LONG LAKE NEWS

LLA & FLL
PO Box 9
Saxeville, WI 54976
Spring 2019

President's Message – Gary Wisbrocker

This was a classic Wisconsin winter! There was a lot of ice, snow and poor road conditions to deal with. And another April snowfall of wet and heavy slush! One sign of spring did appear as the DNR set up one of their nets to catch fish off of the shoreline in front of our residence.

Please mark the following LLA dates on your calendars. The 2019 Long Lake Association Annual Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 6th at 8:30 a.m. at the Town of Saxeville building. The doors will open at 8:00 a.m. allowing for members to pay their LLA and FLL membership dues, enjoy coffee and donuts, and purchase some great Long Lake apparel/items. The annual Long Lake Picnic will be held at the Weiland cottage (W4859 Park Place) again this year. Thank you Ryan and Courtney! The date of the picnic is Saturday, July 20th beginning at 4:00 p.m. with dinner served at 5:00 p.m., rain or shine!

Finally, I have not been looking forward to writing this message because it is my last. Due to health issues, I have informed the board of directors that I am immediately resigning as president and as a board member. This will allow my vacancy to be filled at the annual meeting in July. For now, I need some time off. It has been a joy and honor to represent the members of this association. And working alongside the board and our many volunteers has shown me that there is a great group of people working very hard to keep this association and our lake great. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart!

Enjoy your time at the lake and have a safe summer!

LLA Board 2018-2019
President—Vacant
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
Vacant

FISH REPORT

Dave Schultz

This winter it took a while before we had good ice for fishing although the last of our ice blew out with the wind and rain that came through the evening of the 8th of April. The water level is up substantially from last fall. It's higher than anything I've seen in my 62 years on the lake, including the high water of the mid 90's.

As part of our Long Lake Management Plan we have been pursuing a reduced bag limit on panfish. This was originally presented at the annual Conservation Congress (CC) meeting held in Wautoma in April of 2017. The vote was positive and we advanced to two CC meetings in Rothchild. The chairman, and with the support of our local fish biologist, did put us on the statewide spring ballot that was held April 9th of last year. Our proposal passed in all but two counties. (See below) We then advanced to the "Fish Committee" of the DNR in Madison. Reduced bag limits are based on discussions with the DNR fish biologists who supports our efforts. There were several other lakes in the state that have had reduced bag limits on panfish introduced as well. Based on studies of pilot lakes with a 10 and 25 bag limit, the numbers and size of adult fish in these lakes increased and improved the fishing. For some reason the people in Madison lumped us in with several other lakes in the state that proposed reduced panfish bag limits and put us all on the ballot for a ten per species and ten daily total bag limit. At any rate the limit passed by approximately 4 to 1 in favor. At this time, I'm waiting to find out what's next and when it will take effect. Either way, it's good news for our lake and our efforts to have a "family friendly fishery" on Long Lake.

Last year our association and Friends of Long Lake, in conjunction with the WRK Fish Club planted forage minnows and 2,619 4"-5" suckers. The WRK Club also planted 700 walleye. At our spring meeting with the WRK Fish Club and the DNR, approval was given to plant panfish, suckers, and forage this year—availability and size to be determined. At this time, Long Lake is also on a list of lakes in which the DNR plans to plant trout this year.

Habitat is one of the most important factors in sustaining our fish population especially for the spawning of our panfish like perch and crappie. 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 affecting 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 that property owners place brush bundles and old Christmas trees under docks for the fish. These are easily placed under docks and secured in place with rope at each end. These brush bundles and trees are called Porcupine fish attractors. Check it out at www.porcupinefishattractor.com. You can also view video clips of several installations at this website. These Porcupine fish attractors can then be removed at the end of the year when you remove your dock. If you are interested in enhancing the lake's fish habitat on your shore, 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.

Reduce the combined daily bag limit for panfish on Long Lake in Saxeville and Springwater townships to 10 of any one species or 25 total.

In recent years, the panfish population has been severely reduced due to fishing pressure and an increase in the number of predator game fish that feed on panfish. The Long Lake Association and the Friends of Long Lake's mission for many years has been to provide a "Family Friendly Fishery" and therefore have funded the planting of fish species that strive for this goal in conjunction with the We Really Kare Fish Club and the Wisconsin DNR. These species have primarily been panfish, trout and forage fish. Unfortunately, this effort has not been able to keep up with the increased fishing pressure in recent years.

As part of the Recent 2016 Long Lake Management Plan created in conjunction with Waushara County, University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, and representatives from the DNR, a "Guiding Vision for the Fish Community" has been adopted. Goal 1 is to improve fish habitat. Goal 1.2 is to optimize the fishery and the fishing experience of young people through the reduction of daily bag limits on panfish.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Waushara County on April 10, 2017 recommends work with the Department of Natural Resources in adoption of a reduced daily bag limit for panfish on Long Lake, Saxeville and Springwater townships, Waushara County to 10 of any species and a total of 25.

Safety Message

Gary Wisbrocker

As most of you know, the Waushara County Sheriff's Department operated the water patrol on Long Lake again last year. The cost of the program was shared by the Towns of Saxeville and Springwater and the Long Lake Association (FLL). The deputies were on the lake 13 different days for a total of 62 hours. The deputies had contact with 19 persons and issued 8 warnings and no citations. I am very pleased to say we did not have any accidents reported in 2018. Again this year, the water patrol will be operating on our lake throughout the summer. Please make sure your family and guests know and follow the rules and regulations when enjoying their water sports.

Clean Boats Clean Waters

Tom Catlin

Here we go once again as the 2019 boating season is upon us. This season finds us in urgent need of new volunteers as we have lost two of our most dedicated volunteers. Phil Holly, while no longer a property owner on the Lake, remained as one of our top volunteers. He has recently sold his home outside of Wild Rose and has moved to Westfield, WI to be closer to his son, Nathan, and his family. The second long time volunteer we will be losing is Neil Pollock who has elected to put his home on the Lake up for sale. Neil has indicated that he will continue to volunteer until his home sells. Some of you may wonder "What's the big deal?" The big deal is that these two dedicated members of our Merry Band of Volunteers accounted for approximately 90 hours at the landing last season or 17% of the total hours worked. Phil worked the Saturday, Sunday and all holiday 10-12 shifts which historically has been an extremely difficult shift to fill. Our records indicate that the majority of the boaters coming to the landing come from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

As reported in the winter LLA newsletter, we have lost the battle to keep zebra muscles out of the Lake. I recently attended a session at the WI Lakes Convention where it was reported that a recent study of some northern Wisconsin lakes that acquired zebra muscles saw that property values dropped as much as 8%, and that lakes acquiring Eurasian milfoil saw property values decline as much as 13%. If for no other reasons than the boating/swimming quality and the investment those of us on the Lake have in our properties it is imperative that we keep our vigilance up at the boat landing. Zebra muscles are a detriment for sure to our Lake's fishery, are hard on barefoot beach and water foot traffic, but Eurasian milfoil is a total mess, a major issue with swimming and boating, a constant issue with beach cleanup, and once it gets entrenched in a lake it is very expensive (annually) to keep under control.

To reiterate we need more people genuinely interested in the quality of Long Lake to step up and join our Merry Band of Volunteers. One does not need to be a property owner on the Lake to join. If you have children or grandchildren and want to teach them about the CBCW program and it's goals to protect the water quality of the Lake it would be great as hopefully they will grow and become our next generation of volunteers.. Should you be interested in learning more about our CBCW program (according to Golden Sands Conservation & Development Council we run the number one CBCW in the entire central WI region) and/or want to join, please contact me at "**tom.catlin@gmail.com**" or call me at 715-258-5841.

Lest we forget out top volunteers (hours worked) are: Mary Bruyette, Tom Catlin, Tom Dohr, and Phil Holly. Each may pick out an item of LLA apparel or a LLA accessory (example: LL mug). These items will be available at the LLA annual meeting or at the LLA Family Picnic.

Fire Report and Buoys

Bob Schnese

LLA Fire Report

The heavy Winter snowfall and recent Spring precipitation has created moderate fire conditions in Waushara County. However, the extensive logging around Long Lake and the subsequent brush piles that have been left behind has created an environment that must be respected by all of us. Currently, most of Waushara County has a "MODERATE" Fire Danger level. As the warmer weather begins to work on these timbered areas and the damp conditions, the potential for dangerous fire conditions will increase. Fire Pits and/or Fire Rings for "warming or cooking" DO NOT require a burning permit. However, if you are going to burn any type of fire, YOU MUST check the daily burning restrictions (after 11 a.m. daily) for Waushara County (Code 70), or, call the hotline before you burn. You may obtain an annual burning permit (FREE) on-line, or go to a Fire Warden or DNR Field Office to secure one in-person. Whenever you are lighting fires, make sure that you are in control of it at all times, and make sure your fire is completely extinguished before you leave it.

1-888-WIS-BURN (947-2876) or **www.dnr.wi.gov/wisburn**

- It's a great idea to have your written and signed Annual Burning Permit available while burning! The bottom line, be safe, and, be aware. It is your responsibility, and, it's the Law!
- Make sure that your driveway(s) have a 10 foot clearance of branches/debris for the Saxeville/ Springwater V.F.D. vehicles to access your property in the event of a Fire or EMS call.
- If you're in need of "replacement parts" for your Fire Pumper, please contact Bill Rosenthal (715) 258-7406.

LLA Buoys

There are four (4) Sensitive Areas that MUST be recognized and obeyed by boaters on Long Lake. In the past, these areas have been identified with (4) buoys marked "SLOW / SENSITIVE AREA." For the 2019 boating season, we will be placing (5) buoys to mark these same (4) locations prior to the Memorial Day Weekend. An additional buoy will be used in the sensitive area on the north shore, just east of the narrows. We will now have (2) buoys to mark each end of this sensitive area. The LLA Board has purchased (5) new buoys over the past year. Remember to watch your speed when boating near these four areas. Also, keep your regulated distance from swimming areas/rafts, piers and ALL other watercraft . . . it's the Law!

High Water Levels

Dennis Reimer

The lake level is significantly higher than last Fall as everyone knows. Dave Schultz let me know that the lake levels are up 8-10" from the Fall of 2018. Because we had a wet summer last year, water levels had risen approximately 2-4" from Spring of 2018 to Fall of 2018 making the overall increase approximately one foot in the past 12 months. Typically, the lake level is higher in Spring driven by the snow melt and the fact that there is no evaporation during the winter so any runoff simply raises the lake levels by this time of year. The lake level will typically drop between now and summer providing there is a dry spell where we do not get much rain. Some owners feel that the deep wells which farmers draw on to irrigate their fields has an effect of lowering lake levels; however, the USGS continues to study this and there is no conclusive supporting evidence to that effect.

Having said that, we are facing a year where shore erosion is a distinct possibility. There are boat houses that are facing water issues already because they were built before the current zoning was put in place requiring homeowners to stay above the highwater mark. I am told that the last time water levels where this high was 1993. Compounding the problem are boats that are now capable of lake surfing because they have ballast tanks that provide weight in the back of their boats so they can create huge wakes. This will increase the chances of significant damage along our shoreline.

We will be contacting the DNR and Waushara County Lake Council to determine what options we have as a lake association to address the concerns. This will hopefully give us a perspective on what other lakes in the area are doing as the high water levels are affecting all lakes in our area. More to come on this sensitive issue.

One thing we can do right now is to make each of us aware of recommended practices that the WSIA (Water Sports Industry Association *www.wsia.net*) has published providing guidelines for any boater to consider when boating. Following these guidelines will show respect for fellow property owners around our lake and be the first step in protecting our shoreline. The guidelines are called "Wake Responsibly" and consist of these 3 practices:

1. Stay at least 200 feet away.
2. Keep music at reasonable levels.
3. Minimize repetitive passes.

Long Lake Yacht Club 2019

Mike Cervinka

Another sailing season is rapidly approaching. We will begin our racing schedule in June. The club is always interested in attracting new sailors/members. The club offers two types of membership, a social membership and a sailing membership. For detailed information about the club, membership, activities, photos, and the yacht club directors, please visit our website at: www.llyc-wi.com.

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 Boat Parade

Mike Cervinka

This summer will be the 15th year of the boat parade. As a reminder, in an effort to simplify and encourage more participation, **lights are now optional**. So grab your cooler, snacks, and the Fam; tie some streamers or flags to the boat and join us on the water! The top three places will receive a framed 8" x 10" color photo of their boat. All other participants will receive a framed 5" x 7" color photo. Let's make this the best and biggest parade to date!

Date: July 6, 2019
Start time: 7:30 p.m.
Start location: Cervinka's cottage (W4990 South Long Lake Rd.)

Long Lake Association Dues and Membership

Long Lake Association Annual Dues $ 20.00. 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.

Mail to: Long Lake Association Membership-Dues
PO Box 9
Saxeville, WI 54976

Name of Property Owners _____
Home Address _____
_____
Phone: Home _____ Lake _____
Lake Address _____
_____
E-Mail Address _____

LLA & FLL
PO Box 9
Saxeville, WI 54976

Friends of Long Lake Report

Mary Ann Cervinka

Special Note: The fiscal year for FLL (per the by-laws of Friends of Long Lake) is September 1st to August 31st of the following year. Anyone paying membership fees on or after September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019 is paying for the fiscal year of September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019.

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.

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

Happy Spring to all members of LLA and FLL.

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