

Fall
2012
Newsletter

Long Lake Link

Long Lake Property Owners Association

www.minnesotawaters.org/LLPOA

Inside this issue:

- Important notice regarding Long Lake Link
- Ranger Rick's Fish Tails
- 2012 Treasure Hunt update
- Remembering Fred Bliss
- Good neighbors
- Zebra mussels in Lake Mille Lacs
- Minutes from 2012 Annual Meeting
- Transitions
- Long Lake clothing
- LLPOA contact information
- 2013 Board of Directors meeting dates

Long Lake Link

PO Box 292

Longville, MN 56655

Lake ID: 11-0142-00

Upcoming Area Events

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Sept. 20-Oct. 5 | "Fall Has It All" Longville, Walker & Hackensack |
| Sept. 22 | Oktoberfest + Dinner & Dance Downtown Longville |
| Oct. 20 | MN Deer Hunters' Fall Banquet Patrick's Fine Dining |
| Oct. 27 | Halloween SPOOKtacular Camp Olson YMCA |
| Nov. 3 | Deer Hunters' Dinner St. Edward's Catholic Church |
| Nov. 10 | Does Only Breakfast & Auction Patrick's Fine Dining |
| Nov. 24 | Santa Photos/Tree Lighting/Bonfire Downtown Longville |
| Dec. 2 | Community Choir Holiday Concert Salem Lutheran Church |
| Feb. 2 | Ice Bocce Tournament Girl Lake @ Patrick's |
| Jan. or Feb. ? | Ice Golf ~ Anchorage Inn |

**THE FINAL 2012 LLPOA BOARD MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 15th @ 10:00 am ,
AT SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
IN LONGVILLE.**

➔ IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE LONG LAKE LINK ⬅

The Association will no longer be mailing paper copies of the Link newsletter to non-members; if you would like to continue receiving the Link, you will need to provide us with your e-mail address. As a non-member, if we don't have your e-mail address, you will receive only the spring edition of the newsletter which contains summer season start-up information. This is being done to reduce postage, printing and handling costs.

To continue receiving the Link, please send your e-mail address to Dick Loeffler at rjloeffler@arvig.net or call 218-363-2184. Better yet, join the LLPOA for just \$15.00 per year and continue receiving all four issues of the Link. **LLPOA members will continue to receive all issues just as in the past.**



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.

Ranger Rick's Fish Tails

Once again, the summer has slipped by and I have not fished our lake as much as I had hoped. It seems that as the years pass, I have less and less time to do all the things I would like to. Maybe my priorities are wrong!?

Many walleyes have been caught since I last wrote you. The stories I hear are mainly about night fishing along weed lines - the locations and bait used are always kept a secret, but I do the same thing. That's "standard operating procedure" for fisherman I believe. The largest walleye caught that I have heard of so far was 11 pounds. Wow! The best one I've caught was a good 22 inches long - the norm is less than 16 inches. It was very heavy and a beautiful deep golden color.

Northern pike are biting, but they all seem to be less than 24 inches long. A 30 inch pike and a 12 inch perch were reported by members at the Annual Meeting. More and more people are reporting perch catches, but they're still all small. My largest perch was 5 inches long.

Largemouth bass have been numerous, but also small. The largest bass I heard about was less than 3 pounds - let me know if you have caught one larger than that.

Crappies have been biting all summer long, but mainly just before sunset and into the night; and always in deeper waters off the weed lines with worms or tube jigs for bait.



"My goodness, Dick—let him have the fish"

2012 Treasure Hunt Update

Who won the 2012 Long Lake treasure hunt? Well, it's quite the story...

The Paul and Carole Reinke family had a great 4th of July week planned. They had a full house at their cabin on the north end of the lake that week. Sixteen family members and friends packed into their three bedroom cabin. They were all next door at their neighbors, the Holmes, for a pizza party when the big storm came up (remember that one?); it blew a tree over into a power pole knocking the pole over. What a week for a power outage!!



Here's Mitch with what he was really after!

That same night, Mitch Reinke put a fish hook through his thumb and had to make a trip to the hospital in Crosby to have it removed. But Mitch's luck changed the next day when he found the hidden treasure while fishing near the three large buoys on the northeast side of the lake. While trying to pull in a nice fish near the middle buoy, his line got tangled up with the treasure's golden bobbers. Mitch lost the fish, but he pulled up the treasure chest! He won gold coins worth \$10.00, plus one year's free membership in the LLPOA.

Throughout the rest of the weekend, the Reinke family held a fishing contest and the group of Mitch, Lex, Chris, Brenden, and their dog Baxter, caught over one hundred bass - quite the fishermen!



Mitch Reinke and his accidental discovery.

Remembering Fred Bliss

Fred and Marilyn Bliss purchased their cabin on the north end Long Lake back in 1969. The Bliss family of Fred, Marilyn, Jim, Cynthia and Brian enjoyed many weekends on beautiful, crystal clear Long Lake.

Fred and Marilyn met in the second grade at Webster Elementary School in Minneapolis. Fred loved music and was a very accomplished banjo player. He entered many regional competitions and won the \$50.00 grand prize at the Cedric Adman's Regional Banjo Contest. Fred and Marilyn, who were childhood sweethearts, married soon after Fred served his term in the military. Before moving north, they lived in St. Paul near the Capitol, then for nine years in north Minneapolis and then for thirty-three years in Crystal.

Fred's early career involved buying hotels and other older large buildings and converting them into senior citizen housing. He served as the general contractor for all the renovations, creating senior housing in Duluth, Sleepy Eye, International Falls, Montevideo and Minneapolis.

Early in 1993, Fred and Marilyn decided to move permanently to their little piece of paradise on Long Lake. When asked about a special memory, Marilyn said, "We just always had a good time at the lake."

Fred soon became very involved in local organizations. Fred, Will Laraway, Phyllis Entermann, Bob Horiesh and Ralph Arens organized the Long Lake Property Owners Association. Fred wrote the by-laws for the LLPOA, and in 1991, became its President. In the early days, most of the members came from the part of the lake north of the Narrows. In time, membership grew to include up to 70 percent of Long Lake property owners.

Eventually, Fred became involved in other organizations as well. He served as President of the Association of Cass County Lakes, as President of Minnesota Lakes, as a member of Minnesota Waters, as Chairman of the Inquadona Township Board and on the Board of Adjustments for Cass County.

To say the very least, Fred served his community throughout his entire life and was instrumental in creating an environment that would preserve Long Lake as the wonderful place it is today.

GOOD NEIGHBORS!

We would like to include a note we received from John and Deb Verly who live on the point by the red ball. They asked if we would share this story of a good deed performed on their behalf during the big thunderstorm that passed through Longville on July 2nd.

We want to pass on a good deed that was done for us on Monday evening, July 2nd. A strong thunderstorm came through the bay at about 7:00 pm that night. The straight line winds were very strong and snapped the two ropes holding our pontoon boat. We were fortunate that we saw the boat drift away, but it was too dangerous at that time to try and retrieve it. Our neighbors, the DeLorbes, called and said that they could see the direction the boat was heading. When the storm let up, they took us over in that direction. Two good Long Lake neighbors had seen our boat drifting towards their shore and the rocks. They braved the storm and tied our boat up. Our boat was safe and undamaged because of their efforts. Brian Herzfeld and Dale Barrett are our heroes - thank you so much. Also, thanks to the DeLorbes for taking us over to the site. This is just another reason that we love living on Long Lake.

Thanks again, Deb and John Verly

Check out this amazing picture of an eagle just after it caught a northern pike on Long Lake. The picture was taken by Gayle Kottke this summer. Awesome!



Divers Find Invaders Crowding Mille Lacs

The number of zebra mussels on the floor of Lake Mille Lacs, Minnesota's most popular walleye lake, has increased 41% from last year. In one spot at Three Mile Reef, scuba divers last week counted 7,700 zebra mussels per square foot -- or about 53 per square inch. "It's just a carpet of zebra mussels," said Tom Jones, DNR large lake specialist who dove three times last week to assess the zebra mussel population, "The invaders from Europe attach to rocks, so rocky areas of Mille Lacs are covered with them as far as the eye can see." "It's just amazing," Jones said, "They just go on and on and on." The mussels are mostly absent where the bottom is sand and mud. Jones also saw zebra mussels attached to vegetation, which is why boaters must be diligent in removing weeds, he said.

He and coworkers have checked the same areas since zebra mussels were first found in Mille Lacs in 2005. This year, those areas averaged about 1,300 zebra mussels per square foot, compared to 920 per square foot last year. That's nearly 1.5 times as many. "We expected a lot worse," said Jones, "perhaps a 10-fold growth." Warmer lake temperatures this summer might have slowed the population explosion, he speculated. "We've seen zebra mussels turn turquoise, then white, and we think that is stress-related," Jones said. "The water temperature was 78 degrees even below the surface; that's pretty toasty."



But divers aren't finding lots of dead zebra mussels. And it's also possible the slower growth rate is because zebra mussels have filled the best habitat, Jones said. "There are areas with no vacancy," he said, "and other areas with lower densities because there is no place for them to live." Still, the population explosion has been phenomenal: In 2009, they counted just four zebra mussels per square foot; in 2010 they counted 14 per square foot. Now, two years later, that number has increased nearly 100 times. Jones doesn't know how high the zebra mussel population will get, but scientific literature says peak densities can hit 10,000 per square foot. He expects the numbers to decline somewhat after peaking.

Officials don't know what impact the zebra mussels will have on Mille Lacs, its famed walleye fishery or other infested waters. But the good news at Mille Lacs is that water clarity hasn't increased, at least not yet, something that usually occurs. Zebra mussels filter up to a quart of water daily and consume algae, which is food for zooplankton, essential food for small fish. Clearer water wouldn't be beneficial to walleyes and could spark vegetation growth. But Jones said it's too early to draw any conclusions about how zebra mussels might affect the lake. "We'll just have to wait and see."

July, August and September is when zebra mussels produce microscopic larvae called veligers, which could be spread to other lakes in minnow buckets, livewells or boat bilges. With more zebra mussels, there's bound to be more veligers. "It's certainly not time to be complacent," Jones said. "The biggest problem is spreading them [zebra mussels] from Mille Lacs. The risk factor is higher because the population is higher. More vigilance than ever is required." He said boat lifts and docks pulled from Mille Lacs "almost certainly would be infected." Meanwhile the other problem with zebra mussels is their impact on swimmers. Their shells are extremely sharp, whether the mussel is alive or dead and the shells have washed ashore. "They slice like razor blades," Jones said. "My fingers are all cut up from counting them."

LLPOA 2012 Annual Meeting Minutes

The 2012 LLPOA annual meeting was held on August 11th at Salem Lutheran Church in Longville. Members began arriving at 9:00 am. Registration included verification of addresses and e-mails, as well as collection of dues for 2012 and 2013. Approximately 50 people attended this year's meeting, representing about 40 property owners.

The meeting was called to order by President Dick Loeffler at 9:30 am.

Treasurer's Report by Jean Olson:

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Fund Balance at the 2011 annual meeting | \$6446.19 |
| Fund Balance as of August 11, 2012 | \$3860.14 |

Our guest speaker was Pam Perry - "The Loon Lady"

Pam provided a very informational PowerPoint presentation about Minnesota's loons. Some of the interesting facts she offered: 1) The northern third of the U.S. is the southern most edge of the common loon breeding area in the lower 48 states, 2) Only males perform the "yodel" call, 3) Bones of loons are solid, allowing them to dive more easily, 4) Eggs require a 30 day incubation period with both male and female sharing egg sitting duty, 5) Loons molt twice per year; their second molt usually occurs in September - the result of the fall molt is that all adult loons take on the look of immature birds (no neck collar and no spots; they remain that way all winter and don't regain the appearance of mature birds until spring molt, and 6) Minnesota's loons winter in the gulf; immature loons migrate to the Gulf and will remain there for three years before migrating back to Minnesota. For live tracking of GPS tagged loons, Google "USGS loons."

Board member changes: Paul Reinke has agreed to take over the position of Association secretary from Ken Johnson who is leaving after 10 years. Gary Richmond and Rebecca Ryan have agreed to become zone directors.

Dick reported on the Treasure Hunt....look for more info in the fall Link.

The 4th of July parade was somewhat of a "fizzle" this year due to threatening weather - hopefully, next year's weather will be more cooperative.

Water quality testing: The early June readings were consistent at 27 feet clarity at all three locations - north, center, and south. Late July readings were down to about 14 feet. Decreased clarity is a normal late summer occurrence due to increased boat traffic and a wide variety of lake vegetation bloom. The Association continues to pay for water quality testing; this year's report will be available in September.

Fishing report: Several attendees reported some success this year catching walleye; crappie and bass fishing were generally quite good; above average sunfish bite

Shallow water/channel marking buoys: The Association funded the purchase, and coordinated placement, of buoys for the past two years. The members present recommended continuation of the program. It was mentioned that some of the buoys had been moved or damaged. Again, education is the key to safe boating - remind your family, friends and visitors that the buoys are placed to protect watercraft and people; we need your help with this. Buoys will be pulled out in late September.

The 2013 annual meeting will be held on Saturday, August 10th at 9:00 am at Salem Lutheran Church.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ken Johnson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| President | Dick Loeffler | rjloeffler@arvig.net |
| Vice President | Jim Bliss | catalyst@means.net |
| Secretary | Paul Reinke | pacreinke@comcast.net |
| Treasurer/Membership | Jean Olson | jjscabin@arvig.net |

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 | pmitby@means.net |
| 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 |

2013 Board of Directors Meetings

Saturday, May 4th @10:00 am
 Saturday, June 1st @ 10:00 am
 Saturday, July 6th @ 10:00 am
 Saturday, August 10th @ 9:00 am **
 Saturday, September 14th @ 10:00 am

All meetings are held at Salem Lutheran Church in Longville

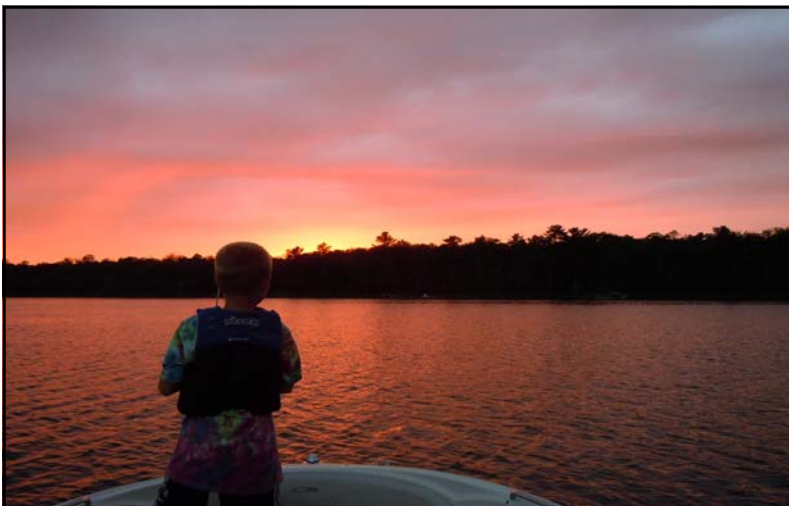
** Annual meeting

Members are always welcome!

TRANSITIONS

WELCOME...Paul Reinke, Gary Richmond and Rebecca Ryan as new members of the LLPOA Board of Directors. Paul is replacing Ken Johnson as Secretary, Gary is replacing Marilyn Bliss as Zone #4 Director and Rebecca is replacing Grace Ann Parkhurst as Zone #1 Director. Their ideas and input will be very much valued.

AND A SPECIAL THANK YOU...to our three retiring Board Members - Ken Johnson, Marilyn Bliss and Grace Ann Parkhurst. We wish to thank you for your contributions to the LLPOA; your devotion to improving the lake environment, water quality and safety of lake users was very much appreciated. These three members have each served the LLPOA for more than ten years! Each one of you will be greatly missed.



Going after the last fish of the day...or the summer?

Photo by Wayne Voigtschild

REMINDER:

The membership form (for new members and renewals) is included in this newsletter. Send the form, along with your 2012 and/or 2013 annual dues (\$15.00 per year), to LLPOA, PO Box 292, Longville, MN 56655.