

# Lake News

2020 Fall Issue 102

Child, Girl, and Woman Lakes Area Association



## CGWLAA Annual Meeting

The 44<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the CGWLAA scheduled for August 1, 2020, at Woodrow Township Hall was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and will be re-evaluated in the spring. Monthly board meetings were held this year via Zoom videoconferencing, and meeting minutes with committee reports are available on the website.

Association membership was at 549 as of October 7. The proposed budget for 2020-2021 of \$16,915 was reviewed and approved by the board. The membership committee coordinated nomination and election for open offices using email and the USPS. Nominations were requested from members by July 1, and ballots were sent to members with a voting deadline of August 1.

Following are the election results (positions are for a two-year term):

**Vice President:** Jon Stevenson

**Treasurer:** Terry Fay

**Child Lake Representative:** Bill Hornung

**Girl Lake Representative:** Sue Meyer

**Woman Lake Representatives:** Janis Kelley, Gary Knox, Nancy Schuelke

Thanks to all the members who voted and the candidates willing to serve the lake association!

The date of the 2021 annual meeting is August 7, 2021. A reminder about the date and time will be published in the spring newsletter, included on our website, announced on Facebook, and listed in the local newspaper.

*Linda Kane, Editor*

## Welcome to the Water Patrol

I would like to say "Welcome to the Water Patrol" to many of you next spring when the water patrol on our lakes resumes. This will require two things to take place. First, restrictions due to COVID-19 that kept us off the water this year be lifted, and second, **YOU** volunteer to become a member of the patrol. The second requirement is why I am writing this article. By way of introduction, my name is Gordie Hess, and I am the water patrol chairman. My family has been on Girl Lake for more than 50 years; there have certainly been many changes over those years.

Boat traffic, size and speed of boats, and varieties of recreational activities have all changed and increased over the last 50 years. All of these changes present many challenges for everyone to safely enjoy the lakes. Water patrol is a fun and important means to help ensure enjoyment remains high, and safety is a paramount part of that enjoyment. Water patrol is also an excellent public relations tool for the lake association.

Typical patrol duties entail a two to three hour shift on the water, twice a month, usually starting mid-morning. Last year we tried to run patrols Saturday, Sunday, and holidays. We can and would like to patrol more frequently, but we need more volunteers to accomplish this goal. Based on my experience, patrol duties are a great way to get to know other volunteers, meet new and old friends on the water, and assure folks are aware of regulations along with safe practices during their on-the-lake activities.

Sometimes you can learn inside tips on where the fish are biting. Children age 12 and under look forward to seeing us because if they are "in-the-know" and have their life jackets on, they get a coupon for ice cream at Frosty's or a kid's combo (pop, popcorn, and candy) at Bear Pause Theater.

We do not function as water police or law enforcement. Primary activities relate to checking for safety equipment, advising people of safe practices, and making sure our presence is known to those using the lake.

Courtesy of the Cass County Sheriff, the water patrol has use of a 20-foot Warrior boat equipped with a 200 HP outboard. I am sure many of you have seen this boat on the water. This boat is readily able to cover the entire chain from Woman Lake to Girl Lake and handles rough water with ease. The boat is kept on a lift at All Seasons Resort on Hunter Bay of Woman Lake, so patrol shifts originate and end at the resort. Storage, fueling, and all maintenance are taken care of through the resort.

So next summer, please join us! Husband/wife teams are welcome. Come on out, work on your tan, make a kid's day happy, pick up some fishing tips, and help keep our lakes safe and enjoyable for all. If you have any questions or would like to sign on with the water patrol, please contact me: Gordie Hess at [drgordo@comcast.net](mailto:drgordo@comcast.net).

*Gordie Hess, Water Patrol*

## Message from the President



The leaves have fallen, sun is milder, temperatures have dropped, and early snow has appeared. As I reflect on the beauty of each season, I am reminded how grateful I am for family, friends, healthcare providers, teachers, and others that serve our communities. During this difficult time, our community has stayed strong and supportive, and

I appreciate this now more than ever.

At our monthly meeting on September 17, the Board of Directors appointed me as president of the lake association. This term will be until our annual meeting in August 2021. As background, I joined the board in 2015 as vice president. During that time, I have been actively involved with installing and maintaining member road signs, water quality testing, and water patrol. I have been so impressed with the Board of Directors, standing committees, task committees, volunteers, and members. I look forward to continue working with everyone!

Similar to most everyone, we had to improvise on a few things this year, such as monthly virtual Zoom board meetings. We are all looking forward to seeing everyone in person next year! We also conducted our board election via the USPS and email given that we had to cancel the annual meeting. There were many activities that continued including: aquatic invasive species, fisheries, membership, newsletter, road signs, social media/Facebook, water quality testing, Adopt-A-Highway, navigational safety, shoreline buffer and restoration, and website.

We hope next season will be back to normal and that the water patrol will be up and running again. Gordie Hess is our new water patrol chairman. We do have a shortage of volunteers in this important role. Please read the article in this newsletter about the water patrol and contact Gordie to volunteer. This is a great way to help everyone stay safe on our lakes.

With my move to president, Bob Riesselman was appointed as vice president during the October 7 board meeting. Please read the article in this newsletter that introduces Bob.

There are 45 road standards around the lake. Signs for people that have moved or chosen not to join the association have been removed. The signs now represent members of your lake association. To have a name remain on the standard, you need to renew your membership each year. Renewal notices will be sent in the early spring. If you are aware of a sign for someone who no longer lives here, please let me know at [j.a.stevenson@usfamily.net](mailto:j.a.stevenson@usfamily.net).

In closing, I want to thank all of our volunteers. Although the annual volunteer appreciation dinner scheduled for September 3 was cancelled, your time and support to help keep our lakes healthy and safe is sincerely appreciated! Many of you have become good friends and part of our lake family. I want to extend a special thank you to Jim Limburg who has retired. Thank you, Jim, for your 24 years of service as a lake representative. Stay safe and healthy in the months ahead!

*Jon Stevenson, President*

## Aquatic Invasive Species Update

Zebra mussels were confirmed in Dade, Sylvan, and Little Red Sand Lakes in Cass County in 2020. However, 35 new infestations of aquatic invasive species occurred statewide in 2020. Most were zebra mussel infestations (23), and there were also eight infestations of Eurasian watermilfoil, three new infestations of flowering rush, and one new infestation of starry stonewort.

No additional zebra mussels or veligers were reported from Woman Lake, and no one who put out a veliger sampling tube reported any veliger attachments. The association thanks those who participated.

Eurasian watermilfoil - Girl Lake: The city docks and Long Birch Lodge Harbor were treated July 30, 2020, by PLM. A liquid herbicide called ProcellaCOR was used that is effective against both Eurasian watermilfoil and the hy-

brid cross between Eurasian (invasive) and Northern watermilfoil (native to MN). Cost of the treatments was \$1,014.36.

The treatments appear to have been very effective. PLM also found one Purple Loosestrife plant (invasive) along the shore in Long Birch Harbor and recommended that it be treated with Roundup or a similar herbicide, which was done.

Please check your docks, lifts, and watercraft this fall when removed from the lake and report any possible aquatic invasive species observations to the association.

**CLEAN - DRAIN - DRY**

*Rich Hess, AIS and Fisheries*

## Vice President Introduction

At the October 7 board meeting, Bob Riesselman was appointed as vice president replacing Jon Stevenson, who was appointed to the vacant president position on September 17. Bob and his wife, Jodi, are year-round residents on Girl Lake and have been members of the lake association for more than 15 years.

Bob retired in May 2018 as a licensed professional engineer with an MBA. Bob worked for heavy industry, high tech, and most recently healthcare during his career.

His background includes extensive experience with leadership. Bob has served on the boards of several engineering societies and volunteered for not-for-profit groups over the years. Please welcome Bob to the lake association board. His willingness to serve on the board is appreciated!

*Linda Kane, Editor*

## Musky Sickness

For years I questioned why anglers with extra long rods casting and baits that hit the water leaving huge splashes were punishing themselves for the fish of 10,000 casts. Muskie fishing never really appealed to me until about four years ago. A group of friends were at the bait shop talking muskies, and after hearing their stories and tall tales of these monsters of the lake, I accepted their invitation to tag along and cast until my arms felt like they were going to fall off.

I remember that first trip, our first spot, and as I picked out a backlash from my reel, I heard, "Fish! Fish! I've got one!" I remember the splashing and chaos that ensued after hooking the fish and the challenge of attempting to net this power fish. As I recall, the fish was not trophy class, but it measured in the mid 40's, a respectable fish nonetheless. I was hooked! We successfully released the fish and continued fishing. We worked up the same shoreline, and it started to rain. I was more determined than ever to catch a fish of my own. As I slowly reeled in my top water bait, I could see a rising wake behind my bait. I continued to reel when all of a sudden the water exploded around my bait.

We managed to land the 45-inch fish and release it back into the lake to be caught again. I have the best photo of that fish. The rain clouds parted and left a perfect rainbow in the background of the picture. It is still one of my favorite fish photos I have ever taken. Since that day I have gone on to join the army of crazy anglers that chase these

apex predators of our lakes. Muskies have earned the nickname "the fish of 10,000 casts."

If you are so inclined to join the army of anglers, be sure to have the proper equipment: rods, reels, nets, pliers, and many more. These fish are precious resources and demand proper handling to ensure successful releases.



*Bill Hornung, Child Lake Representative*

## Stay Connected

There are many ways for you to connect with your lake association. One easy way is to follow us on Facebook. This allows you to check announcements, post pictures, and stay in touch all year long. You do not need a Facebook profile to view our lake association page. Access the following site to view and interact with our page as a website: <https://www.facebook.com/womanlakechain/>.

Another option is to visit our website at: [womanlakechain.org](http://womanlakechain.org) to find upcoming association events, get news, and learn about the association.

If you are not currently receiving newsletters and other communications from us electronically, please contact [info@womanlakechain.org](mailto:info@womanlakechain.org) to reach the membership committee and make this change.

## Adapting to Climate Change - Part 3

As noted in Part 1, the effects of climate change have already become evident in Minnesota. In Part 2 we presented some snapshots of what may happen to our waterways, forests, and wildlife as the climate continues to change in the future. Part 3 will begin to describe what we as a lake association and as property owners can do to help mitigate and address the negative effects of climate change.

In Minnesota we are getting both warmer and wetter; we are experiencing more damaging rains; and cold weather is warming. You may be surprised to learn that the temperature increase has not resulted from more warm weather, but instead from major reductions in cool and cold weather. The majority of the warming has taken place when it is usually the coldest – namely during winter, at night, and especially in the northern parts of the state.

### What our association can do:

- Keep members informed via newsletters, CGWLAA website, and Facebook
- Encourage the establishment and maintenance of buffer zones along waterways
- Urge reduced harvest of sensitive fish species such as walleyes, northern pike, and tullibees to help protect their abundance
- Maintain membership in the Association of Cass County Lakes (ACCL)

### What individuals can do:

- Support state and federal good climate legislation
- Protect shorelines from erosion with at least a 50-foot buffer zone
- Participate in the annual free tree and shrubs program offered by the CGWLAA
- Reduce or eliminate use of lawn fertilizers
- Do not rake leaves or deposit grass clippings in waterways

**Lakes and Streams:** As our winters become milder we should expect later safe ice to form, less ice cover, and earlier ice out dates.

- We must become more patient and careful about getting out on the ice both early and late in the season.

- Due to the likelihood of increased algal blooms, we should also take precautions to stabilize our shoreline areas with a good buffer strip and prevent lawn fertilizers from reaching the lakes.

**Fish and Fishing:** Fish populations are expected to gradually shift from coldwater species such as tullibee and trout to warmwater species such as bass and panfish.

- We should be prepared for possible declines in walleye and northern pike abundance and support new harvest and size regulations designed to protect some targeted species from excessive harvest.

**Forests:** It appears likely that climate change will shift the ranges of tree species as well as the composition. Species such as fir, aspen, and spruce could become rare. Hardwood trees such as oaks and hickories may become dominant. Invasive vegetation, tree diseases, and insect pests may increase. A decline in fir and evergreen species may impact birds and other animals dependent upon them for food and shelter.

**Wildlife:** Shrinking wetlands may impact waterfowl breeding areas in remaining prairie potholes. Further declines could also occur in the moose population. Hunting seasons may be shortened or even closed resulting in a decline in the numbers of hunters and license fees may increase.

**Economic Impacts:** Minnesota relies heavily on outdoor recreation and tourism to support the state economy. Impacts on our lakes and rivers could effectuate shorter ice fishing seasons, declines in fishing participation, and safe snowmobiling. This will affect communities, resorts, tackle shops, and bait dealers. More severe and frequent algal blooms could impede enjoyment of summer tourism and watercraft activities such as boating, water skiing, kayaking, canoeing, and jet skiing. Angler demands for more walleye stocking and rearing could influence license fees and hatchery production costs and capabilities.

*Rich Hess, Fisheries and AIS*

## Winter Activities

Up north is a great place to enjoy a variety of activities in the winter. One option is ice fishing (the fish still bite in the winter!) Be safe and check with the DNR for local ice conditions.

Cross-country skiing allows you to enjoy scenery, wildlife, fresh air, and quiet snow-covered woods. There are numerous cross-country skiing trails in the area including Longville and Deep Portage. Snowshoeing is another option where you can use designated trails or make your own.

An ice skating and hockey rink is available in Longville at Stuart Memorial City Park, just south on Highway 84.

There is no charge to skate. The rink is open to skaters and hockey players and is lighted for evening hours.

If you like snowmobiling, there are limitless area trails that are regularly groomed. These trails are ready for those who want to enjoy the scenic country and wildlife.

A winter bonfire, hot beverages, s'mores, grilled sandwiches made with a campfire cooking iron, or stew over the fire can help you stay toasty warm.

Share your favorite activities on our Facebook page or by emailing me at [lckane@live.com](mailto:lckane@live.com). Pictures are welcome!

*Linda Kane, Editor*

# Order Trees or Shrubs for Spring Planting

Our lake association is again offering five **FREE** trees or shrubs to encourage shoreline naturalization as a buffer between lawns and the lakes. As in the past, you can order any combination of five trees or shrubs from the list. The trees and shrubs are bare root and 8 to 24 inches in height. Additional trees or shrubs can be ordered for \$1.50 each. Payment for any additional items must be made at the time your order is sent or placed online (with a check to follow shortly). **All orders must be placed by the first week of January.**

Please email your order to **Bill Pilacinski at [wppila@gmail.com](mailto:wppila@gmail.com)** (no order form necessary if by email), or mail the order form provided below to **Bill Pilacinski at 3295 - 124th Lane NE, Unit C, Blaine, MN 55449.**

Orders sent by email are easier to process and provide a simple method for ongoing communication. If you do not have email, please be sure to include your name and phone number on the order form. If you wish to order additional plants or other materials that are not on the order form, visit the Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District (CWSWCD) website (<https://crowwingswcd.org/annual-tree-plant-sale/>) to see what else is available.

The CWSWCD offers a broader selection, but you need to order an entire bundle or kit. You can also send payment for any additional order to me, and I will include it in our order.

Pick up of the trees and shrubs will be in the spring at Woodrow Township Hall off of County Road 11. Orders can be picked up the second Saturday in May (5/8) or the third Saturday in May (5/15) from 9 AM to noon. You will receive a reminder when your order is available.

The trees and shrubs for this year have been selected based on soil type and height. The majority will do well in a wide range of moisture conditions, but two (Nannyberry and Red-osier Dogwood) prefer a moist/wet soil. American Plum, Staghorn Sumac, and Nannyberry will likely grow above 10' and, if provided with feeding protection early, will grow to a height beyond the reach of feeding deer. If you do not have a deer feeding issue and desire a plant with shorter stature, select one or more of the others. More information on these and other native plants can be found at: <https://www.minnesotawildflowers.info/>.

I plan to post additional information on protecting our shoreline and reducing erosion and runoff on our lake association website. Please call Bill Pilacinski (314-541-0396) or respond by email with any questions. We look forward to another successful year of spring planting.

*Bill Pilacinski, Conservation/Stewardship*

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## Order Form

**Print Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Species	Mature Height (ft)	Soil Type	Number
American Plum	15 to 25	Dry-Wet	_____
Staghorn Sumac	12 to 24	Dry-Wet	_____
American Hazelnut	4 to 8	Dry-Wet	_____
False Indigo	6 to 9	Dry-Wet	_____
Serviceberry/Juneberry	6 to 9	Dry-Wet	_____
Red-osier Dogwood	5 to 10	Moist-Wet	_____
Nannyberry	7 to 16	Moist-Wet	_____



# Lake News



Child, Girl and Woman Lakes  
Area Association  
PO 335, Longville, MN 56655

Website addresses:  
[www.womanlakechain.org](http://www.womanlakechain.org)  
[www.facebook.com/  
womanlakechain](http://www.facebook.com/womanlakechain)  
[info@womanlakechain.org](mailto:info@womanlakechain.org)



## Child, Girl, and Woman Lakes Area Association

President	Jon Stevenson	<a href="mailto:j.a.stevenson@usfamily.net">j.a.stevenson@usfamily.net</a>	763-226-6509
Vice President	Bob Riesselman	<a href="mailto:bobriesselman@gmail.com">bobriesselman@gmail.com</a>	612-381-4824
Treasurer	Terry Fay		218-363-3825
Secretary	Joyce Humphreys	<a href="mailto:joyjac22@gmail.com">joyjac22@gmail.com</a>	218-682-2607
<b>Directors at Large</b>			
Woman Lake Rep	Gary Knox	<a href="mailto:gary@minneteepee.com">gary@minneteepee.com</a>	218-682-2485
Woman Lake Rep	Nancy Schuelke		952-303-9988
Woman Lake Rep	Janis Kelley	<a href="mailto:kelly0930@msn.com">kelly0930@msn.com</a>	218-682-3855
Girl Lake Rep	Sue Meyer	<a href="mailto:gsmeyer@arvig.net">gsmeyer@arvig.net</a>	218-363-3659
Child Lake Rep	Bill Hornung	<a href="mailto:hornungbill@gmail.com">hornungbill@gmail.com</a>	218-507-0904
<b>Standing Committees</b>			
Membership	Cindy & Bob Hankey	<a href="mailto:info@womanlakechain.org">info@womanlakechain.org</a>	218-682-2370
Road Signs	Jon Stevenson	<a href="mailto:j.a.stevenson@usfamily.net">j.a.stevenson@usfamily.net</a>	763-226-6509
AI Species	Rich Hess	<a href="mailto:rhess48@arvig.net">rhess48@arvig.net</a>	218-363-2282
Fisheries	Rich Hess	<a href="mailto:rhess48@arvig.net">rhess48@arvig.net</a>	218-363-2282
Water Patrol	Gordie Hess	<a href="mailto:drgordo@comcast.net">drgordo@comcast.net</a>	218-363-2921
Water Quality	Ann Stevenson	<a href="mailto:astevenson@usfamily.net">astevenson@usfamily.net</a>	612-490-5990
Newsletter	Linda Kane	<a href="mailto:lckane@live.com">lckane@live.com</a>	612-327-4964
Social Media	Kathy Scharmer	<a href="mailto:kscharmer@mchsi.com">kscharmer@mchsi.com</a>	319-361-1443
<b>Task Committees</b>			
Adopt-A-Highway	Ken Hanson	<a href="mailto:klhanson03@gmail.com">klhanson03@gmail.com</a>	218-682-2045
Navigational Safety	Dwayne Waldera	<a href="mailto:noisytoys@hotmail.com">noisytoys@hotmail.com</a>	218-363-2030
Webmaster	Carole Houghton	<a href="mailto:mchcah@arvig.net">mchcah@arvig.net</a>	218-363-2286
Conservation/Stewardship	Bill Pilacinski	<a href="mailto:wppila@gmail.com">wppila@gmail.com</a>	314-541-0396