LONG LAKE NEWS

LLA & FLL
PO Box 9
Saxeville,WI 54976
Winter 2018

President's Message - Gary Wisbrocker

I hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying the fall weather. Hopefully you had an enjoyable summer with family, friends, and neighbors. As always, the season seems too short for the amount of activities we can enjoy on and around the lake.

As in the past, I appreciate the opportunity given to me by the membership and the other board members to once again serve on the LLA board as the Association President. This is a great organization and I am very proud to be involved with it. Between your board members and volunteers, we have a very active Association. If you haven't volunteered or helped out in the past, please consider helping out next year with one of our many projects/ activities. The Clean Boats/Clean Waters program volunteers continue their great job of working hard to protect our lake from invasive species, but they are in need of additional help. The picnic volunteers and cooks did a great job this year with our annual picnic. Although the number of attendees was down (probably due to the rainy forecast and rain earlier in the day) everyone still had a great time. And a big thanks to the Weilands for allowing us to use their great property for the event!

The continued high lake levels are affecting the shoreline in most areas of the lake. Many residents are finding less beach area to enjoy during the summer and to use when storing equipment for the winter. Also, the higher water levels along with the high wave action are causing areas of the shoreline to become eroded. Please keep this in mind while you and your guests are enjoying your water sports. One good way to help control this problem is to conduct watersports further from the shoreline and in the middle areas of the east and west basins.

I have received questions about the clearing of the plots of land east of Co Hwy W and 24th Lane, the old "boy scout camp." From what I have been able to find out so far, the land was purchased and is being converted to agricultural (farm) land and is planned to be used for organic farming. There have been two high capacity wells (1,000 gallons per minute) approved by the WI-DNR for this land. The Association's land management committee will continue to monitor this project and will provide an update in the spring newsletter if more information becomes available.

Our new website is up and running at www.lla.lakekit.net. If you haven't already done so, please visit our new site and add it to your favorites list for future visits.

LeAnn and I hope you and your family have a safe and very Happy Holiday Season!

LLA Board 2018-2019
Gary Wisbrocker, President
Bruce Rucks, Vice President
Bob Schnese, Secretary
Lindy Rucks, Treasurer
Tom Catlin
Stu McIntyre
Ken Swanson
Dave Schultz
Dennis Reimer

FLA Board 2018-2019
MaryAnn Cervinka, President
Tom Catlin, Vice President
Lisa Kircher, Secretary
Joan Laabs, Treasurer
Connie Henslin
Jeanie Reimer
Gary Wisbrocker

Fish Report 2018

Dave Schultz

The staff gauge (located near the public access) is used to monitor lake water level and was installed this year by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) on April 23, 2018. At that time the water level measured 5.60 ft. on the gauge. Levels dropped gradually to a low point of 5.38 ft. on August 17; then rose steadily along with the heavy rains to a high point of 5.8 ft. on September 7. Unfortunately, I was unable to get accurate measurements after that because the pipe holding the gage was bent. Levels have been very steadily going up the last couple of years. We will continue to monitor lake levels and rainfall on a weekly basis again next summer and forward the information to the USGS. The USGS posts these levels on their website if you would like to find more information or to compare our lake with the other lake in our area that is monitored.

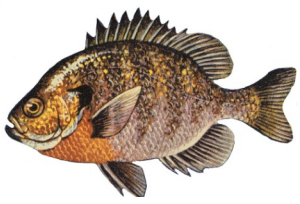
We have worked again this year with the DNR and the We Really Kare fish club for fish stocking in our lake. Our plan encompasses multiple parts and is based on our philosophy to create a "Family Friendly Fishery." The plan encompasses multiple parts:

- To stock the lake with pan fish native to the lake that are desirable for eating
- To plant forage and white suckers that provide an alternative source of food for the larger game fish and produce a renewable source of minnows for the pan fish

Larger bluegill were relatively scarce again this summer. More than a decade ago, DNR surveys showed very few large bluegills, but large numbers of small fish. It takes 10-12 years to produce decent size bluegill in our lake. As part of our new lake plan, we are pursuing a reduced daily bag limit that will hopefully reduce the overfishing problem as future hatches mature. Research shows that these reduced bag limits do make a difference in the number of larger pan fish. We passed the public vote at the spring Conservation Congress meeting in Wautoma for a second time as well as at the Conservation Congress meetings in Rothchild with a unanimous vote of the board. Now we are advancing to a final vote again at the Statewide Conservation Congress meeting in April of 2019. We invite you to attend the April meeting in any of the state's 72 counties and vote in favor of our proposal. It's a very long process to say the least.

This year, WRK planted 150 lbs. of forage minnows and 700 walleyes. The Association planted 128 lbs. of suckers this year. Funding for these fish is provided by the Friends of Long Lake and the WRK fish club. Please remember the Friends for your generous financial donations again this year for our fish fund. These donations are tax deductible as Friends is a 501 C-3. WRK is now a 501 C-3 as well.

Late winter is a great time to create fish habitat with tree drops, etc. Anyone interested can contact me and I will be glad to give you the details and help. It's always "A great day to fish!"



Lake Management

Jim Schiek

In the Spring Newsletter I discussed "In-Lake Sensitive Areas" and what we are doing to protect them. We purchased and installed a total of 4 buoys. We also received a permit from the DNR with a recommendation to consider an additional buoy in areas that are spread out and may require better coverage. Therefore, next summer we will add a second buoy to the sensitive area located on the north side of the lake just east of the narrows. Please exercise caution when entering and leaving these areas. Boats should be off plane so that prop scaring of the lake bottom is minimized or not at all. Thank you for your cooperation.

Other topics affecting the character of the lake have been grouped as follows: In-Lake Habitat and a Healthy Lake: Landscapes and the Lake: and People and the Lake. So let's take a look at "Healthy Lakes."

Healthy Lakes (taken from https://healthylakeswi.com) includes 5 simple and inexpensive best practices that improve habitat and water quality on your lakeshore property.

1. FISH STICKS: Create fish and wildlife habitat. "Fish sticks" are large woody habitat structures that utilize whole trees grouped together, resulting in the placement of more than 1 tree per 50 feet of shoreline. Fish Sticks are anchored to the shore and are partially or fully submerged. Fish sticks are not tree drops since the trees utilized for the projects come from further than 35 feet from shore, thus they don't "rob from the bank" of trees that may otherwise grow and fall in naturally. This fish and wildlife habitat best practice creates food, shelter, and breeding areas for all sorts of creatures from small aquatic insects, to fish, turtles, ducks, and songbirds. Fish Sticks can also help prevent bank erosion – protecting lakeshore properties and our lake.

2. NATIVE PLANTINGS: Improve wildlife habitat, natural beauty and privacy, and slows runoff. Native plantings include grasses and wildflowers with shrubs and trees preferably 350 sq. feet. Choose one of six native plant options available based on your property specifications and interests – from bird/butterfly habitat to a low-growing native garden showcasing your lake view. Native planting will not only improve wildlife habitat, natural beauty, privacy, and decrease excessive runoff, it can also prevent bank erosion.

3. DIVERSION: Prevents runoff from getting into your lake. Diversion practices prevent runoff from running directly into your lake by moving water to areas where it can soak into the ground instead. Depending on your property, multiple diversions may be necessary.

4. ROCK INFILTRATION: Captures and cleans runoff. Rock infiltration practices fit in nicely along roof drip lines and driveways and provide space for runoff to filter itself. They work best if your soil is sandy or loamy.

5. RAIN GARDEN: Creates wildlife habitat and natural beauty while capturing and cleaning runoff. Rain gardens multi-task – they improve habitat and filter runoff while providing a naturally beautiful view.

The DNR is offering cost-share grants for "Healthy Lakes" practices through lake organizations and local governments. Grants will cover most of the installation expenses as well as some technical assistance. If you are interested please contact a current board member, and we can begin the discussion.

Clean Boats Clean Waters

Tom Catlin

Another great year put in by our merry band of volunteers. Not as great as 2017 in terms of volunteer hours, but still very good. We totaled 520 hours and checked in 725 boats. The top four volunteers this year were: Tom Catlin (32); Phil Holly (30); Tom Dohr (25); Mary Bruyette (23). Please note, these are shifts worked.

Now for the bad news . . . Zebra Mussels. Fall removal of boats, lifts, piers, etc., revealed a major outbreak of this invasive in our lake. Dave Schultz and I removed a large number from the flotation bags on my pontoon lift. Wally Peterson's pontoon had a number of them attached, and today as I removed my turtle logs for the season, I found more. I have recently been informed that I have a reputation as an "opinionated individual." I must admit that I have had a long and storied history of speaking my mind. So here goes. I believe that ballast boats, (some of you may recognize these as wake board boats), are responsible for this situation. Zebra and Guagga Mussels entered the great lakes in the ballast water contained in ocean freight boats. Ballast boats are plain and simple just a smaller version of these larger boats. We who work the landing see these boats coming to our lake on a regular basis. Most of these boats have been on waters containing invasive species such as the Winnebago system, Chain-of-Lakes, etc. The design and use of these boats makes them the perfect conveyor of invasive species and it is my firm belief that these boats are directly responsible for Zebra Mussel infestation of Long Lake. Why the DNR refuses to address the threat these boats pose is beyond me. Whether in time they grow a backbone and address this issue is yet to be seen.

Safety Report 2018

Gary Wisbrocker

Again this year, at the request of the Long Lake Association, the Waushara County Sheriff's Office operated their water patrol on Long Lake. The patrol was on the lake thirteen days for a total of 62 hours. During that time, they issued 8 warnings and had 11 other contacts. There were no citations issued. The patrol reported the biggest concern of boaters and residents of the lake is the operation of personal water craft (PWC) at faster than slow no wake within restricted areas from the shore, docks, rafts, swimmers, and other watercraft. Although no boating accidents were reported to the Sheriff's Office, there was one report of a minor accident involving a PWC and a ski boat that did not seem to have any injuries. Please remember to be courteous and operate safely when enjoying the lake.

Ice Depth Safety Chart

Long Lake Yacht Club 2018

We had another good season of sailing and socializing. Thirteen different sailors navigated the winds of Long Lake. While we had some heavy wind days, it seemed we experienced more lighter wind days. We even had some races canceled because of no wind. There were different winners for each of our series races. Kelley Stevens won the LLYC Open, Jan Gill won the LLYC Regatta, Rob Jossart won the Championship Series and Mike Cervinka won the Labor Day Series.

An enjoyable time was had by all at the end of the season dinner with awards and a friendly game of Wit and Wagers.

We welcome anyone to join us sailing or at one of our parties.

Contact Commodore Mike Cervinka, (mjc1899@gmail.com), or at www.llyc-wi.com.

Long Lake Apparel/Merchandise

Lori Schnese: 612-355-0902, lorischnese@gmail.com

Rhea Teteak 608-221-9676

With the holiday season quickly approaching, we have a limited amount of inventory available for sale.

All Long Lake apparel and merchandise is unique to Long Lake. We are here to offer these as a service for you. Merchandise sales are not for profit, and your input in the form of ideas and current trends for the next ordering season is very much appreciated. Please let us hear from you.

Have a safe and joyous holiday season.

Friends of Long Lake
A 501 C3 Charitable Organization

Mary Ann Cervinka

The Friends of Long Lake Annual Meeting was held September 8, 2018, at the Saxeville Town Hall at 9:00 a.m. Membership is at 103.

Bylaws were revised by a committee to reflect how FLL currently operates. The function of FLL will continue to be to preserve and protect the natural resources of Long Lake and the immediate area surrounding Long Lake. Connie Henslin and Mary Ann Cervinka were elected to replace Terry Purvis and Lynn Roegner whose terms expired this year.

Thanks were given to Lynn and Terry for their service to FLL Board.

Current Board members are Mary Ann Cervinka, Tom Catlin, Joan Laabs, Lisa Kircher, Jeanie Reimer, Connie Henslin, and Gary Wisbrocker.

Happy Holidays to all members of LLA and FLL.

2019 FRIENDS OF LONG LAKE APPLICATION

Friends of Long Lake Membership Donation: $10 or greater contribution (FLL is a 501(c)3 Corporation with tax deductibility). Membership open to LLA members and general public.

Dues paid on or after September 1, 2018 per FLL By-laws will be applied to Fiscal Year Membership of September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019.

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 _____

City _____ State _____ Zip_____

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LONG LAKE APPAREL

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

Rhea Teteak 608-221-9676 or Lori Schnese 612-355-0902

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

Visit our web site at:

www.lla.lakekit.net

LONG LAKE