

Fall
2013
Newsletter

Long Lake Link

Long Lake Property Owners Association

www.minnesotawaters.org/LLPOA

Inside this issue:

- Letter from our newly elected LLPOA President
- Recap of the August Annual Board meeting
- 2013 Fourth of July boat parade photos
- Did You Know?
- Nuisance Geese?
- Long Lake Foiling Crew
- Protecting Long Lake Means Dollars & Cents
- Long Lake 2013 Treasure Found!
- Property owner question ~ and the answer we found
- 2014 LLPOA Membership Drive
- Future "Ranger Ricks"?

Long Lake Link
PO Box 292
Longville, MN 56655
Lake ID: 11-0142-00



UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

Sep. 9-Oct. 5	"Fall Has It All" ~ special events & merchant discounts	Longville, Hackensack & Walker
Oct. 5	Harvest Moon Festival ~ New event!	Moondance Fairgrounds/Hwy. 200; all day
Oct. 19	7th Annual MN Deer Hunters Association Banquet	Patrick's; 7:00 pm
Oct. 26	Halloween SPOOKtacular	YMCA Camp Olson; 5:30-7:00pm
Nov. 9	Deer Hunters' Dinner	St. Edward's Catholic Church; 4:30-7:30 pm
Nov. 16	"Does Only" Holiday Champagne Breakfast	Patrick's; 9:30 am-12:00 pm
Nov. 30	Free photos with Santa Lighting Up Longville (wagon rides, hot dogs, hot chocolate, cookies, bonfire, carols, official lighting of the Christmas tree)	Common Grounds; 2:30-4:30 pm Downtown Longville; 4:00-6:00 pm
Dec. 6	Christmas Open House	First National Bank
Dec. 7	Boutique & Bake sale	St. Edward's Catholic Church; 9:00 am-1:00 pm
Dec.13	Wine & Cheese Reception	Longville Arts Center; 4:00-7:00 pm

LLPOA MISSION

The purpose of this association shall be to maintain and improve lake water quality and lake bed health, maintain and continue fish propagation and protect wildlife and its habitat.

It shall also provide education about many issues affecting lake property owners and users through the dissemination of information to Long Lake property owners and their families.

A Letter from our newly elected LLPOA President, Wayne Voigtschild

Greetings!

At the annual LLPOA Board meeting on August 10, 2013, I was nominated and voted into office as your new President, along with Steve Laraway, as our new Vice President. During this two-year term, we will do our best to represent your interests and work with the Board to provide leadership as Dick Loeffler, our retired President, did so well.

As a starting point, I would like to share a little about our Long Lake "story." My wife, Meg, and I, after looking at several lakes in the area, fell in love with Long Lake and purchased our cabin from the McCastles in April 2000. That was the moment in time when our lives changed forever - we had never owned a cabin and excitedly began making changes to the old place. What started out as just removing the dated outside window shutters turned into a complete remodel, right down to the 2x4s.

After laying out our plans, we had a local contractor do all the external log siding, windows and roofing work. I did all the inside work which took a little over two years to complete (takes a while when you've only got the weekends to work). Finally we were done! This is the point where I should mention that only one of our five kids had shown much interest in the cabin when we purchased it, and only one of our five was married - so the cabin seemed to be the perfect size.

Then something happened. The other four kids also discovered that boating, tubing, fishing, swimming, ATVing and sitting around the campfire was really fun. Then four of the five got married and became eight. We built a "bunkhouse" for more sleeping room (that was Meg's idea, I was only going to put up a shed). Three of them had children and then we were sixteen. Yup, you guessed it - out came the pen and paper and our plans for an addition took shape. The project took three years, but we are finally set...we hope.

Meg and I have loved our fourteen years on Long Lake and look forward to being able to spend more time there with our kids and grandkids. Right now, we are both still working in the Twin Cities to support our cabin habits. Meg has been the editor of the newsletter for the past three years and has had fun working with different people collecting articles of interest. I am looking forward to working with the Board to advance the interests of the Association as we work together to preserve and improve our lake's resources.

We are at the cabin most weekends, so feel free to give me a call at 218-363-2195 or e-mail me at Wayne@msireresults.com with your ideas on what we can do to protect the quality of our lake and promote safe boating activities on the lake. The Association has been effective in gaining DNR support for fish stocking, promoting and monitoring water quality, getting the newsletter out to all property owners, guarding our mutual lake interests to preserve the value of our homes and cabins, improving shorelines, and increasing the number of buoys used to warn boaters about hidden rocks and shallow waters. (I, for one, have not had to replace a prop since the buoys went up!)

The Board is now focused on getting everyone's involvement in helping prevent Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) from entering and destroying our lake. We will be working on finding effective ways to remind visitors launching boats and personal water craft to take precautions before entering the lake. We need everyone's help with this, as too many lakes have already been infested, some only a few miles away. It is, and will continue to be, one of the key focuses for the Board this year, and into the future. I welcome your ideas and look forward to working on your behalf.

Finally, 65% of property owners on Long Lake are currently members of the Association; this is the highest membership we've ever had. As members, we are all communicating and working together toward common goals, but we need everyone's help to preserve the health of our lake. If you have the opportunity, please talk to your neighbors and friends on the lake and encourage them to join the Association if they haven't already. Their involvement is critical if we are to be successful combating the spread of aquatic invasive species. Anyone interested in joining can talk to Meg or me, or your zone director, at any time. Thank you all for your continued support!

Sincerely,

Wayne Voigtschild

Recap of the August 2014 Annual Board Meeting....

- Forty-seven property owners were in attendance.
- Duke Broughten, DNR Conservation Officer, was our first guest speaker. He spoke about boat, ATV and mini-bike safety, plus invasive species. He told the group he appreciates the help he receives from property owners and concerned citizens, and encouraged us to call the TIP hotline (800-652-9093) with violation information. We really appreciate that Duke took time from his very busy schedule to speak to us!
- Our second guest speaker was Brad Ferris from Region 1 of the Walker Area Walleye Coalition (Region 1 includes 51 lakes, plus Leech Lake). Brad talked about fish stocking in area lakes. He also discussed how a lake's quality and health are determined - phosphorous and chlorophyll levels, Secchi disk and SAT readings. Long Lake scored a 40, which signifies very good water quality. Thank you Brad for sharing your knowledge with us.
- Wayne Voigtschild was officially elected President of the LLPOA, and Steve Laraway was elected as Vice President. We thank them both for their willingness to share their time and talents with us, and we look forward to growing the Association even more over the next couple of years.
- The Board accepted the resignation of Jean Olsen as Treasurer and thanked her for her many years of dedication to the Association. Meg Voigtschild will be taking over as Treasurer.

2013
4TH OF JULY
BOAT
PARADE

(Photographs taken by Meg Voigtschild)



Everybody dance now! 🎵



These guys must have gotten together ahead of time to rehearse their parade wave.



Who says bigger is better?

DID YOU KNOW?

Minnesota has 90,000 miles of shoreline, more than California, Florida and Hawaii combined.

There are 201 Mud Lakes, 154 Long Lakes, and 123 Rice Lakes commonly named in Minnesota.

Minnesota has one recreational boat per every six people, more than any other state.

The state song of Minnesota is "Someday the Vikings Will...Aw, Never mind."

(Just wanted to see if you were paying attention.)

Nuisance geese?

The easiest, and most humane, way to keep geese out of your yard is to not cut the grass all the way down to the water's edge - just let the natural vegetation grow along the shoreline, geese don't like walking through brush or weeds.

There is a product called "bird scare flash tape." The silver and red tape is strung along the water's edge; it makes noise and flashes as it flutters in the wind (available online and at Ace Hardware in Park Rapids).

There is an affordable, all-natural goose repellent made by the people who make Liquid Fence. It's applied to your grass with a hose sprayer, and is completely non-toxic and safe for humans and pets. I'm told, on good authority, that it really works (available at Arrowhead Builders Supply). There are also some chemical repellents such as Rejex-it and Bird Shield. These repellents don't harm the geese, they just taste bad and cause digestive upset when ingested; however, they are quite expensive.

Long Lake Foiling Crew

By Jay Schock, Long Lake Foiler

Over the last couple of years, you may have seen someone riding an odd looking contraption behind a boat, doing flips and spins and wondered what that "flipping" thing is. That flipping thing is called a hydrofoil and is most well-known by the names of the main companies that manufacture them, Air Chair and Sky Ski.

Hydrofoils have been used on various watercraft for nearly 100 years in an effort to reduce drag by lifting the boat out of the water, and thus allowing for more speed. Foils were put on water skis as far back as the early 1960s, and in the mid-80s, the sit down hydrofoil was invented by Mike Murphy and Bob Woolley. They went into production under the name Air Chair in 1990. Since then, other manufacturers have popped up and the technology has advanced with the increased competition.



John Getz airborne!

Photo by Dan Pohl

The hydrofoil is made up of a board, made of either fiberglass or carbon fiber, a seat, and a foil assembly. The foil assembly is made up of a t-bar, or strut, that acts as a rudder to guide the rider in the direction they turn their knees or body and two wings that work much like the wings of an airplane, enabling the rider to ride up above the water while the wings "fly" through the water. The rider is strapped across the waist to the seat and their feet are strapped to the board. A simple lean back and drop of the handle and the rider is airborne. Landing is the tricky part!



Check out the look on Jay Schock's face!

Photo by Dan Pohl

We now have a number of "foilers" on the South end of the lake. Anyone in the self-proclaimed Long Lake Foiling Crew will happily tell you that foiling is not a sport, it is more of an addiction. They love to foil and like talking about foiling almost as much. Most weekends, they can be seen flipping here and there, working on new tricks, and crashing - a lot. Fun to watch, more fun to ride! Foiling is a sport that can be enjoyed by all ages. The youngest foiler on the lake, Allie, is 9 years old. The world record for the longest ride on a hydrofoil was set by 86 year old Mary Murphy (Mike Murphy's mother); she rode the foil 62 miles!

If you are interested in giving it a try, or have questions about foiling, flag down one of the Long Lake Foiling Crew - I bet they'd love to answer your questions, or do a demonstration. (There's a rumor that they may be organizing a clinic on the lake for the summer of 2014.)

For a more detailed explanation of how a hydrofoil works, go to <http://www.hydrofoil.org/WhatIs.html>.



New logo for the Long Lake Foiling Crew

Currently, there are six hydrofoilers on Long Lake. Jay met Dan and MJ Pohl while foiling in the Twin Cities. Last year, he invited them to his cabin, and they liked the lake so much that they bought a lot almost immediately. MJ is a Minnesota Hydrofoil Club member, instructor and championship hydrofoil skier. In national competitions, she typically ranks 1st among female competitors, and places in the top ten against the men.

MJ and Dan run two to three hydrofoil clinics in the summer for the Minnesota Hydrofoil Club. The clinics are mainly held on Medicine Lake which is located in the western Minneapolis suburbs, and are open to anyone over 10 years old. Jay and the Pohls are looking into possibly offering a clinic on Long Lake next summer.



MJ made the cover of the Plymouth, MN community magazine this past June.

Protecting Long Lake Means Dollars and Cents

Steve Laraway, Vice President, LLPOA

Recently, I was asked to join the Board of the Long Lake Property Owners Association. Being a new member of the Association, and after attending several meetings, I was struck by how much these members care for our lake. This group is concerned with the protection of the quality of the lake water, fishing and general safety on the lake, amongst many other goals. Personally, I think the motivation goes beyond the obvious and ultimate goal of preserving Long Lake so that we may pass the lake experiences on to the next generation; I believe that it makes financial sense to protect our lake.

Why do I suggest that it makes financial sense? It might have something to do with my background as a financial person, or my family's history on the lake (over 40 years), but maybe more so with my feeling that I would rather recreate on a clean lake than a dirty one. I told the Board I would be pleased to write an article on the value of a quality lake.

I began my search by reviewing the Minnesota Pollution Control site which records and maintains clarity records under the Citizen Lake Monitoring Program. In the 2011 report, Long Lake was shown as one of the seven clearest lakes in Cass County (Summer Mean Report). Those others mentioned were: Big Deep, Hunter, Island, Johnson, Portage and Sand. There are nearly four pages of lakes in Cass County on this list, so being in the top seven is no easy accomplishment. Each of these lakes mentioned had Secchi transparency readings of over 20 feet. Thanks to Kit Arnquist and Paul Sifford for taking these readings and sending them into the Minnesota PCA.

But does clarity really make a difference? I thought I would ask an expert, so I called Bill Hansen of Bill Hansen Realty (who lives on Long Lake) and asked him if buyers would pay a premium for a lake with a reputation for clarity. Bill told me that while there are obviously many factors to consider in valuing lake property, by far the largest determinate of value was not the clarity of the water, but the size of the lake. Long Lake is considered a medium-sized lake, around 1000 acres. Bill mentioned that buyers today have changed dramatically. He said twenty years ago the main question buyers asked was, "How was fishing?" While fishing is still important, today most people buy lake property for the relaxation it brings. He pointed to the fact that there are many more pontoons on Long Lake than any other style of boat; owners are more focused on a relaxing pontoon ride.

Bill went on to mention that of the mid-sized lakes, Long, Thunder, Ten Mile, Stony and Ponto (all known as clean and clear lakes) tend to demand a premium versus other lakes in the area. While Bill could not quantify the amount of the premium, he said it is clear they do demand more in a sale. Bill added this ominous warning - the big value killer for lake property is invasive species: milfoil and zebra mussels. Once a lake is infested, it almost never goes back to the value it was before the infestation (excluding increases due to inflation).

The moral of the story is this: protection of our lake and its water quality means more value to you! More value to you means more money in your pocket (or a stronger personal balance sheet). To the reader I make this suggestion: Lets all work together to keep Long Lake clean and free of invasive species. It makes sense...and dollars.



Long Lake Treasure Found 4th of July Weekend!

Dan and Jill Hanson, who have a cabin on Haskell Road, reported that it was members of their 4th of July gathering that found this year's treasure. Following, in Dan's words, is the story of how the discovery was made.

"Our son, Ben, who was visiting from Colorado, learned from a friend that there was a Long Lake treasure hunt going on, so on Saturday, he jumped in the boat and started randomly looking around the buoys (he had heard that there was a \$500 prize!). He chose the buoys as his targets because they were new. When another son, Max, learned what Ben was doing, he got all excited and said, 'Let's go! Max has got a head start on us!' At this point, I cautioned to 'hold on' as I had the set of clues that had been sent out in the Link. After sharing the clues and what I knew of the history of the lake, I told the group the treasure had to be on an island, but I suspected it was the newest one created when the Narrows was opened. Max, Jill (my wife), Carlie (my daughter), and her friends,

Todd, Bob, and Julia, piled onto the pontoon and headed for the Narrows. As we live north of the public access, they had to pass by another island on their way south and they decided to take a quick look at it. Someone noticed Christmas lights on the dead tree on the island (the editor knows who to thank for that decorating touch), and then Bob spotted the golden orb. From there, they paced to the other end of the island where Bob dug near a beaver log. The hooting and hollering could be heard far and wide; and Ben, who in the meantime, had arrived back at the cabin empty-handed, said that their raucous behavior probably meant that they had found the treasure."

Since it sounds as though finding the treasure was a group effort, we're not sure who got to keep the gold coins, but Dan and Jill were the lucky winners of the complimentary 2013 LLPOA dues. We hope all you treasure hunters had fun searching this year. Be sure to check out the Spring 2014 Link for clues to next summer's treasure hunt! Arrrggghhh.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Wayne Voigtschild	wayne@msireresults.com
Vice President	Steve Laraway	stvelaraway@charter.net
Secretary	Paul Reinke	pacreinke@comcast.net
Treasurer/Membership	Meg Voigtschild	meg@msireresults.com

ZONE DIRECTORS

Zone 1	Rebecca Ryan	deertrailresort@hotmail.com
Zone 2	Bob Coulter	joniq@prodigy.net
Zone 3	Barbara McCuskey	mccuskey@arvig.net
Zone 4	Gary Richmond	richmond.gary@comcast.net
Zone 5	Roger Mitby	218-566-2547
Zone 6	Mark Eidenschink	eidensch@yahoo.com
Zone 7	Bob Alley	alleyduo@yahoo.com
Zone 8	Duane Schock	218-363-2211

Webmaster	Tom Sorensen	wave2000@aol.com
Newsletter Editor	Meg Voigtschild	meg@msireresults.com

2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Saturday, May 10th @ 10:00 am
 Saturday, June 14th @ 10:00 am
 Saturday, July 12th @ 10:00 am
 Saturday, August 9th @ 9:30 am **
 Saturday, September 13th @ 10:00 am

** Annual meeting begins at 9:30 am; doors open at 9:00 am

All meetings are held at Salem Lutheran Church in Longville, and members are always welcome to attend.

Interesting question from a property owner....

He has two different fire number signs in front of his property, the blue and white one, and the old red and white one. He wanted to know if it was OK to remove the old red and white sign. After doing some research and making a few phone calls, we verified that the addresses on the blue and white signs are the ones connected to the county-wide 911 response system. All emergency services (fire, sheriff, ambulance) respond to those addresses. The 911 address system was put in place in 2000 and the blue and white signs were installed by Cass County at that time. The red and white signs were supposed to be removed, but apparently there are still a few out there that got missed.

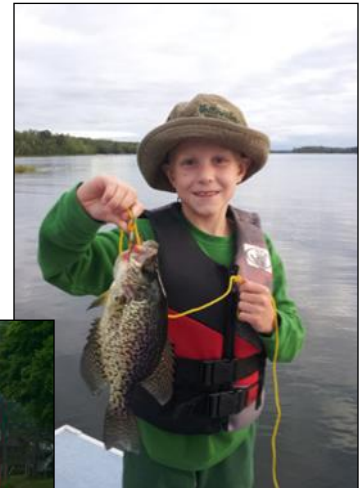
Go ahead and remove the old red fire signs, but **be sure to leave the blue and white address signs in place - they are your address for emergency services.**



These are the signs you want to keep!

(Thank you to Scott Carpenter, Longville volunteer fireman, for his help in researching this question.)

Glad these two brothers caught different kinds of fish, I wouldn't want to have to decide which one caught the bigger one!



Photos by Jeff & Erin Mathews



2014 LLPOA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!

We will be running a "Join the LLPOA" membership campaign throughout 2014. We are hoping to reach property owners that haven't joined the Association yet, or those who may not even know the LLPOA exists. In order to reach as many owners as we can next year, we will continue to send out paper copies of the Link to those people who aren't on our e-mail list, whether they are members or not.

It saves us printing and postage costs to send the Link by e-mail, so please consider adding yourselves to our newsletter e-mail list - plus the added bonus is that you will get the Link in color!

If you would like to receive the Link by e-mail, please send your e-mail address to Meg Voigtschild at meg@msireresults.com or call 612-805-5995.

A note to members: Please feel free to contact Meg at any time if you would like to check on the status of your Association dues.

REMINDER:

The membership/dues form (for new members or renewals) is included in this newsletter. Send the form, along with your 2014 annual dues (\$15.00 per year), to LLPOA, PO Box 292, Longville, MN 56655.