LONG LAKE NEWS

LLA & FLL
PO Box 9
Saxeville WI 54976
Spring 2016

President's Message – Gary Wisbrocker

Spring has finally arrived! After a nice month of March, April seemed to revert back to winter! Although the ice went out on March 27 (Easter), we have had two major snow storms since then. Even though we have had a good amount of rain and snow, please remember that burning permits are required until June 1st and burning regulations are also in effect until that time. You should check the DNR web page (http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestfire/restrictions.html) for burning regulations and updated permit information.

I would like to let everyone know about this year's important dates so you can mark them on your calendars. The Long Lake Association Annual Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 2nd at 8:30am, at the Saxeville Town Hall. The doors will be open at 8:00am allowing for members to pay their membership dues and shop for Long Lake items and apparel. The annual Long Lake picnic will be held at the Johnson residence on Saturday, July 16th, beginning at 4:00pm with dinner at 5:00pm, rain or shine. This event seems to be enjoyed by all so please plan to attend and please bring a dish to share.

All property owners on Long Lake should have received information from Waushara County Land Conservation Department reference the County's work on the Long Lake Management www.co.waushara.wi.us/pView.aspx?id=14841&catid=636
This project is part of the countywide project to develop and standardize the lake management plans of 33 lakes in the county. The County has held four meetings relating to this issue and Long Lake. Attendance at these meetings included around 15-20 residents of Long Lake, UW Extension members and DNR employees. Although the written plan is still in draft form, we hope to have a document available for discussion and possible action at our annual membership meeting.

Property owners along South Long Lake Road, Hwy W, West Long Lake Road and Wilson Road may have heard by now that WE Energies has approved the project that will make natural gas available to your properties. If you have questions, you may contact WE Service Representative Dave Mickelson at 608-843-9375.

Please take this opportunity to fill out the membership renewal forms inside this edition of the newsletter for the Long Lake Association and the Friends of Long Lake and send in with a **separate check for each** as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support of the LLA. This year is the 40 year anniversary of the Long Lake Association and you can read more about this in Joan Laabs' Friends of Long Lake article.

This will be my last message as President because I have reached my term limit of two consecutive three year terms. I have greatly enjoyed my time on the board and appreciate the support given to me by the board members and membership. I have always held Long Lake dear to my heart and believe it is truly a great lake My time on the LLA Board of Directors has shown me the Association membership is a dedicated group of people willing to work to protect the lake. Thank you to all. Enjoy your summer with family, friends, and the lake.

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Friends of Long Lake – Joan Laabs

The Winter Issue of the Long Lake Newsletter contained an update on our various projects and contributions; therefore, this report has a very specific purpose.

The Friends of Long Lake (FLL) wishes to congratulate the Long Lake Association (LLA) on their 40th Anniversary of service leadership to the property owners of Long Lake. As the primary "keeper of the archives", I have many interesting documents, photos, and all of our Long Lake Journals and newsletters from 1976-2016.

During 40 years of history there have been 13 LLA Presidents. Most notably, Gary Wisbrocker has been a Member of the Board for 12 years and has served as President of LLA for 11 years. Gary's admirable dedication to the protection and preservation of Long Lake is commendable.

Special appreciation goes to Sven Johnson, Tom Catlin, and John Hanson who each served 4 years as president. Paul Zwirchitz and I each served three years as president. An additional seven property owners: Bob Roemer, Bob Rosenthal, Larry Hildebrand, Terry Murray, Yvonne Feavel, Bill Harvat and Dave Schultz were president for either 1 or 2 years. Most importantly, the majority of the 13 Presidents served additional years as Members of the Board of Directors. The greatest appreciation that we can show these past leaders is to continue their legacy of responsible care for our beautiful lake.

The Friends of Long Lake is a partner organization of the LLA; membership is open to the public and it has 501 (c)3 charitable status. FLL membership is through donation and is tax deductible. There is a membership form in this newsletter. Throughout the year, please remember the importance of safety and appreciate all the "good times" at Long Lake!

CBCW-Spring-2016 –Tom Catlin

Here we go once again….our 12th year of the Friends of Long Lake/LLA CBCW (Clean Boats Clean Waters) Program and we continue to be free of zebra and quagra mussels, curley leaf pond weed, and Eurasian milfoil. We keep fighting, God willing, and the creek (lake) don't rise we will continue to prevail.

I will be conducting a CBCW refresher training session at the Long Lake Landing at 11am on Saturday May 21st with the rain delay being the 22nd. Last year I observed a number of cases where our inspections were lacking some key points. This will be an opportunity for all of our existing volunteers to be on the same page as well as an opportunity for anyone who wishes to join our program to not only meet our current volunteers, but to get insight and training as a CBCW volunteer.

Now here is where I go into our annual call for new volunteers. Our program is open to any and all regardless of age and address who wish to be part of a program to prevent the spread of the above mentioned invasives in Wi. lakes and streams and in this case Long Lake. Again I emphasize that this program is NOT limited to Long Lake residents and in fact we have volunteers who are not residents, but who care enough to volunteer their time in the fight. For our CBCW program to be effective it is vital that we not only retain our current Merry Band of Volunteers, but attract new volunteers. To be a member of this group is a rewarding and enjoyable experience as you not only participate in the prevention of the spread of these invasives, but the protection of the Long Lake aquatic environment as well getting to meet a lot of nice folks who come to Long Lake (many on a regular basis) to boat, swim, and fish. Our best recruiters for our program are our present volunteers so please take the time to speak to your friends, neighbors, relatives, and especially your kids as they are the future stewards of Long Lake about joining The Merry Band of CBCW Volunteers.

Board of Directors Nominations- Paul Zwirchitz

Your Board of directors has three positions to be elected at our 2016 Annual Meeting. All directors are nominated for a three year term with a maximum of two consecutive terms. All three of the open positions are the result of directors having served for two consecutive terms. Those directors are: Gary Wisbrocker, Neil Pollock and Paul Zwirchitz.

Any member of the Long Lake Association (except those who just completed their two consecutive terms) are eligible to be directors. We encourage any eligible LLA member who is interested in running for a position or would just like to learn more about it to contact Paul Zwirchitz at pzwirchitz@gmail.com

FISH Enhancement - Dave Schultz

This winter it took a while before we had good ice for fishing. The ice went out over the course of a week early in April this year. In 2014 the ice went out over April 1st and 2nd and in 2014 over April 17th and 18th. In 2013 the ice went out on the 27th. The previous record was April 23rd. it wasn't too long ago the ice went in March and I put the dock in on St Pat's day March 17th.

The fishing was pretty good over all. My spot checking revealed some good size northern being caught this winter. Pan -fish seemed to be either biting well or hard to find. Our population of good size bluegill has been reduced substantially due to heavy fishing. Unfortunately it's going to be several years before the current population of smaller fish mature. Similar to last year, most of the walleye were being caught at night. One musky was reported to have been caught on the east end. I've been told it was about 48" long. The DNR says that fish would be about 19 years old.

Last year the WRK fish club planted 120 lbs. of forage, 140 lbs. of 4-5"suckers and 800 8-10" suckers. The Long Lake Association and The Friends of Long Lake planted an additional 140 lbs. of 4-5" suckers and 1000 8-10" suckers. The DNR also planted 2700 fingerling walleye.

Four years ago we began planting the adult white suckers. These fish produce minnows now and for years in the future to support our pan fish population with less mortality than planting minnows. They also provide forage for the larger fish reducing the pressure on the lakes panfish. This year we will be receiving 120 lbs. of forage, 250 lbs. of 4-5" suckers 1000 walleye from WRK.

If approved at our spring board meeting the LLA and Friends will also be planting additional fish to continue our efforts providing a "family friendly" fish population. We will determine species based on further discussions with the DNR, availability and on our long range plan, but we will probably look at more suckers, perch, and crappie.

In 2014 the Wisconsin DNR fish biologist conducted surveys on our lake. You may have notice the nets located in several places around the lake after ice out. Several large walleye were in the nets this year. They completed shocking surveys at night in April and again in November. During the spring shocking numerous adult white suckers were observed close to shore. This is good news for our plan to produce a self sufficient minnow population. Very few large bluegills were found, probably due to the greater fishing pressure on those nice sized bluegill the last two years, but good quantities of smaller fish were netted. Many were a beautiful dark blueish black color. Most of the larger walleye netted while shocking were the same fish that were netted in the spring in the stationary nets. The results of the surveys should be available on the DNR's website this spring. The DNR report can be found on their website.

This spring the lake level is up substantially from last year. It's interesting why seeing that we did not have more snow or rain than previous years. Again this year we will be working with the U. S. Geological Survey and the Wisconsin Water Science Center to develop and monitor our lake levels as part of a long term scientific data base to try and determine the effects, if any, of deep wells in the central sands area on our lakes water levels. the water level gauge at the public landing was installed and we will be recording the water level weekly. Please be aware of it. Last year it was bumped a couple of times which affected the accuracy of the readings.

Habitat is one of the most important factors in sustaining our fish population especially for the spawning of our panfish like perch. Tree drops on the shore are great for this. You may notice a few new trees on the shores this year that have been places for the fish. Unfortunately, they are not always popular on a lake with as much developed shoreline as our lake is, yet they are a vital source for spawning and cover for many pan fish.

Tree drops are a great way to provide fish habitat. Several of the other lakes in our area have been doing tree drops with good success. The undeveloped properties on Long Lake would be a great place to drop trees in the water without efecting other recreational use of the lake. If you are interested the WRK fish club is glad to assist. You can contact me any time to coordinate with the DNR biologists and the club.

We are, along with the DNR, proposing property owners to place brush bundles and old Christmas trees under docks for the fish. These are easily place under the docks and secured in place with rope at each end. Tom Catlin brought to my attention a great device that is an alternative to using brush. They are called Porcupine fish attractors. Check it out at www.porcupinefishattractor.com You can also see video clips of several installations and they can then be removed at the end of the year when you remove your dock.

These units are also an excellent tool to check our waters for zebra mussels as well. If you are interested in enhancing the lakes fish habitat on your shore you can check out the Wisconsin DNR web site. Or you can contact me or Scott Bunde at the Wautoma office. The DNR fish and shoreline people would be glad to come out and help.

Long Lake Lighted Boat Parade – Mike Cervinka

The 2016 boat parade will be on Saturday July 2nd, and will start at 8:30 p.m. at Cervinka"s, on the southwest shore. The LLA board and I are trying to come up with some possible changes that will increase participation. Any changes will be detailed in the Spring newsletter. If any one has some suggestions to get more boats to join the parade, please email me at mjc1899@gmail.com

Lake Management—Jim Schiek

2015 Algae Bloom

I'm sitting by my computer overlooking our bay and can see the remnants of last season's algae bloom being blown into my shoreline by a brisk southeasterly breeze. This algae was previously lying on the bottom but has floated to the surface and is now on my shoreline. There are still some algae floating off shore which I will attempt to rake to shore. I have also noticed a chunk of algae that was blown around the point to the east of our bay and drifted onto my shore.

Algae grow when they have the right conditions such as adequate nutrients (mostly phosphorus but nitrogen is important too), light levels, pH, temperature, etc. Generally the amount of phosphorus controls the amount of algae found in a freshwater lake or water body.

Short term, the best method for property owners to remove filamentous algae is to rake out the floating clumps and compost these piles or use them in your garden as mulch. Chemical control requires a permit from the DNR. Long term, waterfront property owners can limit the amount of water and nutrients reaching the water. Reducing fertilizer use, keeping animal waste out of waterways, preventing soil erosion on construction sites, planting buffers zones along waterways, and keeping leaves and grass clippings out of the lake are just a few of the ways that we can reduce phosphorous runoff over the long run to help keep the problem from coming back.

As I had mentioned in last fall's Newsletter, Ted Johnson of the DNR responded to inquires last fall with the following comments. "The species of algae that we sampled and saw were common green algae and filamentous algae (see page 6 "Spirogyra Cycle in Lakes"). In themselves, they do not offer any specific clues into what is going on other than they are a sign of overabundant nutrients. Neither is a threat to human health. 2015 has been a bad summer for algae and aquatic plants Region wide. Ambient environmental factors could be coming into play here".

Ambient environmental factors can mean different things to different people. For me it's related to an event like the torrential downpour that occurred in the late fall of 2014. The heavy rainfall had to have scrubbed the steep hillside on the north side of the east basin of nutrients into the lake. Also, the fact that the 2014/2015 winter snow cover on the ice was minimal which had to contribute to the photosynthesis process and encouraged algae growth. Hopefully, this is a onetime event and will not continue to be long term problem.

We have had a question about the possible use of chemicals to treat the algae. Please see the DNR response.

The following is information Eric Evensen, DNR Water Resource Management Specialist, provided when queried regarding the algae issue.

Why are we seeing floating mats of algae on the lake this spring?

"The lake bottom is covered with leaves, sticks, aquatic plants and other organic material. These materials are continuously breaking down, releasing non harmful gases. If you have a mat of algae or non-rooting aquatic plants (coontail, Chara) these gases can build up underneath these plant or algae masses causing them to float to the surface".

Will the DNR support the use of chemicals to control the algae?

"The DNR would not support its use on Long Lake at this time. We would only permit its use when there is a navigational impairment being caused by the algae itself. I know Long Lake has experienced some recent localized algae blooms but these things can come and go with time. **Using chemicals is always risky business as it can impact other native plants in the system and create niches for invasive species to take hold.** As we talked about at your last lake management planning meeting, the DNR would support some ground water sampling centered around the affected area".

Within the next few weeks, the DNR will be assessing the algae bloom and conducting water sampling. Several years ago, as part of our Lake Study, we did ground water testing by the use of ground water wells.

We are inquiring about the cost of putting in ground water testing wells in the event that they would be recommended.

Eurasian Milfoil

Over the past several summers there have been several reports of the possible sighting of Eurasian milfoil. I am pleased to announce that all were false alarms. We are very appreciative of those individuals who have taken the time to look for and have alerted us to the possibility of exotic plants in our lake. We have to stay in front of this issue so it's always better to be pro-active and have a false report than miss the opportunity to catch it early.

It can be difficult to determine if it's Eurasian milfoil or if it's the more common native species Northern Milfoil. It needs to be pulled and the leaflets need to be counted. Our lake is loaded with the more common northern plant and the following information may be helpful identifying the difference.

Here are some tips to identify Eurasian Milfoil from the native milfoils.Count the pairs of leaflets. Eurasian milfoil usually has twelve or more pairs on each leaf.

Eurasian milfoil leaves tend to collapse around the stem when removed from the water. Other milfoil species have thicker stems and are usually more robust. The mature leaves are typically arranged in whorls of four around the stem.

The milfoil leaflet pictured on the left is from a Northern Milfoil plant. The threadlike segments are very widely separated and there are few pairs per leaflet. The Eurasian milfoil leaflet (left side of the photo) has many pairs of closely-spaced segments. Note also that the shape of each leaflet is different. Unfortunately not all Northern and Eurasian milfoil leaflets look so differently from each other. Sometimes these two species look very similar and when that happens it is best to rely on professional analysis for positive identification. Please contact any LLA board member so that we can assist with the follow-up.

D.A.S.H (Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting)

On October 27, 2015 I had the opportunity to attend a presentation by Waushara County Land Conservation regarding what are the next steps required to manage/control the spread of Eurasion Water Milfoil. Once milfoil is discovered in a water body the current practices to manage the infestation are the following, Chemical treatment, Mechanical harvesting, Hand pulling, Combinations/cocktails and a combinations of any of the above.

After listening to numerous horror stories of high cost with only minimal success, I did learn about the hand pulling project on Porter Lake. Volunteers who with the help of Golden Sands were able to virtually irradiate the plant by hand pulling at the first sighting of Eurasian Milfoil around their boat launch. Even though they did find a sprinkle of milfoil at a later date it's considered very successful.

This is where DASH comes in. DASH is basically a pump and hose device which is fastened to a floating platform that enables a diver to extract invasive plants from the bottom of a water body. A diver lies on the Lake bottom and operates a nozzle to extract the plants and its associated rooting system. The plant is then carried to the water surface by the suction hose and bagged.

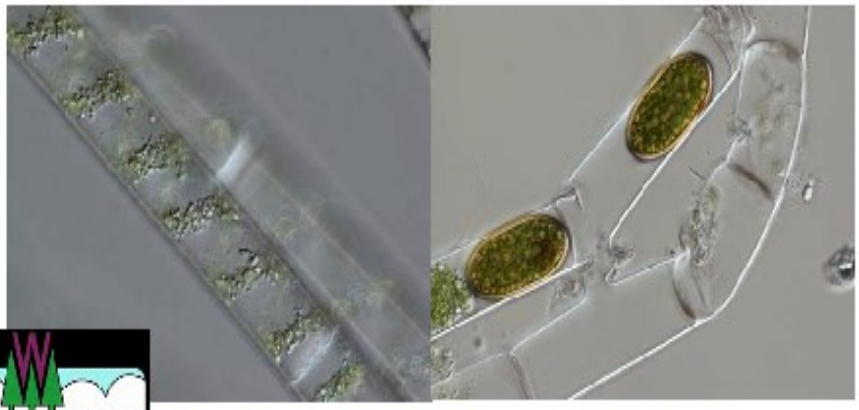
A combination of DASH along with some mild Chemical treatment looks to be the most cost effective way to manage Eurasian Milfoil if or when it is discovered in Long Lake. I will continue to research this process.

The *Spirogyra* Cycle in Lakes

Spirogyra starts growth in the spring and appears as green "clouds" near the lake bottom or entangled in lake plants.

If photosynthesis rates are high, oxygen bubbles form on the algae and lift it to the top of the water column.

No longer submerged, the algae mats undergo sexual reproduction, producing resting cells and then breaking down.



Left: *Spirogyra* filament.
Right: filaments after sexual reproduction hold resting cells, which fall to the lake bottom to wait for better conditions.

Prepared by Gina LaLiberte, Bureau of Science Services

Spring Road Cleanup Gary Wisbrocker

On Saturday April 30th, thirteen members of the Long Lake Association and Friends of Long Lake gathered for our semiannual road cleanup on the roads around Long Lake. Although the weather was cold (46 degrees), the grass and trees were turning green.

The amount of garbage and trash picked up by the group seemed to be less than in the past years. I believe that is because of those people who take their walks around the lake and take the time to pick up the trash and garbage on their own. A big **THANK YOU** to all who participate in keeping the area around our lake clean!

Dues and Membership

Long Lake Association Annual Dues $ 20 per family. Membership is open to any individual who for at least one month each year owns real estate or resides on or within one mile of Long Lake.

Friends of Long Lake Membership Donation : $10 or greater contribution (FLL is a 501C3 Corp with tax decuctiblity).

Membership open to LLA members and general public.

Please make a separate check for Friends of Long Lake

Long Lake Association Membership-Dues

PO Box 9

Saxeville WI 54976

Name of Property Owners _____

Home Address_____

_____

Phone: H_____ L_____

Lake Address_____

_____

E-Mail _____

Friends of Long Lake Membership-Contribution

PO Box 9

Saxeville WI 54976

Enclosed is a check in the amount of $_____

If desired, please mark as follows:

$_____Fire Protection

$_____Fish Enhancement

$_____Land Acquisition

$_____Legal Expenses

$_____Lake Studies

$_____Clean Boats/Clean Waters

Name_____

E-Mail _____

Home Address _____-

_____

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LONG LAKE APPAREL

If you would like to place an order or review our current apparel inventory, please contact:

Polly Holly 715-258-7406

Cherri Catlin 715-258-5841

Clothing will be available to buy and order at both the LLA Annual Membership Meeting and the LLA Family Picnic.

Visit lake web site at:

www.llasaxeville.org

LONG LAKE