

Lake News

2018 Spring Issue 96

Child, Girl, and Woman Lakes Area Association



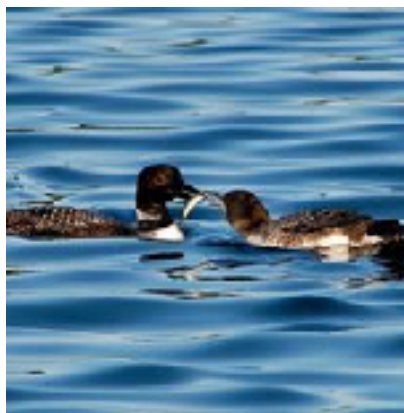
Lake Associations

CGWLAA: What are some of our Lake Association's activities?

- Aquatic Invasive Species Program (AIS)
- Water patrol in conjunction with the Cass County Sheriff department and installation of safety buoys
- Bi-annual newsletter, website, and Facebook
- Roadway clean up
- Fisheries Program with the DNR
- Road sign maintenance
- Water quality sampling and testing
- Area land and water management stewardship and conservation issue monitoring
- Habitat development with free native tree and shrub program

Association Membership:

During 2017, the CGWLAA had 528 members. Annual membership runs from January 1 through December 31. Membership renewals are sent out in January and annual dues are \$25.



When members advise the Association of property sales, new owners are contacted and provided information about the association. If you have neighbors who are not association members, please encourage them to consider membership. Membership forms are available on the website at www.womanlakechain.org.

Minnesota Lake Associations: What activities are occurring in the state?

According to the Concordia Lake Association Study, lake and land associations serve many functions including providing meeting and social opportunities for members, setting guidelines for protection of local environments, and much more. The top three concerns are: AIS, overall water quality, and runoff control. A common mission of all is as advocates for conservation.

In Minnesota, the land of 10,000 lakes, combined membership of associations is more than 200,000 members collectively raising more than \$6.2 million annually and investing over 1.2 million volunteer hours, which makes Lake Associations the largest conservation group in Minnesota!

*David Kane, Association Member
Bob and Cindy Hanke, Membership*

Fishing with Bill

With our area of Minnesota still snow packed and lakes with up to 40 inches of ice, the thought of open water fishing seems a long way out. Those of us in the Woman Lake area are lucky enough to have drivable destinations that offer world class fishing opportunities. The Mississippi River near Red Wing, MN; Rainy River in Baudette, MN; Missouri River in Pierre, SD; and Fox River in Green Bay, WI; are all examples of great places to catch the fish of a lifetime.

My first river experience was on the Mississippi River getting ready for a walleye tournament. I was fishing the

river for the first time with a seasoned angler. We had been casting jigs and crank baits to rock-lined shore all day with no luck when he suggested we do some rigging in the back channels. Rigging with live bait is my favorite way to catch a walleye, so naturally I was anxious to show off my skills.

I learned by fishing lakes that rigging with spinning rods meant holding the line with your finger, and when feeling a bite, you let the line go. However, this is not how it is done on a river. After being spotted holding the line with my finger, I was told that there was no need to feed line to river

walleye because they do not let the opportunity to eat pass them by. When you feel a bite, set the hook! This advice forever changed how I approach fishing rivers.

River fishing is a whole different game than fishing walleye on Woman Lake. I have often heard that when river anglers fish lakes they can catch fish, but when lake anglers fish rivers, the same cannot always be said. If you have a chance and want a challenge before our Minnesota Walleye Opener, get out there and give a river a try!

Bill Hornung, Child Lake Representative

Krusin' with Don



Spring is just around the corner! After a cold winter, I am sure all of us are excited to see blue water, green grass, ducks swimming in the water, and eagles flying

overhead. I know I am.

AIS remains one of our major areas of concern we should all be mindful about. Zebra mussels were located in Leech Lake. Last summer we found Eurasian milfoil around the city docks. This was treated, and we will continue to monitor the area. Both of these invasive species were brought into the lakes by boaters.

Please be mindful of the body of water where your boat is used. If you have been on infested waters, it is your responsibility to ensure your boat and trailer are cleaned and de-

contaminated. It is **all of our** responsibilities to help keep our lakes free of AIS.

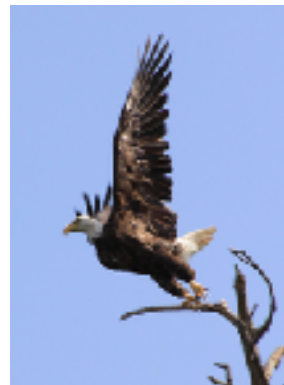
Ted Sigtenhorst has been in charge of our Water Patrol for the past six years. He has done a great job organizing and recruiting volunteers. Ted, I thank you along with the Board for your dedication and hard work. You will be missed by the volunteers and at our Board meetings. We wish you the best.

Check out our website at www.womanlakechain.org. Carol Houghton, our Webmaster, has put a great deal of time and effort into organizing the site, so you can easily access information. While you are at it, check out our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/womanlakechain. All members are invited to post messages and photos. Kathy Scharmer is our Facebook Coordinator. Thank you to Carol and Kathy for their support with our communication efforts.

Your Association Board meets at 6:30 PM the third Thursday of each month May through October at Woodrow Town Hall. All members are invited to attend these meetings. Our 2018 annual meeting will be held on Saturday, August 4, at 9:30 AM in the Woodrow Town Hall. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Don Kruse, President

Eagle on Woman Lake photographed by Craig Holmen, Editor's brother-in-law, during summer of 2017.



Tribute to David Brown

Our Lake Association lost a valuable member of the Board this past winter. I am sorry to let you know that David Brown passed away on January 5, 2018, at the age of 78. He is survived by his wife, Shirley; two boys, Chuck and Andrew; and one daughter, Heather.

I met David in the spring of 1996. We had just bought our first home on Woman Lake, and we were sitting on the deck in early June when David and Shirley came calling. He had been on the Association Board since the beginning in July of 1976. His volunteer job at that time was Zone Captain (one of ten). David was responsible for Zone 4. The Zone Captains would go door-to-door to collect

the yearly dues, meet new people like myself, and invite them to join the Association. David knew everyone in his zone. David was a teacher and coach in Spencer, Iowa. David and Shirley would spend the summers at Woman Lake.

David volunteered for many committees where the association was involved. He was a member of our Water Patrol for many years. Prior to two years ago, David maintained and updated cabin owner names on 42 sign boards around our lakes. David then remained on the Board as a Woman Lake Representative.

David cared deeply for our lakes and was involved with activities of the Association. We will miss his

passion for the lakes, experience, and knowledge and are grateful for what he shared with all.

David Brown - watch over us and the lake you loved - rest in peace.

Don Kruse, President



Update on 2018 Tree, Shrub, and Plant Program

Fellow green thumb enthusiasts, as the great thaw of 2018 finally approaches, we are pleased to report the success of our 2018 tree, shrub, and plant program.



Order results are in with:

218 trees

111 shrubs

105 Prairie Blazing Star plants

A total of 434 **FREE** trees, shrubs, and plants were ordered by 57

members of our Lake Association.

For those of you new to our lakes or who have not participated, this program is offered in conjunction with the Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District (CWSWCD) to encourage shoreline naturalization as a buffer between lawns and lakes. In addition, plants are selected as fa-



vorites of Monarch butterflies, hummingbirds, bees, and other wildlife.



Thanks to our 57 members who took advantage of the program. Those who ordered will be notified by email or phone one week in advance with pick-up day and time. Since the order was placed in lots, there are some extra trees and shrubs that can be purchased on pick-up day for \$1.00 each on a first-come basis. Watch for details on the 2019 program in the fall newsletter. Happy planting!

What is ACCL?

For those readers who may be unfamiliar with ACCL, we would like to tell you about this organization. ACCL, a non-profit 501(c)3 established in 1988, stands for the Association of Cass County Lakes. ACCL represents and is comprised of 37 Lake Associations including ours who pay dues based on their total membership.

The mission of ACCL is to support and enhance the work of its members. This is accomplished through education and the promotion of environmental stewardship along with responsible use of our waters. ACCL advocates sound management practices to preserve and improve the water quality and environment of Cass County.

ACCL has a challenging task as there are more than 500 lakes in Cass County ranging in size from 10 to over 5,000 acres. ACCL has a Board of Directors consisting of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. There are also seven additional Directors each serving a three-year term. All Board members are from member Lake Associations. Our Lake Association is represented by Vic Rinke (Director) and Rich Hess (Vice President).

ACCL works closely with Cass County and the Regional Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist from the Minnesota DNR to conduct watercraft inspections. ACCL also coordinates with other organizations such as the Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associa-

tions, Minnesota Lakes and River Advocates, and RMB Labs, Inc.

Our Lake Association works with RMB for analyzing annual water quality samples from Child, Girl, and Woman Lakes. Recently ACCL reached out to Cass County resorts via their Resort Ambassador Program, which is a partnership targeting Aquatic Invasive Species prevention.

ACCL has a website, www.acclakes.org, where much more information is posted and updated. Meetings are held the last Friday of each month from May through September at the HUB in Hackensack from 9:30 to 11:00 AM

Rich Hess, AI Species Committee

Aquatic Invasive Species Protection - Let's All Do Our Part

Although the Woman Lake chain is surrounded by zebra mussels and other invasive species, there is hope that our own vigilance will help prevent further invasions. Researchers continue working to discover effective control methods. Whether we are shoreline property owners, inland residents, resort owners, or other local businesses, we can take precautions that will help.

What tools are currently available to help us prevent the introduction of invasive species?

CLEAN, DRAIN, and DISPOSE. We should all be aware of the procedures. We need to follow these steps for our own watercraft and any of our guests as well.

CLEAN all visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species from watercraft,

the trash. It is illegal to release bait into a waterbody or release aquatic animals from one waterbody to another. If you want to keep your bait, you must refill the bait container with bottled or tap water.

Spray watercraft with high pressure water especially after leaving zebra mussel or spiny water flea infested waters. Rinse with hot water at least 120 degrees, and spray each area for at least two minutes or for 10 seconds if using 140 degree water. Dry your watercraft for at least five days.

Decontamination Stations - There are

now nine watercraft decontamination stations in the greater Longville area, including Musky House (Longville - call for appointment), Northwood's Docks in Hackensack, and Walker Marine. The locations are on our website under Aquatic Invasive Species. There is **NO CHARGE** for decontamination. You fill out a form, and Cass County pays the cost.

Docks and Lifts - Minnesota law requires these to be out of the water for 21 days before putting them in another body of water. Be sure to inspect them for visible invasive species first. If you want to transport a dock or lift to another location for storage or repair, you may need a permit from the DNR to do so.

Aquatic Plants - You may not transport aquatic plants from a shoreline property to a disposal location without a permit.

Identification and Reporting - If you suspect a new infestation of an aquatic invasive plant or animal, note the exact location, take a photo or keep a specimen, and call the AIS Specialist in your region. Our DNR Specialist is located in Park Rapids at 218-732-8960.



trailers, and water-related equipment before leaving any water access of shoreline.

DRAIN water-related equipment (boat, ballast tanks, portable bait containers, motor), and drain bilge, live well, and bait by removing drain plugs before leaving a water access or shoreline property. Leave water draining devices open while transporting watercraft.

DISPOSE of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches, and worms, in

The Minnesota DNR website is a good place to start learning how to identify invasive species. You may print information sheets with photos to assist you.

To identify waters that are infested, refer to the statewide list of infested waters on the Minnesota DNR website at www.mndnr.gov/lakefind under Clean in - Clean out. You can also download a list from this site by accessing the Nature tab, select Invasive Species, click on Aquatic Invasive Species, and then click on Infested Waters List.

Please be conscientious and do your part. Although there are no guarantees, these preventive procedures are among the best tools we have at our disposal now. Additionally, Cass County will be conducting watercraft inspections again at the County Road 5 launch ramp on Woman Lake and at the new ramp in Longville on Girl Lake. Please be patient, and let them inspect your watercraft before launching.

Rich Hess, AI Species Committee

Woodtick Wheelers - Fun, Community-Minded ATV Club

Looking for great trails and forest roads in the Longville area where you can legally ride your all-terrain vehicle (ATV), side-by-side, or off-highway motorcycle (OHM)? Have questions about rules and regulations? Ask a Woodtick!

The Woodtick Wheelers ATV/OHM Club is a family-oriented club that is nine years old with over 400 members including 35 local businesses. It holds fun club rides and meetings, provides ATV safety training classes, and has partnered with the Cass County Sheriff's Department to create an ATV Team to assist with search and rescue missions.

Started in July of 2009, the club is named after the Woodtick Trail, a 15-mile forest road that runs from Highway 371 north of Hackensack, east to County Road 5 near Longville. It was closed to ATVs and other OHMs by the Chippewa National Forest in the fall of 2008. A Board of Directors consisting of nine members oversees the club, which is a 501(c)(7) non-profit organization and holds regular meetings along with club rides on designated ATV trails.

The Woodtick Wheelers mission is: "Bringing together all-terrain vehicle

(ATV) and off-highway motorcycle (OHM) enthusiasts to enjoy, promote, and protect responsible riding in the Chippewa National Forest and surrounding area."

The club has over a dozen DNR-certified ATV Safety Instructors, who hold classes for youths ages 11-15, so they can obtain their ATV Safety Certificates.



Soo Line North ATV Trail Ride

It also has volunteer DNR Trail Ambassadors who ride on ATV trails across northern Minnesota on weekends providing maps and information to riders, monitoring the trails, and removing or reporting hazards such

as downed trees. The club also removes dump sites from the National Forest and cleans a two-mile Adopt-A-Highway stretch of State Highway 200 at Whipholt.

This summer you may see the club's ATV Safety Education Trailer and the club's mascot - Woodrow the Woodtick - at local parades and community events. Purchased with a grant from the Polaris T.R.A.I.L.S. program, it is stocked with trail maps, DNR ATV regulation books, and information on riding OHMs safely and responsibly. The Woodtick Wheelers is one of 80 clubs that belong to the ATV Association of Minnesota, which works to create trails that are fun to ride and protect natural resources by using nationally recognized design features.

The club welcomes new members of all ages who enjoy riding ATVs and OHMs. Its spring meeting with pancake breakfast and club ride from Stony Lake to Huddle's Resort is May 5. For more information visit WooktickWheelers.com, "Like" its Facebook page, or contact Dave Halsey at dvhalsey@gmail.com.

David Halsey, President - Woodtick Wheelers

From the Editor



Hooray! It is time for another season at our lakes. I encourage you to visit our Facebook page regularly to share your pictures and special occasions. Also, check out the website.

As you enjoy our paradise at the lakes, please jot down any stories, highlights, or topics for the fall newsletter. Feel free to email the information directly to me at your convenience.

I am looking forward to relaxation, outdoor activities, and time with friends and neighbors. Remember to

do your part to help protect our lakes from AIS. Be safe and have a great season at our lakes!



Lake News



Child, Girl and Woman Lakes
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Child, Girl, and Woman Lakes Area Association

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Zone 1	Andrew Benjamin	218-682-2513	Zone 6	Vacant Position	
Zone 2	Vacant Position		Zone 7	Kenneth Hanson	218-682-2045
Zone 3	Jim Limburg	218-363-2589	Zone 8	Vacant Position	
Zone 4	Dave Brown	218-682-2309	Zone 9	Peter Zenk	218-363-3445
Zone 5	John Lange	218-682-3119	Zone 10	Dean Berntsen	218-363-2513