LONG LAKE **NEWS**

FALL/WINTER 2022

THANKFUL FOR A SAFE, FUN 2022

President's Message By Jerry Voigt

The sun has set on our 2022 open water season. By all accounts it was a spectacular spring/summer/fall for Long Lake and those of us lucky enough to visit or call it home. I hope you share my sentiments of how privileged we are to enjoy this special place!

By all accounts 2022 fishing was fantastic, boating was safe (mostly!) and the water quality remains wonderfully clear and free from Eurasian Milfoil. The lake level has dropped about a foot since last fall and just under 2 feet from the historic high in 2020. While we remain facing the scourge of zebra mussels, the anecdotal reports shared with me indicate there were fewer mussels observed this fall during dock removal than last fall. Just how prolific and widespread zebra mussels may become is going to take years to determine, but I'll take the anecdotal reports as a positive indicator that our lake is resilient.

As we move into the holiday season, I wish you and yours all the best life can bring! I also want to thank all of the volunteers that make lake life on Long Lake what it is Our community, our lake, and our future depends on your involvement, contributions and membership. Never underestimate the power of saying YES to supporting organizations and efforts that work behind the scenes and out front to protect and support the things and places you love. Happy Holidays! ◊◊◊

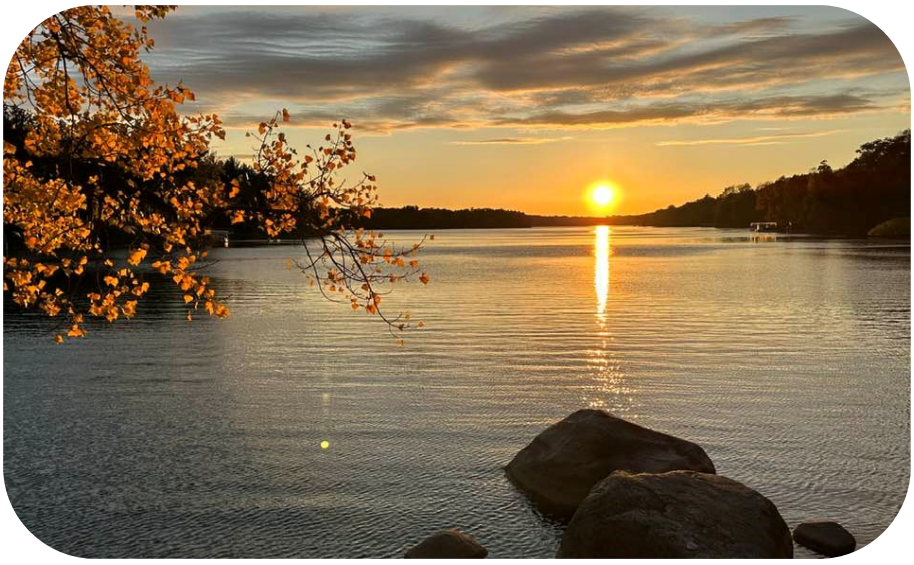

Photo Credit: Cherrie Ziegler Catlin

Welcome to our "new" newsletter. At our September meeting the LLA Board of Directors decided to give this newsletter a fresh face and approach. Starting with this issue we are including more articles on topics relevant to your riparian needs along with our usual updates. We will still deliver two issues a year (Spring & Fall/Winter) to all members in good standing of LLA and FLL. We hope you like the new approach and continue to find value in what we do for our community and our lake!

WEBSITE in our SIGHTS

Next on the list is to revamp our association website. We will spend some time over the winter months updating and retooling the site. We hope to go live by next summer with new content and an easier site to navigate. Do you have any ideas or web development skills to share? Let us know!

WHY BOTH LLA AND FRIENDS OF LONG LAKE?

By Jerry Voigt

As President of Long Lake Association (LLA) and a board member of Friends of Long Lake (FLL), I have been approached with the question why we need both organizations? Afterall, they both are non-profit organizations supporting one lake and those in the community. The answer to this question lies in the federal tax code.

LLA and FLL are both separately chartered/incorporated under the IRS code for non -profit organizations. LLA was approved first by the IRS in August 1976 as a 501c-4 organization, which is for social welfare organizations, like homeowners associations (closest thing to what LLA is). FLL was approved by the IRS in 1994 as a 501c-3 organization, which is for charitable organizations, like religious or educational institutions (FLL falls mainly into the educational category). The reason that a person's contribution to FLL is tax deductible and their dues/contributions to LLA are not tax deductible has to do with this IRS non-profit code distinction.

Under the 501c-4 code, LLA is allowed to directly lobby/influence the government. In fact, this is probably the most important role LLA serves to its members. On the other hand, under the 501c-3 code, FLL is not allowed to lobby or attempt to influence the government in any way (and this important distinction establishes why contributions to FLL are allowed to be tax deductible and why dues to LLA are not). The IRS does not allow deductions for contributions to non-profits that engage in direct communication with a government official in an attempt to influence the official's actions or positions.

All of the things that LLA does, like working directly with and meeting with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), Saxeville, Springwater, Waushara County zoning and sheriff departments are technically off limits to a 501c-3 organization like FLL. However, FLL was originally set up to take advantage of the tax deductibility of contributions, especially as concern for the expense of addressing invasive species was growing back in the 1990's. Presumably, leaders of LLA could have just raised dues back then (probably dramatically) to cover any of the anticipated expenses, but instead they formed FLL to take advantage of tax deductibility for donors. It was a shrewd move!

Every year monies contributed to FLL are used to support LLA's efforts on the things where it touches or directly interacts with the government, such as paying for lake studies and fish stocking necessary to meet the DNR and town-affirmed goals in LLA's lake management plan. LLA certainly could not afford to do as much without financial help from FLL and by the same token FLL cannot interact/influence the government directly on behalf of the community and maintain tax deductibility of your contributions. We are set up quite smartly to take advantage of tax laws and have the most impact and influence on matters important to our lake.

Armed with this explanation I hope you will consider supporting both organizations in our shared and purposeful efforts. Neither organization can go it alone and be as effective as they are now, nor can they exist without volunteer and financial support from members of our community.

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Photo Credit: FLL Gallery

A GROWING SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE

By Wendy Vincent

LLA's social media presence continues to help spread helpful information and link us to new and long-time folks interested in our lake and association. LLA is officially on both Facebook and Instagram as *Long Lake Association – Saxeville Wi.* Our main 'Fan Page' is public, which allows posts to be easily shared by followers.

We also maintain a 'Private Group' on Facebook under the same name. Only active members and volunteers of LLA or FLL may join the private group. Forwarding or sharing posts outside the group is fully restricted. Posts within the private group allow group members to find volunteer schedules, share lost/found items and post specific community news such as obituaries or "in-search-of" requests to an audience they can trust. It is an easy way to connect with our active LLA/FLL community without messaging the broader reach of our public Fan Page.

As an active LLA or FLL member consider joining the Private Group for additional posts, and then "like/follow" our Fan Page so you can share general association information to your extended family, guests and friends. ◊◊◊

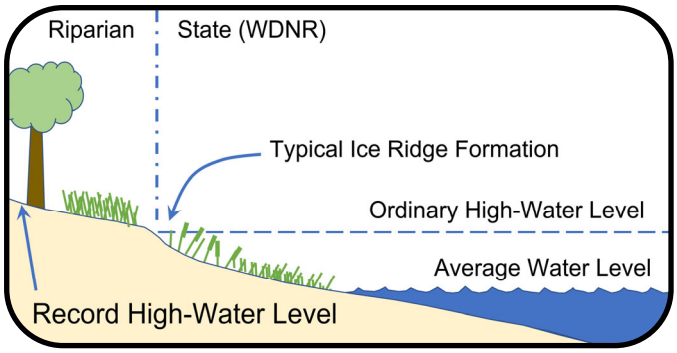
BE AWARE OF THE REGULATIONS IMPACTING DAMAGE REPAIR FROM HIGH WATER

By Rick Schaber

The high-water level on Long Lake over the past few years has certainly done its fair share of damage to the shoreline, trees and boathouses. As the water continues to recede, more property owners are planning to repair the damage. Before you start, realize there are many rules and regulations around shoreline projects.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Waushara County Zoning and Land Conservation Department all have some say in what you can and cannot do along the shoreline and in the water. The Waushara County Zoning and Land Conservation Department is the agency charged with implementing and enforcing all of the various regulations. (Contact information listed at end of article.)

The first step before you start any project near the water is to identify the ordinary high-water-mark (OHWM). For most of Long Lake's shoreline, the OHWM has been submerged the last few years. If you can't readily identify the OHWM along your shoreline, contact the Waushara County Zoning Department. They can help you identify your OHWM.



Repairing/Preventing Erosion Along the Shoreline — Riprap is allowed to be placed along the OHWM for shoreline stabilization and to repair damage that has already occurred. Riprap is defined as clean field stone or quarry stone with a diameter of 6 to 48 inches. There are restrictions regarding riprap elevation, slope and length. You can replace the soil that has been washed away once the riprap is installed, but you cannot change the slope of the land above the OHWM.

Although no permit is necessary to install riprap, Todd Wahler, Director of Zoning and Land Conservation for Waushara County, recommends contacting his department prior to starting any work.

Seawalls (concrete, wood or other material) are no longer allowed within 75 feet of the OHWM. However, existing seawalls may be repaired with a required permit.

Addressing Boathouse Damage — Regulations covering the repair of boathouses can be confusing and frustrating. It is best to work with officials to avoid costly mistakes that may lead to fines and removal requirements for new work.

"If a boathouse is in the floodplain, you're not allowed by code to repair or replace the building," Wahler said. "But there is no designated base flood elevation on Long Lake, so we have maps of Long Lake to allow us to make the determination. FEMA created the maps and those are what we follow."

There is a difference between maintaining a boathouse and repairing a boathouse in a floodplain. Maintenance of the boathouse is allowed. Repairing requires approval. It is best to discuss your plans with the zoning department to determine what requirements apply.

Compromised Tree Falls on Long's West End

Outside of the floodplain, boathouses can usually be repaired, modified and replaced. This also is the case for boathouses that do not meet the current water setback distances but were built prior to the adoption of the current requirements. The general rule followed by Waushara County Zoning is if the structure was built prior to 2011, it's an approved nonconforming structure.

Other ordinances governing boathouses include:

- Size cannot exceed 180 square feet in area
- Structure cannot exceed one story
- Maximum wall height is 10 feet
- Structure cannot have interior walls, insulation or plumbing

Dead or Unstable Trees — There are numerous trees along Long Lake's shoreline that have died from the high water or have been stressed to the point that they are unstable. Whether impacted trees are within your viewing corridor – 35 percent of the lot width used for access or viewing – or outside the corridor, makes a difference. Removing trees outside the viewing corridor is restricted. Removal of trees inside the corridor is allowed.

Over the last few years, Waushara County has received numerous requests to remove trees outside viewing corridors. To efficiently handle the increase in requests, the county created a Tree Removal Verification Form. Once the form is submitted and the trees are marked by the property owner, the Zoning Department will conduct an on-site inspection and confirm that the trees may be removed.

Trees removed outside of the viewing corridor must be replaced with a comparable species in the same general area.

You can download the Tree Removal Verification Form using the QR Code below, by visiting the Waushara County Website or by call the Zoning Department to have one emailed to you.

SCAN ME

Any trees that have fallen into the water are under the jurisdiction of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. "The DNR asks if a tree falls into the water to keep it there," Wahler said. "However, the DNR will allow removal if it's in the swim or activity area." ◊◊◊

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Todd Wahler
Waushara County Zoning and Land Conservation Department
https://www.co.waushara.wi.us/
920-787-0453

Winter Reminders...

AERATORS WARNING! We still anticipate some property owners using aerators to protect their boathouses this winter. If you intend to enjoy Long Lake during the hard water season, **PLEASE BE MINDFUL ALONG THE SHORELINE** when walking, ice skating, fishing, snowmobiling or taking advantage of any winter opportunity. It is also advisable to keep your dogs from wandering unleashed!

Ice < 2 in. — STAY OFF!
Ice >4 in. — Walking or Fishing Safe
Ice 5-6 in. — Snowmobile & ATV Safe
Ice 8-12 in. — Car & Small Truck Safe
Ice 12-15 in. — Medium Truck Safe

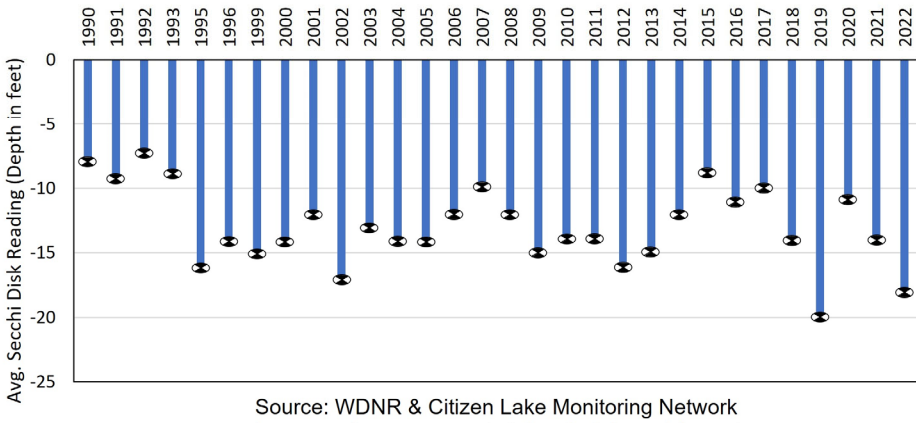
Winter	Ice-On	Ice-Off
2012-13	22-Dec	27-Apr
2013-14	8-Dec	19-Apr
2014-15	1-Dec	2-Apr
2015-16	5-Jan	27-Mar
2016-17	16-Dec	4-Apr
2017-18	15-Dec	27-Apr
2018-19	9-Dec	9-Apr
2019-20	12-Dec	3-Apr
2020-21	17-Dec	24-Mar
2021-22	3-Jan	11-Apr

WATER CLARITY SECOND BEST IN 30 YEARS

The latest Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources data shows Long Lake's average water clarity this past season was 18 feet, a second best average in 30 years of historic data (see chart).

Water clarity is measured using a Secchi disk. A Secchi disk is an 8-inch (20 cm) disk with alternating black and white quadrants. It is lowered into the water of a lake until it can no longer be seen by the observer. This depth of disappearance, called the Secchi depth, is a measure of the transparency of the water. ◊◊◊

Water Clarity (Secchi Disk) 30-Year Historical Data – Long Lake

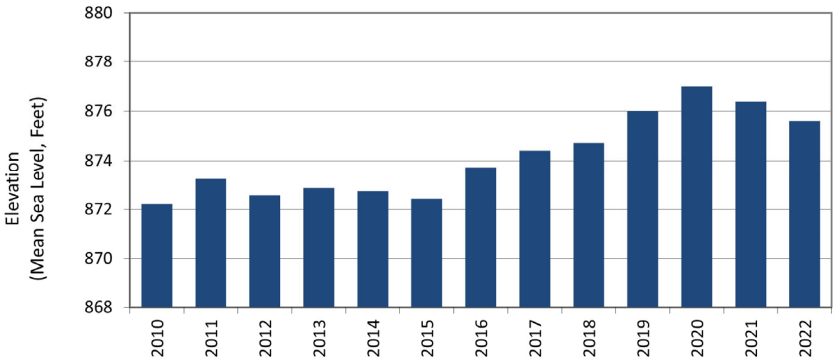


Source: WDNR & Citizen Lake Monitoring Network
Average of measurements taken in July and August

RECEDING WATER TREND CONTINUED IN 2022

While lake water elevation fluctuates during any year, you probably noticed it continuing to trend lower in 2022. This was the second year of receding water after five years of rising levels that reached a record high in 2020. While we do not know what will happen next year, long term elevation data shows the lake cycles roughly on a seven year cycle. ◊◊◊

Long Lake - Average Annual Elevations



2022 FISHING AND STOCKING UPDATE

By Dave Schultz

While our water level has continued to go down, it still provides additional spawning habitat for many of the fish species in Long Lake. The fallen trees and woody vegetation submerged in recent years provide excellent habitat.

We Really Kare fish club planted Fathead minnows this spring in Long Lake, as well as in other the area lakes. This club also planted 7 to 9 inch Walleye this fall. Thanks to your donations to the Friends of Long Lake we were able to plant a total of 1,870 very healthy Walleye in our waters.

All in all, your generous donations to the FLL fish fund allowed us to continue with our mission to provide a "Family Friendly Fishery" in our lake.

A WDNR slot requirement for northern pike from 25 to 35 inches took effect this year. These are normally the prime breeding females. Protection of these fish should help maintain a healthy population in our lake. This year one of our main goals at the landing was to educate anglers on the new regulation. Over one hundred "Long Lake Fish Responsibly" brochures were handed to anglers coming to fish the lake. There brochures were developed by LLA as part of the education program.

The Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass population appeared to be very good in 2022. This may be a very important because evidence suggests that both smallmouth bass and perch eat Zebra Mussels. Unfortunately, there were some very nice largemouth bass found dead this summer. We saw a substantial increase in fishing pressure from outside sport fishermen. Evidently the word has spread that our bass and northern populations are doing well. Even though the majority of these fishermen practice "catch and release", some fish are mishandled and kept out of the water for photographing, measuring and weighing too long. They become over stressed and may die even though they swim away when released.

Please release fish while they are still in the water if possible. If netted, keep them horizontal rather than vertical and return them to the water as soon as you can.

Please remember to contribute to the Friends of Long Lake fish fund. Your generous financial donations are tax deductible and help promote our healthy fishery!

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 needed to create habitat.

It's always "A great day to fish!"

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Photo Credit: Dave Schultz

FRIENDS OF LONG LAKE (FLL) 501c3 Corporation
ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL REPORT

The FLL fiscal year is from May 1 thru April 30 of each year. The fiscal balance reported below is through September 17, 2022.

CASH IN FLOW:

Logo Apparel income: $11,617.50
Interest income: $15.67
Landing fish box: $236.00
Membership donations: $7,215.00
Memorials & other: $2,461.00
Total income: $21,545.17

CASH OUT FLOW:

Logo Lake Apparel expense: $10,429.35
Donations given: $4,850.00
Stripe fees: $101.70
General expense: $150.50
Category expense: $424.85
Total expenses: $15,956.40

NET INCREASE/ (DECREASE): $5,588.77

Specific Fund Balances:

General: $61,489.52
Fire: $789.12
Fish: $2,679.71
Land: $5,557.27
Legal: $1,873.97
Lake Studies: $5,967.38
CBCW: $5,182.66
TOTAL: $81,891.40

Note: The general fund balance is available through action of the FLL board to apply to other needs, such as if treatment of aquatic invasive species is warranted in the future.

ACTVITIES

At the annual meeting on June 26, 2022, Friends of Long Lake members elected two board members to fill open seats:

- Karen Reindl; second term
- Britt Mason; first term (new!)

In addition to apparel and fish stocking, FLL donated to several community projects in 2022:

⇒ $250 to Waushara County Land Conservation (to help fund the county's 5th grade Conservation days event)

⇒ $500 to Waushara County Emergency Medical Services

⇒ $100 to Wild Rose Wildcat Booster Club

⇒ $4000 to Saxeville Fire Department (to help fund purchase and equipping of new department pick up truck)

Need a tax deduction before year end?
Why not make a contribution to Friends of Long Lake!

Use the form on next page or...
Scan the QR Code with your phone!

FRIENDS OF LONG LAKE — 501(C)3 — FALL/WINTER CONTRIBUTION FORM

Contributions are 100% tax deductible

Enclosed is a cash or check payable to Friends of Long Lake in the amount of $_____($10.00 minimum per membership)

I elect to designate my contribution to the specific purposes/funds below. (If I make no designation, I understand my contribution will be added to the "Friends General Fund"):

$ _____Fire Protection	$_____Legal Expenses
$ _____Fish Enhancement	$ _____Lake Studies
$ _____Land Management	$_____Clean Boats/Clean Waters

Please designate whether your contribution includes additional FY 2022/2023 memberships (must include $10.00 for each person): Addtl. Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Your Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Street/City/State/Zip:_____

SCAN WITH YOUR PHONE TO GIVE ONLINE

NOTE: *All contributions made using this form will be applied to membership for the May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023 -2023 fiscal year. If you have already joined/contributed for this fiscal year then your payment will be considered an additional contribution.*

Mail to: Friends of Long Lake, PO Box 9, Saxeville, WI 54976

CUT HERE

FRIENDS OF LONG LAKE 2022-23 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NAME/POSITION (TERM;EXPIRES)	PHONE	EMAIL
Tom Catlin, President (2nd; 2023)	(920) 819-5954	tom.catlin@gmail.com
Brit Mason, Vice President (1st; 2025)	(414) 940-4090	britt.mason@att.net
Mark Harvat, Treasurer (1st; 2023)	(561) 301-9641	mark@harvat.com
Joel Dillingham, Secretary (1st; 2024)	(612)581-9989	jcdillingham1@gmail.com
Karen Reindl, At-Large (2nd; 2025)	(920) 915-0997	klondonreindl@gmail.com
Chris Christensen, At-Large (1st; 2024)	(920) 205-2022	c.strebe@yahoo.com
Jerry Voigt, LLA Liaison Ex-Officio	(847) 867-3943	gvoigt63@gmail.com

APPAREL SALES BEST EVER!

Many thanks go out to the FLL committee (Karen Reindl and Jeanie Reimer) who worked so hard to bring us arguably the best year ever for apparel and logo merchandise sales. Karen's leadership of the effort deserves special mention and thanks.

The committee is in early stages of planning for additional online sales next year. There are also still items in stock for purchase in person. Contact Karen or Jeanie to inquire about what logo merchandise is still available and to arrange for purchase/pick up.

Karen — klondonreindl@gmail.com
Jeanie — jeaniereimer@aol.com
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CBCW 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

We experienced a downturn in volunteer hours this year. The positive turnout for the refresher training held last spring unfortunately didn't translate into landing hours worked during the season. The total hours worked in 2022 was 486 as compared to 537 in 2021. Seventy three percent of the total came from just 12 volunteers. The 17 other volunteers worked about 8 hours on average. Every shift is important and appreciated in protecting our lake, but for this program to continue to be effective we need new volunteers to step up and more existing volunteers to increase their commitments next season.

Anyone who worked at least 20 hours in 2022 will be recognized with an item of their choice from the spring apparel sale (with a value of less than $40). These individuals and hours worked are: Tom Catlin (56), Dave Wangerin (42), Mark Harvat (38), John Harvat (38), Bob Schnese (30), Dave Schultz (26), Tod Schultz (26), Gary Gunderson (24), Dee Haven (24) and Bob Molitor (20).

The Lake wishes every member of our "Merry Band of Volunteers" a great winter! Stay healthy, warm and we will see you next spring!

—Tom Catlin, CBCW Leader

LLA WORKING ON WATER PATROL ISSUE

LLA is leading an effort to pull together a coalition of area lakes to discuss dissatisfaction with and recommend changes to the current level of water patrolling. Since 2020, the patrolling by the Waushara County Sheriff's Department has been funded by a grant from the State of Wisconsin.

For 2022 the sheriff's department had only 80 hours budgeted in their grant for all the lakes in the county. That was the total work hours including travel time, so effective "on-lake" time was even less. There are 74 lakes found in the county; even if only 10 percent are patrolled, this is only about 10 hours per lake on average. By comparison, under a prior arrangement, the Sherriff's Department spent 60 hours of patrol time per summer on Long Lake.

As a 501(c) 4 organization LLA is not legally allowed to create our own patrol. Could we pay the sheriff more to get additional patrol hours? This is not a realistic option since it would require off-duty hours from deputies and is considered impractical. The coalition will explore increasing the grant hours or getting the grant removed so we can go back to a more meaningful patrol effort. ◊◊◊

LLA 2022-23 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NAME/POSITION (TERM;EXPIRES)	PHONE	EMAIL
Jerry Voigt, President (1st; 2023)	(847) 867-3943	gvoigt63@gmail.com
David Wangerin, Vice Pres. (1st; 2024)	(920) 362-3841	dwangerin@new.rr.com
Mary Ann Cervinka, Secretary (1st; 2023)	(630) 299-6840	macervinka@gmail.com
Todd Schultz, Treasurer (1st.; 2023)	(651) 485-9371	tschultz1025@gmail.com
Tom Catlin, At-Large (2nd; 2024)	(920) 819-5954	tom.catlin@gmail.com
John Harvat; At-Large (1st; 2025)	(281) 352-0548	john.harvat@relc.com
Dave Schultz; At-Large (2nd; 2024)	(920) 851-5550	daves@wiroofer.com
Wendy Vincent; At-Large (1st; 2025)	(608) 334-8025	wendypvincent@gmail.com
Rick Schaber; At-Large (1st; 2025)	(715) 218-7442	rick.schaber@yahoo.com

Long Lake Association
Friends of Long Lake
PO Box 9
Saxeville, WI 54976

LONG LAKE ASSOCIATION

It's Not too Late to Renew Your 2022-2023 LLA Membership!

Email **Longlakewi@gmail.com** for a membership application or use the camera on your smart phone to scan the QR Code below:

SCAN FOR LLA MEMBERSHIP

Visit Us At: **www.longlakesaxeville.org**

2023 SAVE THE DATES!

APRIL 22nd — LLA Spring Board Mtg.
MAY 6th — LLA-FLL Road Cleanup
JUNE — Septic Pumping Day (TBD)
JUNE 17th — LLA Summer Board Mtg.
JUNE 24th — FLL Annual Mtg.
JULY 1st — 47th LLA Annual Meeting
JULY 1st — Annual Boat Parade
JULY 15th — Annual Picnic
Sept 2nd — Annual Blood Drive

At this early planning stage all 2023 event dates are tentative and subject to change.