.

Determination of where the OHWM is can be controversial. Generally it is defined as the point on the bank where the water is present often enough so that the lake or stream bed begins to look different from the upland. ie: Where water or wave action leaves a distinct mark on the shore or bank. This can be erosion, change in vegetation or other recognizable characteristics. In effect, if plants are growing above free water, the OHWM may be under what looks like the OHWM. The DNR determines where it actually is.

So, as long as you keep your feet wet, you may walk along the shore, swim or boat in a navigable lake or stream. Step on the land and you are "out of bounds". Also, landowners can prevent you from walking on the exposed bed of the waterway when the water level is below the natural OHWM.

MOEN LAKE CHAIN ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME(S): _____ DATE _____

PERMANENT ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

RHINELANDER ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ e-MAIL: _____ AMOUNT: \$ _____

SIGNATURE: _____