

CHILD, GIRL, WOMAN LAKES AREA ASSOCIATION

43rd ANNUAL MEETING

AGENDA

August 3, 2019

10:00 am Woodrow Town Hall

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Welcome
4. Agenda additions/changes
5. Secretary's report-Joyce Humphreys
6. Treasurer's report-Tom Jansen
7. Committee Reports
 - a. Membership – Cindy & Bob Hankey
 - b. Roadside Clean-Up – Ken Hanson
 - c. Stewardship/Conservation
 - d. Water Patrol – Tim Bruhyell
 - e. Road Signs – Jon Stevenson
 - f. Water Quality – Ann Stevenson
 - g. Fisheries – Rich Hess
 - h. Aquatic Invasive Species – Rich Hess
 - i. Newsletter – Linda Kane
 - j. Facebook – Kathy Scharmer
8. New Business:
 - a. Budget Proposal
 - b. Election of Officers:
 - President-Don Kruse
 - Secretary – Joyce Humphries
 - d. Info on recognition dinner set for Thursday Sept. 5th.
9. Adjournment
10. Guest Speaker: Jody Dirks – Assistant Supervisor Walker DNR office.

Next monthly meeting will be August 15th at 6:30pm.

Thank you attending and participating in YOUR Lake Association Annual Meeting

2019 Annual Report of the Child, Girl, Woman Lakes Area Association

Your association is deeply involved in many projects, none of which could be accomplished without enthusiastic help from our faithful volunteers. Their responsibilities include water patrol, roadside clean-up, taking water samples for testing to mention a few. If you are interested in joining our volunteer corps or need more information please contact me, Don Kruse, 515-351-0547, or e-mail me at krusedj@arvig.net. Thank you!

Please remember that our association has a very good website which is frequently updated by Carole Houghton. Check it often for the latest monthly meeting minutes, association newsletters and information: www.womanlakechain.org. Do not forget that we have our own Facebook page. Check it out: www.facebook.com/womanlakechain. Kathy Scharmer is the administrator for our Facebook.

The following reports by our program chairpersons provide a review of what your board has been doing on your behalf during the past year.

Don Kruse, President

Cindy and Bob Hankey, Co-Chairpersons of Membership

We currently have 544 lake association members; up from last year's total of 532. We transitioned to different membership database software and are pleased with its performance. The ability to purchase multi-year memberships and receive CGWLAA communications through email remains popular with our members and reduces mailing costs. We will distribute a directory of lake association members later this year.

Kenny Hanson, Chairperson of Roadside Cleanup

The association is responsible for cleaning 8.1 miles along county roads 5 and 11. Those 8.1 miles have been divided into 16 sections of .3 to .6 miles each. At present time we have the following confirmed volunteers: Keith and Jackie Lorensen, Egon and Carol Overguard, John and Pat Halverson, Tal Hess, Steve and Gayle Hornung, Denny and Diane Ploeger, Steve and Lynn Dittbenner, Arlan and Irene Shires, Diane Schires, Kenny and Laura Hanson, Darrell and Mona Bratvold, Rich and Sarah Tabaka, Neal and Suzie Mandsager, Steve and Sharon Hanson, Harry Douglas and Marty Mueller, Joseph and Diane Karst and James and Colleen Moravek.

If you want to become a volunteer and be on the list for roadside cleanup when openings occur, please contact Kenny Hanson @ 682-2045. If you volunteered and are not on this list, please contact Kenny Hanson. **A BIG THANK YOU** to all who volunteer their time.

Conservation/Stewardship

Environmental Stewardship is something that we all can relate to when it comes to our place on the lake. If you have been on the lake for many years you have seen changes happen because of nature. Too much rain, not enough rain, the impact of the Rusty Crawfish on vegetation, wind storms destroying our woods and causing erosion on the shorelines to name a few.

Our goal as an association is to promote protection and improvement of conditions on the lakes and waterways served by the association.

Last fall we started a shoreline buffer improvement and restoration program. We offered 5 native plants to all members to be used on their shorelines. We had over 50 members take advantage of this program. The information for next year will be in the fall newsletter.

By expanding your buffer area, planting vegetation and moving the lawn back from the shoreline, it will help to control runoff and contribute to the clean water we have. Maintaining good septic systems will also help to maintain the water quality in our waterways.

Tim Bruhjell, Chairperson of Water Patrol

This report represents a compilation of the 2019 Woman and Girl Lake Volunteer Water Patrol activity starting on the Walleye Opener on May 11th continuing to mid-July. There are 17 volunteers four of which are new this season. Taking into account that the volunteers are scheduled for patrol on weekends and holidays, there have been 19 patrol days available since opening day. Total hours patrolled to date are 80, which is in line with the mid-summer total of past years. With approximately 2 months left in our patrol season, we should surpass the 200 hour mark by the end of the season. Volunteers patrolled for 215 hours in 2018.

The patrol boat was prepped for the 4th of July parade on the 3rd. After the parade the patrol boat was available and used to support the fireworks display the evening of the 4th. Approximately 6 hours of water patrol boat time was spent by the Cass County Sheriff's Office in support of the 4th of July fireworks event.

For more information about our volunteer water patrol contact me at 651-368-5402 or email timaliceb@gmail.com

Jon Stevenson, Chairperson of Road Signs

There are 43 standards around the chain of lakes that display the names of our members. If you know of a name that should not be on the standard please let us know. The member may have sold and moved or passed away. This year we replace 5 old signs. 12 new member name signs have been put up so far this year.

If you find you have new neighbors, you can tell them how to get a road sign by using this process.

1. Join the Association by contacting Bob and Cindy Hankey. They are our Co-Chairs for our Membership Committee.
2. They will contact Don Kruse who will order the sign.
3. When it is finished it will be put up by Jon Stevenson. If the sign is ordered during the winter then it will be put up in the spring.

Ann Stevenson, Chairperson of Water Quality

We continue to collect water samples from Child, Girl and Woman Lakes as part of a ten year study through RMBEL (RMB Environmental Laboratories, INC.) In 2018, RMBEL reported continued increase levels of Chlorophyll-A in Woman and Child Lakes with concurrent decreased water visibility per Secchi disk testing. Chlorophyll-A levels are influenced by nitrogen and phosphorus which are essential for plant growth. But when excessive nitrogen and phosphorus levels enter our water supply they tend to promote algae growth which reduces water clarity and visibility. By practicing good stewardship and minimizing run-off into our lakes and streams we hope to reverse this trend in the future. During the same testing period, no water quality changes have been identified for Girl Lake. A complete detailed report can be found in the Woman Lakes Chain website (www.womanlakechain.org). Go to lakes management programs then water quality. Thanks to our volunteers: Gary Meyer, Keith Lorensen, Jon Stevenson, and Ed and Schelly Odeen, for their continued assistance in collecting the water samples.

Rich Hess, Chairperson of Fisheries and Aquatic Invasive Species

Fisheries

Boy River Egg Take

The MN DNR egg-take operations at the Boy River trap occurred from April 19-26, 2019. A total of 380.6 quarts of walleye eggs were collected (52.6 million eggs). Encouraging, as per the DNR, were the number of 17-inch females observed in the trap for the first time along with many males as well.

Woman Lake Gill Net Assessment and Electrofishing results

A fall gill net assessment was conducted on Woman Lake from September 16-21, 2018. A total of 15 variable mesh gill nets were set and retrieved. The total catch included 140 walleye, 156 yellow perch, 77 Tullibee (Cisco) and 58 northern pike. Lesser numbers of other species were also collected. The walleye ranged from 7-24.5 inches in length and averaged 14.5 inches. Yellow perch ranged from 5-11 inches and averaged 6.5 inches. The northern pike ranged from 17-35 inches and averaged 24 inches. The Tullibee averaged 19 inches in length. The majority of walleye collected were of ages 1-5 years old.

The walleye catch rate of 9.3 per gill net met the long-range DNR management goal of 6-10 walleye per net. The northern pike capture rate was 3.9 per net and was below the management goal of 5-8 per net. The yellow perch capture rate was 10.4 per net and was below the management goal of 13 per net. The Tullibee capture rate of 5.1 per net exceeded the management goal of 2.0 per net. The next fall gill net assessment will be conducted in 2020.

The fall electrofishing assessment of young-of-the-year walleye was conducted only once on October 1, 2018. The total catch was 25 young of the year walleye. The catch rate of the walleye was 19.5 per hour, a decline of 17% from 2017. However, the 2018 fish were all greater than the 5.5 inch benchmark and averaged 6.6 inches. This larger average size gives them a better opportunity for overwinter survival and subsequent growth this year.

Northern Pike Regulation

The northern pike sport fishing regulation will remain unchanged for 2019 to allow for a further review by the DNR. **The regulation remains at a possession limit of three; all pike from 24-36 inches must be released and only one pike over 36 inches may be kept.** A public meeting is planned by the DNR later this year to receive input from anglers on whether to keep the regulation as it is or going to the proposed North-Central Zone limit of 10 pike. All pike from 22 to 26 inches must be immediately released and no more than 2 pike over 26 inches may be kept.

Aquatic Invasive Species

The Minnesota DNR lists a total of **1,057** infestations in approximately 770 bodies of water statewide through April 2, 2019. The invasive species in Cass County include *zebra mussels*, *Eurasian watermilfoil*, and *faucet snails*. There were no new infestations reported in Cass County in 2018 and through April 2, 2019.

Please visit the Minnesota DNR website at www.mndnr.gov/ais for more information on aquatic invasive species and a list of infested waters.

As watercraft users we must all be careful to check our watercraft for invasive species before we launch them into a waterbody. Bait buckets must either be emptied in the trash or have water exchanged prior to leaving any waterbody, and drain plugs must be removed from all watercraft and all boating related equipment prior to transporting. There are now watercraft decontamination facilities in Cass County and there is no charge for decontamination.

Linda Kane: Newsletter editor

The newsletter is an important way for us to communicate information about maintaining and improving environmental quality on our lake chain. Additionally, other topics of interest for our lake association members are included. Over the past year, we produced and distributed a spring and fall issue of Lake News to our members. The majority of our members are receiving the newsletter electronically, which helps reduce the Association's cost and positively impacts the environment. If you are receiving a paper copy and would like to be moved to the electronic distribution list, please contact membership chairs, Bob and Cindy Hankey at cahankey@gmail.com. Did you miss a copy or want to refer back to the newsletter for information? You can find the newsletters posted on the website at womanlakechain.org under Publications. Please contact the newsletter editor, lckane@live.com, with suggestions on topics, to contribute an article or picture, or express interest in working on the newsletter. Together we can keep this an informative, interesting publication!

Kathy Scharmer: Facebook Administrator

Our Facebook page is often our lake association's first impression on new, potential and some current members and the initial method that many members have to interact with us.

The page is our community form where information about current lake association events, links to meeting minutes and newsletters, call for assistance or volunteers, member submitted photos and visitor posts can be found. It is a place to ask questions and find answers.

We strive to post other information that caters to a variety of interests but maintains the integrity of our lake association. Post about wildlife are the most popular followed by information about aquatic invasive species.

In the past year we have had a few very widely read posts, one that reached over 13,000 Facebook users. We currently have over 400 page followers and almost 400 page likes. Our recent page post about the Woman Lake loon rescue has reached thousands of users and that number continues to grow.

Our Facebook page is a valuable tool when many people use it. If you haven't already, please follow us at: www.facebook.com/womanlakechain

Your lake representatives:

Child Lake Representative: Bill Hornung

Girl Lake Representative: Sue Meyer

Woman Lake Representative: Jim Limburg

Woman Lake Representative: Tim Bruhjell

Woman Lake Representative: Gary Knox

CHILD, GIRL, WOMAN LAKES AREA ASSOCIATION

Proposed BUDGET FOR 2019-2020

Newsletter.....	\$2,500.00
(Publishing, mailing)	
Water Safety & Patrol.....	\$1,400.00
(Buoy placement & removal, PFD reward coupons, Spring meeting)	
Road Signs.....	\$500.00
(New names, repair of damage posts, Mileage)	
Water Quality.....	\$1,500.00
(Water Sampling-4 sites-5 times each)	
Annual Meeting.....	\$300.00
(Newspaper adds, coffee, donuts, supplies)	
Public Relations/Membership.....	\$1,250.00
(4th of July parade, Longville Chamber of Commerce, Mail dues statements-reminders, maintain directory of members)	
Adm. & Travel.....	\$1,275.00
(Insurance Policy, Mileage)	
Technology Maintenance.....	\$1,000.00
(Computer-Printer)	
Conservation/Stewardship.....	\$700.00
(Education, meetings, helping members taking care shoreline)	
Contingency Fund	\$1,400.00
(Unplanned expenses)	
Aquatic Invasive Species.....	\$1,000.00
(Tracking new invasions and conducting preventative and educational measures)	
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TOTAL.....	\$12,825.00

BALLOT – AUGUST 2019

Election for Officers

ALL TERMS 2 – YEARS

President – Don Kruse

Secretary – Joyce Humphreys