

Lake News

2013 Fall Issue 87

Child, Girl, and Woman Lake Property Owner's Association



A Member Profile

Woman Lake couple has vivid memories of 9/11

Nearly all of us remember what we were doing in 2001 when we heard about the 9/11 attack on the World Trade Center in New York. Ninety-year-old Jan Timmins, a resident on the west end of Bungey Bay, remembers the day well. She was aboard a plane returning from a trip to England and France.

"The pilot came on the loudspeakers with the alarming announcement there had been a terrorist attack on the United States and that we were being diverted to the airfield in Amsterdam," said Jan.

"During the four days we were delayed in Amsterdam we didn't get any more details, and wondered if there may have been a nuclear attack on our country," she continued. "It was pretty scary."

Even her husband, Bob Timmins, now age 92, an accounting



Bob and Jan Timmins

firm executive who was in Elkhart, Indiana, on a work-related assignment at the time, didn't know her whereabouts. "Eventually we were cleared to return home," remembered Jan. "It

was such a relief to see Bob again, and we drove up to our cabin here on Woman Lake together. The place never looked so good!"

This year Jan and Bob Timmins are proudly celebrating the 58th Anniversary of their first stay on Woman Lake. For eight years an acquaintance from their home town, Des Moines, Iowa who owned a cabin on Woman Lake, allowed Bob and Jan to use it for a week each summer. Then, in the spring of 1963, the owner called Bob offering to sell him the property with the question "How much will you give us for it?" Bob teamed up with Jan's brother who lived in Edina and offered to purchase the

100-foot lot, the cabin, a 19-foot Crescliner boat with a virtually new 35-hp Johnson motor along with the cabin furnishings--all for \$10,000. "He accepted our offer," said Jan. "Talk about the bargain of a lifetime!"

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Could you host a tour of your lake home?

A resident of Woman Lake, Dana Jacobs, is investigating whether there might be an interest in a "home tour" of residences on the Woman Lake chain sometime next spring or fall.

"For years my husband Mike and I trolled the waters of Woman Lake admiring homes on the shoreline. We would point out our 'favorites,' mine usually the small, quaint summer cab-

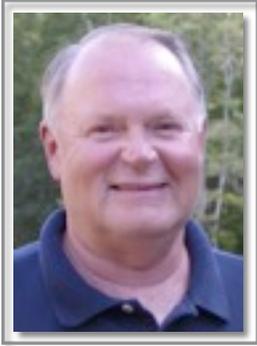
ins, Mike's the beautiful year-'round majestic log homes. We often commented on how cool it would be to see inside."

"Then, a couple of years ago, I went on a home tour on White Bear Lake (near St. Paul) and thought it would be something we could do on Woman Lake too..." she said.

Jacobs would like to find seven to ten homeowners who would be willing to open their homes for a tour. "We're looking for all types of cabins or homes, old or new," she said.

If you'd like to host a tour of your lake residence and/or your outdoor landscaping--or to simply ask questions--please contact Jacobs at danaj60@outlook.com.

Krusin' with Don



Another summer has passed us by. I believe it was the shortest one that I can remember with all the snow in April and then not having open

water on fishing opener. It took everything longer to green up and start growing and now we are looking forward to the changing of the leaves.

I want to thank Laura Hanson who has been our association secretary for the past four years. Laura has done a very good job and we all appreciate

what she has done for your association. I also want to announce that Joyce Humphreys has stepped up to become our new association secretary. Welcome Joyce!

This past summer our association bought a new computer program to run our membership program. It has taken almost all summer to work the bugs out of it. We have now transferred all of the information from the old program so that we can send out emails, letters and the fall newsletter to the entire membership. We believe it is up and running and we thank you for your patience on all of this. We made the change to the new program because it is much more user-friendly.

This past May we kicked off our new Tree Program in which the association provided trees and shrubs to those who signed up for them. In this issue you will find an order form with which to order the free trees of your choice.

All the buoys on the lake are property of the association. We try to have them in the lake before the fishing opener during "normal" years and remain there until approximately October 15, depending on weather.

I wish you all a very good fall. Get out and enjoy the colors, and for you fishermen and duck hunters remember to wear a life jacket because the water is beginning to get very cold.

Don Kruse, President

Crayfish Boil nets more than \$1,000 for Lake Association



The Rusty Crayfish, long a nuisance species in our lake chain, became the main course at a dinner held during July at Patrick's Restaurant in Longville. Dan Krone, a Woman Lake resident, trapped the 214 pounds of crayfish that were consumed that day. "If you can't beat 'em, eat 'em" became the theme of the day! Nearly 200 people attended.



Many thanks to Ron Schara, KARE 11 TV's host of the popular show "Minnesota Bound" and resident of Girl Lake. Schara, who suggested and helped organize the event, was also kind enough to speak at our annual meeting a couple of years ago. As a journalist, Schara has been sharing the great outdoor experience with his viewers for nearly three decades.



Schara's black lab, Raven, the real star of the show, was also on hand to help supervise.

Water Patrol has productive summer, despite bad weather

Water Patrol Chair Ted Sigtenhorst reports that 17 regular volunteers backed up by three reserve volunteers have spent 126 hours patrolling on Woman Lake as of mid-September.



Sigtenhorst

They used a 19-foot Warrior boat powered by a 200 HP Mercury outboard, a retired Sheriff's patrol boat provided by the Cass County Sheriff.

According to Sigtenhorst, because

of the late ice out in May and a week-end of foul weather, the volunteers were able to patrol for just 13 hours in May. June time on the water was 40 hours of patrol followed by July with 34 hours on the water. The month of August saw 30 hours on the lake followed by September with 9 hours on patrol with more to come until patrol is terminated, probably sometime later this month.

Sigtenhorst said the boat and motor performed well except for a few days during mid summer when the outboard required a tune up after prob-

lems were encountered during support duty for the 4th of July fireworks display. "The problem was corrected and the boat was returned to service after minimal down time," he said.

"We will resume patrol next May as soon as weather conditions permit," said Sigtenhorst. "We welcome anyone who would like to join our crew and volunteer for Water Patrol during the warm days of summer."

Contact Sigtenhorst at 363-3634, or by email at tsigtenhorst@arvig.net for additional information.

Osprey Update

In response to the photos of the osprey nest on Child Lake that appeared in the Spring issue of Lake News, Meg Duin and husband Don, residents of Woman Lake for the past 11 years, wrote:

Over many of these years we've watched with great interest the osprey nest on Hwy. 5. Our church is in Walker and we pass that spot every time we go to church. Most weeks it's at least three or more times so we've been pretty steady observers.

On April 20th we were heading up to church (three of us in the car and we

all observed this, so it wasn't my imagination) - a mature eagle and an osprey were sitting side by side in that nest. They didn't appear to be sparring or attacking each other - just sitting. I actually called the raptor center for the state and reported this activity. It was about this same time that we noticed the osprey began building the new nest on the other pole. In fact, her construction was destroyed a couple of times by the winds that we experienced as she (he?) began the new home.

It's looking pretty good right now and I think it will probably withstand most anything mother nature throws at it. I keep watching with renewed interest to see who is going to occupy the old nest. I wouldn't even be surprised to see the osprey use it again. Think the new construction might be her back-up plan! Who wouldn't like bird watching like this?! --Meg Duin

P. S. The raptor center thought what we saw might have been kind of a "stand-off" to see who would outlast the other for the rights to the nest.

From the Editor

As summer fades into fall I'm feeling a little nostalgic. I don't know about you but it seems like those warm summer days on our beautiful lakes just flew by. Yes, we had a very late start with lake ice still on in May, but still....

At our household we managed several swimming trips out onto the lake, especially during those 90-degree days we had in August. Our grandkids had a great time playing on the raft trying to come up with their most creative dive while we old folks did a count-down and kept a lookout for the Hackensack shark.

Whatever YOU do for fun on our chain of lakes I think you'll agree we're pretty fortunate to live and play here.

One of the things that positively impacts our quality of living on our lake chain, in my opinion, is the work of numerous volunteers who contribute their time to make this a better place.

I'm thinking, for example, of the folks who work on our CGWLPOA committees such as the road clean-up crews. They pick up litter and keep our roadsides tidy. Or the Water Patrol volunteers who help keep us safe on the water and encourage water safety. Or the fisheries committee which works with the DNR to make our fishing experience the best it can be and to help keep out invasive species. Others put up your name signs at the end of the driveway, implement a tree planting program, and well water testing.

Some volunteers work quietly behind the scenes to make these programs possible for all of us. The list could go on and on but I think you get the idea. All of this work is done by **volunteers** who are in a spirit of giving back for our common good.

There are a few volunteers who donate **many, many** hours of time, others just two or three hours per month as they are able. But, it all adds up. Would **you** consider joining us? Think about an area in which you could make a contribution and call Don Kruse, our president, or one of the other names on the back cover of this newsletter.

Best wishes for a great fall and winter season!

Timmons continued



Bob and Jan remodeled this rustic log cabin back in the '80s and named it "Reel Livin'"

When Jan's brother died in 1975 Jan and Bob bought out his half share and have now extensively remodeled the cabin. What was once a very primitive one-bedroom cabin with a small one-person kitchen they have now transformed into a lake home which includes a lovely and spacious, modern kitchen, a new porch/reading room facing the lake, three additional bedrooms and a modern bath. Although the cabin is now thoroughly modern, Bob and Jan have maintained the charming rustic log cabin look of the original. They also built a bunkhouse next to their house which sleeps around eight people when company comes.

Jan has decorated the walls in their home with the results of her favorite hobbies: cross stitch embroidery, needlepoint, and the many books she and Bob have purchased and read over the years. On their computer they've even cataloged their books which number



Jan and Bob with their coffee group at the Woman Lake Lodge some years ago. According to Jan, many in the photo are no longer living.

around 1,000, housed in more than seven book cases throughout the cabin and arranged them alphabetically by both author and title.

One of Jan's fondest memories is of her many walks to the Woman Lake Store, little more than a stone's throw west of their cabin. Over the years on these walks she's met many of her neighbors and others on the lake who've become close friends. To this day she still goes over to the Woman Lake Store where she enjoys their

friendship, along with the fresh doughnuts and coffee that are prepared there each morning. As the years went by many of the husbands joined them and their coffee group grew. But, Jan said a bit wistfully, she and Bob have outlived many of their friends who have been replaced on their Woman Lake property by a younger generation.

Jan remembers the year she and several friends joined the 4th of July Parade in Longville dressed as the famous Woman Lake Lodge

doughnuts with inflated rubber inner tubes around their waists painted with fake frosting and sprinkles, and a trailer behind with folks sitting around a table drinking coffee. "We won the first prize and donated it to the Longville playground fund," said Jan.

Bob and Jan have seen some changes since they arrived here 50 years ago. "For one thing, the shoreline is much more developed than it was," said Jan.

"And the road around the lake to Longville used to be a bumpy, gravel road. There was pavement on Hwy. 5 from Hackensack but it ended when it got to Woman Lake," she said.

Despite bypass heart surgery and several stents in recent years, Bob continues to lead an active lifestyle. He golfs twice a week and has been getting scores roughly equivalent to his age since he turned 71--even now at his current age of 92.

After marrying Jan, his high school sweetheart back in Des Moines, Bob joined the service during WWII but he never left the U.S. The Army trained him as an engineer and he was involved in re-configuring and retiring some of the B-29s that were used in the Pacific arena of the war. When the war was over, Bob enrolled at Drake University where he pursued his childhood dream of becoming a Certified Public Accountant. It was a career he enjoyed until he retired in 1985, working for one of the largest accounting firms in the country as a partner.

Bob and Jan live on Woman Lake the entire summer, roughly from May 1 through October 1, or, as Bob said with

a twinkle in his eye, "until the first snowflake flies." The rest of the year they winter in Ocala, Florida which is 60 miles north of Orlando. Bob and Jan were blessed with two daughters, four grand daughters and 13 great grand children.

"They love to visit us here on Woman Lake" said Jan. "The

youngest great grandson, barely two, says 'Go boat!' when he comes so we know that lake life here has really caught on in our family."

Needless to say, Bob and Jan love living on Woman Lake. "It's the best thing in our lives," said Bob. "We are so fortunate to have close friends on this beautiful lake. We're a lot like a big, happy family here on the shore of Bungey Bay and our friendships go back many years."

Our best wishes to Jan and Bob for many more happy years here.



Jan Timmons, left, participated as a Woman Lake 'Donut' in the July 4th Parade in Longville along with Bill Simpson and Paula Bryan. (1995)

Creature Feature

Eastern Bluebirds making a comeback

Editor's Note: The following article is condensed from Our Neck of the Woods, Summer, 2013, used with permission of its author, Judd Brink.

The first documentation of a Bluebird in Minnesota was March 21, 1903, recorded by a doctor in the town of Lanesboro. It had to be an Eastern Bluebird, the only Bluebird species found east of the Mississippi River.

The Eastern Bluebird migrates back to our area in March/April, with males arriving first. Nesting starts in April/May, and they can raise two to three broods each summer.

Males are bright blue with a chestnut-colored chest and white belly. Females are similar, but less colorful. Eastern Bluebirds are about seven inches tall with a 12-inch wingspan. They feed mostly on insects during summer and add more fruit and seeds to their diets during fall and winter. Most of our Bluebirds migrate to find more suitable weather and a food source; they rarely visit bird feeders—unless you provide tasty suet or mealworms.

Nesting Places

Bluebirds nest in natural tree cavities, often created by woodpeckers. At one time many used dead trees or wooden fence posts commonly found around cattle or crop farms. The Bluebird population started to decline from the 1930s-1970s for several reasons: increased nest competition from nonnative House Sparrows and European Starlings, fence post replacement and the removal of dead or dying trees.

As a result, many people started placing out nest boxes, which are readily accepted by Bluebirds. One of the most popular houses is the Peterson Bluebird house. Success with this design led eventually to the Minnesota Bluebird Recovery program established in 1979. Now there are thou-

sands and thousands of Peterson-style houses in Minnesota. When Bluebird boxes are used, the negative impacts from nest competitors are greatly reduced—a huge contributing factor in the return of the Bluebird across its range.



Inviting Bluebirds

You can attract Bluebirds to nest near you by providing properly placed nest boxes in favorable locations. Bluebirds prefer large open lawns, clearings and fields with short to medium height

vegetation where they can find insects on or near the ground. They also enjoy some scattered trees for shelter and for the fledged birds.

With proper housing in the right habitat, Bluebirds have accepted nest boxes, which can form "Bluebird trails." The number of boxes on a trail will depend on how much space and habitat are available. Most successful trails are made up of pairs of boxes spaced at a certain distance between each pair. Such pairings are usually recommended when Tree Swallows occupy the same area. In most cases the Bluebirds will use one box and the Tree Swallow the other as they don't compete with each other.

To enhance the chance for success, place each pair of boxes 15 to 20 feet apart, with at least 300 to 500 feet between the next pair of boxes. Allowing more space between the paired boxes will yield more Bluebirds. Houses



should be placed where they can be easily and safely monitored.

Mount boxes using 1" rebar and 3" electrical conduit with the metal conduit going over the rebar and two 1" hole straps to attach the box five to six feet above ground facing Northeast/Southeast or East. The rebar can be pounded 8"-12" into the ground using a small sledge hammer. This highly recommended method deters predators. Whether you install one box or many, make sure that each box can be opened for checking and cleaning. Do not place boxes on trees or fence posts because this will result in poor nesting success and nest failures, plus easy access for predators.

Watch for intruders

Proper maintenance is key to ensuring healthy birds. Check your nest box or boxes weekly throughout the nesting season, May-August. You might discover other birds using them, such as House Wrens, Chickadees and Tree Swallows. The House Wren is known to toss out or puncture eggs from other birds listed above before it takes over a box. House Wrens can be discouraged by avoiding locations near wooded edges or any area that is more wooded than open.

How do you know which birds are nesting in your box? By looking at the nesting material and/or the eggs. Tree Swallows almost always include feathers in their nest and have white eggs. House Wrens fill the box with many tiny sticks, but no grass or feathers. Chickadees use fur/hair and moss. A Bluebird nest will be constructed mostly of grasses with some pine needles placed in a cup shape—and it will, of course, have blue eggs.

If you are interested in building a nest box, and helping to ensure the Eastern Bluebird's continued success, a great resource is the DNR's book Wood Working for Wildlife by Carrol Henderson.

For more info, contact Judd at 218-838-4784 or jb@mnbackyardbirds.com.

Association's website gets a make-over

Check out CGWLPOA's new and improved website! You'll find information about programs funded by your membership dues that maintain and improve the quality of your lake home experience. Need to see what your water patrol is up to? Check. Info about the DNR's walleye study

on Woman Lake? Check. Looking for something you saw in a past issue of the newsletter? Check. Want to see the by-laws? Check. Names and contact info for the directors? Check. There is also a new section called "Archives" where you can look up information about past programs

such as the septic inspection program and the Lantern Bay preservation effort. All that and much more! So check it out today, and while you're at it, put it on your browser list of "favorites": www.womanlakechain.org.

Let's work together to protect our lakes this fall

There are many opportunities for each of us to play a role in helping to protect our waters from aquatic invasive species (AIS). Rich Hess, our Invasive Species Chair, offers the following suggestions as we put away our lake items for this season.



- Inspect boats, docks and lifts for the presence of any aquatic invasive species such as zebra mussels, faucet snails, and Eurasian milfoil which are all now present in nearby waters. Be sure to examine all posts, cross members, wheels and under water support bars.
- Inspect the underside of boats, pontoons and rafts that have been in the water.
- If you hire a business to remove your water related equipment, make sure they have completed the required AIS training and are on the Minnesota DNR's list of permitted service providers. Look for the permit sticker in the lower driver's side corner of their vehicle's windshield.
- If you are moving water related equipment to another body of water make sure any AIS found **dead or alive** are removed and then dry the equipment for at least 21 days before moving. Remember, zebra mussels may also be on the inside of the hollow support members of docks and lifts.
- If you want to transport a dock or lift from any infested waters to another location for storage or repair you must first obtain a DNR authorization form to do so.
- Also, if you hunt waterfowl this season, please remember to examine any equipment you may use including waders, hip boots, watercraft and decoys.

If you do find any AIS on your water related equipment, please notify the DNR quickly in order to help curb the spread to other bodies of water. Note the exact location, take a photo, keep any specimens and contact your local DNR Fisheries office (Walker, MN 218-547-1683) or AIS Specialist (Park Rapids, MN 218-699-7293).

Thirty lake property owners participate in Association's well water testing



"We'd like to try it again in a couple of years and perhaps offer a wider range of tests," said Vic Rinke, the CGWLPOA board member who co-

ordinated the program. "In addition to nitrates and bacteria, we'd like to check for other harmful contaminants such as lead and arsenic."

"I think a lot of interest was created about the water we consume each day. I received calls and comments from many people, some of

whom were planning to test their own at a later time."

According to Rinke, the Aqua Care Lab in Brainerd handling the tests was very prompt in reporting the data to our members. "They were great to work with and gave us a fast turnaround on the results."

After eating an entire bull, a mountain lion felt so good he started roaring. He kept it up until a hunter came along and shot him. The moral: When you're full of bull, keep your mouth shut. -- Will Rogers

Free tree seedlings again available through CGWLPOA

After last year's successful launch of the "Tree Program" your Board has decided to make this an annual event. Nearly fifty lake association members ordered trees and shrubs last year which resulted in a total order of 375 plants.

The purpose of the program is to encourage naturalization of the shoreline area and it's our hope that the plants you receive through this program will be used primarily as a vegetative buffer between your residence and the lake-shore.

There are many advantages to a natural shoreline buffer zone, including increased filtering of runoff water which reduces the amount of unwanted nutrients and debris entering the lake, improved habitat for birds, animals and insects, and a more attractive, natural look when viewed from the lake. Once established, there is also much less work for the home owner and their lawn mower. If you would like to do a substantial make-



over of your shoreline area, but are overwhelmed by the prospect, we would like to help. We have a few volunteers, including a Master Gardener, willing to help you plan your project. On the chart below you will find listed this year's choices. Most are 12-18" in size and are bare root.

The lake association board has agreed to provide **five FREE trees or shrubs** to each owner who places an order with us by December 16th. Please fill out the order form at the bottom of this page, or email your selections to jimlewis@tds.net (no order form necessary).

The nursery stock will arrive the first weekend of May. The hours for pickup will be Saturday, 9-12 on the first and second weekends of May. If you can't pick up your order in person during those times, please make arrangements for someone else to pick up your order for you.

It may be possible for you to purchase additional plants at "pick-up"

time on a first-come/first-served basis. The pickup location will be Myles Wagner's home at 4074 Hawk Trail NW, Hackensack MN. (the blue two-story house located near the old public access on Woman Lake off County Rd. 5). We are here to assist you to have the best possible results with this program.

If you'd like more trees and shrubs you can purchase them for \$1 each and include them on your order, or you can order directly through the Crow Wing Soil and Conservation District at your own expense at: www2.co.crowwing.mn.us/swcd/.

If you order directly through the SWCD, the committee is willing to pick up your plants for you if you inform SWCD that we are allowed to do so. Payment for extra trees must be included with the order. We look forward to working with you. If you have any questions before placing your order by Dec. 16, please contact Jim Lewis at 218-682-2499 or send an email to: jimlewis@tds.net.

Order Form

<i>Print Name:</i>				<i>Phone #:</i>				<i>E-mail address:</i>			
Species	Height	Soil	Quantity	Species	Height	Soil	Quantity	Species	Height	Soil	Quantity
White Cedar	40-50'	Clay/sandy loam		Redosier Dogwood	5-10'	Wet/Moist					
Norway Pine	50-80'	Sand/loam/draind		Black Chokecherry	3-6'	Wet/Moist					
White Pine	80-100'	Sand/loam/clay		False Indigo	6-9'	Sandy					
Paper Birch	40-60'	Moist/wet		High Bush Cranberry	8-12'	Dry/Wet					
Red Oak	50-75'	Well drained		Serviceberry	4-6'	Dry/Wet					
						Total					
Mail to: Jim Lewis, 3552 8th Ave NW, Hackensack, MN 56452											

Lake News



Child, Girl and Woman Lake
Property Owner's Association
PO 335, Longville, MN 56655

Website addresses:

www.womanlakechain.org
info@womanlakechain.org
waterpatrol@womanlakechain.org

*Order Free Trees
on Page 7!*

Child, Girl, and Woman Lake Association Leadership Team

Don Kruse, President	(Winter)		956-283-7898
	(Summer)	krusedj@arvig.net	363-2580
Vice-President	Ken Kostial	kkostial@tds.net	682-3532
Secretary	Joyce Humphreys	joyjac@tds.net	682-2607
Treasurer	Tom Jansen	trjansen@tds.net	682-2306

Directors at Large

Child Lake:	Scott Fjellman	scott.fjellman@gmail.com	714-742-6557
Girl Lake:	Dean Berntsen	edbern@arvig.net	363-2613
Woman Lake:	Gary Knox	gary@minneteepee.com	682-2485
Woman Lake:	Jim Limburg	jlimburg@luthersem.com	363-2589
Woman Lake:	Dave Brown	sjblake2@tds.net	682-2309

Standing Committees

Membership	Myles Wagner	silverfox1050@msn.com	682-3793
Road Signs	Dave Brown	sjblake2@tds.net	682-2309
Shoreline Naturalization	Jim Lewis	jimlewis@tds.net	682-2499
Aq. Invasive Species	Rich Hess	rhess48@arvig.net	363-2282
Fisheries	Rich Hess	rhess48@arvig.net	363-2282
Water Patrol	Ted Sigtenhorst	tsigtenhorst@arvig.net	363-3634
Healthy Lakes	John Lange	JohnLange@charter.net	682-3119
Conserv. Stewardship	Vic Rinke	vicrinke@gmail.com	682-2866
Newsletter	John Gundale	johngundale@tds.net	682-2093

Task Team Committees

Adopt-A-Highway	Ken Hanson	klhanson03@gmail.com	682-2045
Navigational Safety	Dwayne Waldera	noisytoys@hotmail.com	363-2030

Lake Representatives

Zone 1	Andrew Benjamin	682-2153	Zone 6	Vacant Position	
Zone 2	Vacant Position		Zone 7	Kenneth Hanson	682-2045
Zone 3	Jim Limburg	363-2589	Zone 8	Scott Fjellman	714-742-6557
Zone 4	Dave Brown	682-2309	Zone 9	Peter Zenk	363-3445
Zone 5	John Lange	682-3119	Zone 10	Dean Berntsen	363-2613