

Summer 2014 Newsletter



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



HIGHWATER ADVISORY! Due to high water on lakes throughout the county, the Cass County Sheriff's Office is advising a no-wake area within 300 feet of shoreline on all area lakes until water levels recede.

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

June 28	Turtle Town Art Fair - Salem Lutheran Church grounds (9-4pm); Book & Bake Sale @ the Library (9-2pm)
July 2	Turtle Races (1:00 pm)
July 4	4th of July celebration downtown: Food Court opens at 10:30 am; parade at 11:00 am; games/races/contests throughout the day; fireworks at dusk
July 9	Turtle Races (1:00 pm)
July 16	Turtle Races (1:00 pm)
July 17-19	Moondance Jam @ Moondance Fairgrounds, Walker, MN
July 19	Summerfest Family Fun - Patrick's (10-2pm): Arts/crafts/music for kids; food from the Longville Lions & Chamber of Commerce
July 23	Turtle Races (1:00 pm)
July 26	Summer Street Dance - Downtown Longville (7-11pm)
July 30	Turtle Races (1:00 pm)
August 2	Lions Corn & Polish Sausage Feed (11-2pm)
August 3	"Planes, Trains & Automobiles" @ Longville Airport: Pancake breakfast, classic cars & model trains (8-noon)
August 13	Turtle Races (1:00 pm)
August 20	Turtle Races (1:00 pm)
August 30	"Arts off 84" Art Crawl - next to Longville Bait (9-5pm)
Sept. 18 - Oct. 5	"Fall Has It All" - Longville, Hackensack & Walker: Celebrate fall with special events & merchant discounts

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.

Greetings from your President,

Anyone need some water? Spring 2014 has seen water levels rise sharply on Long Lake, with many docks going under water and beaches disappearing. Boat traffic on the lake has been light, as many property owners did not put their boats in the water until mid to late June, in hopes that water levels would stabilize. I think we are all ready for some sun and fun on the lake this summer.

The buoys are now out on the lake in their rightful places. Remember: Red and Green - Stay Between. Thanks to everyone who pitched in to help put them out this year. And for those of you who dinged a prop or two before we could get them back out on the lake, our sincere apologies. I am personally experienced at dingy props, having hit more than my share of rocks in the lake before the buoys were installed a few years ago. The shop I take my props to got to know me on a first name basis – not a good thing. Their comment on the last big prop “alteration” I did was that I should try putting my boat in the water next time before I drive it. Ouch.

With the 4th of July weekend upon us, there will be lots of boats on the lake. This brings some new challenges that we all need to help out with. Water levels are very high, so boat wakes can cause significant erosion of shorelines and property damage. The Cass County Sheriff's Office has issued a directive that all areas within 300 feet of the shoreline are designated as “no-wake areas” until further notice. If you own a wake boat, please avoid creating wakes until the water recedes. The Narrows is now marked as a permanent “No Wake Zone,” and appropriately so. We've all seen children and adults (even dogs) lounging and swimming in that area, so slowing down makes sense. We thank everyone for your support and focus on boating safety.

The LLPOA Board is putting an increased focus on preventing the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) into Long Lake. **The problem has arrived at our doorstep, with over 400 Minnesota lakes and rivers already infected, some as close as only ten miles away.** AIS often do not come from a nearby body of water either. A boat trailer that had recently been in Lake Minnetonka was launching into Lake Bemidji when an inspector discovered zebra mussels and Eurasian milfoil attached to it. One mistake is all it takes.

We have developed a series of high-visibility signs related to AIS which will be posted along the road leading to the boat landing, and at the boat landing itself, to alert watercraft owners to take precautions and inspect their boats before launching them. We are also working on expanding LLPOA membership in order to get everyone involved and working together on this significant issue. We all have a part to play in preserving the lake and protecting our property values.

If you have any suggestions or concerns that you would like the LLPOA Board to discuss, please feel free to e-mail me at wayne@msiresults.com; the Board is here to represent your interests. Thank you for your continued support. Happy 4th of July!

Wayne Voigtschild



ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY BOAT PARADE!

Decorate your pontoon, boat or canoe in red, white and blue and take part in Long Lake's annual boat parade on Friday, July 4th. The parade will line up at the Narrows at 2:00 pm and then head NORTH!

If the weather cooperates, and you have time, it would be great if boaters in the parade could make the entire loop around the lake - sometimes boats drop out after making it just halfway and some of the spectators on shore miss the opportunity to see all of them in their decorated glory.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**LLPOA Annual Meeting,
Saturday, August 9th at 9:30 am,
at Salem Lutheran Church.**

**Doors open at 9:00 a.m.
for registration, coffee, juice & snacks.
All members & property owners
are invited to attend.**

**Come and meet your Board & Zone Directors,
and see what they are doing with your dues
to protect & enhance the quality of Long Lake.**

We hope to see you there!

Ranger Rick's Spring 2014 Fishing Report

In spite of the weather, fishing on Long Lake has been fairly good. As reported in the last newsletter, fishing over the winter was pretty unremarkable. This may have contributed to the improved results we are seeing this spring.

Crappie and sunfish fishing was quite good early this year while they were in the shallows. During the mayfly hatch, they were on the surface eating mayflies as fast as they could. That, of course, impacted fishing success, but it was fun to watch. They have now moved into deeper water, in the ten to fifteen foot range, and are still out there if you can drag yourself up early in the morning, or head out at dusk. Fishing is always rewarding on Long for both large and smallmouth bass. This spring is no exception, with some good-sized bass hitting our lures the moment they hit the water - hard to beat that feeling.

Walleye and perch fishing, as usual, have been far more challenging on Long Lake than many lakes in the area, in spite of the stocking program that has occurred over the last few years. There has not been any significant improvement in frequency or size of fish caught over the last couple of years.

Those of us who like fishing for northern pike, for a little extra adrenalin rush, have seen a definite decline over the last few years, but there are still some good-sized ones out there. Not to worry! There were reports of fisherman on Long Lake landing fifteen to twenty pound northerns over the winter on catch and release, so we know they are still out there for the taking.

Enjoy your summer, and happy fishing!

**REMEMBERING ONE OF LONG LAKE'S STRONGEST ADVOCATES...**

On May 25th, we lost a great gentleman and a devoted advocate for Long Lake, Roger Mitby. He will be truly missed by his family and everyone that knew him. Roger and his wife, Pat, have owned a lake home on Macemon Road for 40 plus years. Their son, Jeff, and his wife, Pauline, own a place on Wayward Trail.

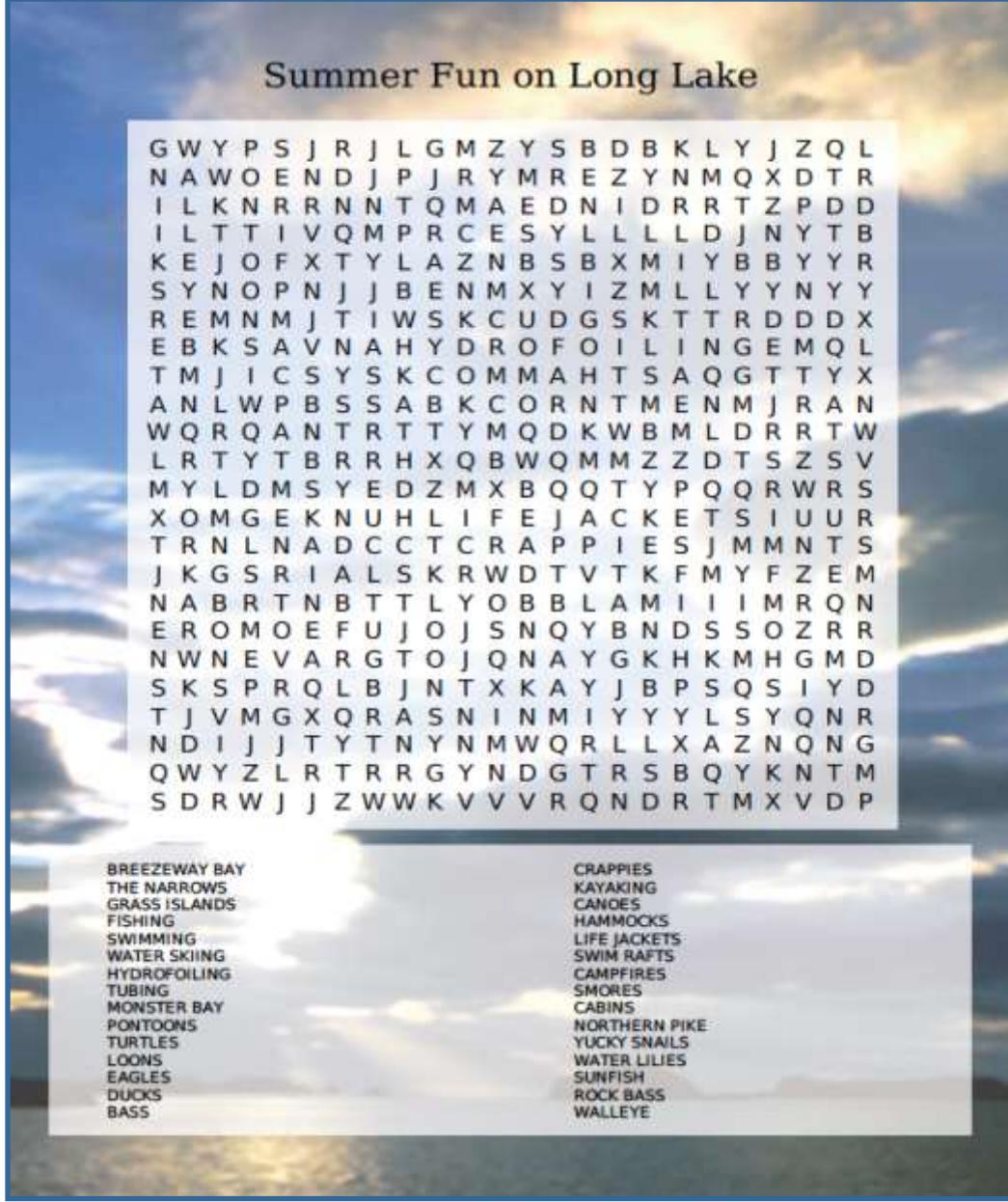
Roger will be sincerely missed on the Long Lake Property Owners Association Board of Directors where he served for many years. Roger was known for his devotion to improving Long Lake's fishing quality, especially increasing the crappie population. To many he was known as "Mr. Crappie" for his tireless work in getting a Minnesota DNR mandate on the minimum size for crappies caught from Long Lake. Because of his tireless efforts, I am sure we have all seen the crappie population improve in size and numbers.

Over the years, Roger served on the Board of Directors and was involved in many projects, including working to maintain Long Lake's water quality, AIS prevention programs, walleye and perch stocking by the Minnesota DNR, protecting the area's environment and shoreline restoration and maintenance issues.

Having served with Roger on the Board, I often sought his advice on issues and I always felt I got a logical and thoughtful response from him. During Board meetings, he would always share his feelings on subjects that mattered to him and was very influential on decisions that were made by the Board. The results of his contributions over the many years of his service have been seen on Long Lake, and all of us on the lake are indebted to him. Roger, we all owe you our gratitude - you will be missed.

Sincerely submitted by Dick Loeffler, retired LLPOA President

Summer Fun on Long Lake



A scenic view of a lake at sunset or sunrise with mountains in the background.

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BREEZEWAY BAY
THE NARROWS
GRASS ISLANDS
FISHING
SWIMMING
WATER SKIING
HYDROFOILING
TUBING
MONSTER BAY
PONTOONS
TURTLES
LOONS
EAGLES
DUCKS
BASS

CRAPPIES
KAYAKING
CANOES
HAMMOCKS
LIFE JACKETS
SWIM RAFTS
CAMPFIRES
SMORES
CABINS
NORTHERN PIKE
YUCKY SNAILS
WATER LILIES
SUNFISH
ROCK BASS
WALLEYE

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Shiver me timbers!

As you can probably tell by now, there is no Treasure Hunt this summer. Between reinstalling our dock because of the high water, and running from the mosquitoes, we pirates just ran out of time. Hopefully next summer, we will be able to send you all on another fun wild goose chase.

Some little known - and probably not true - facts about Minnesota you might want to know:

- Minnesota became the 32nd state on May 11, 1858, and was originally settled by a lost tribe of Norwegians seeking refuge from the searing heat of Wisconsin's winters.
- The state flag of Minnesota consists of a blue background upon which sits a design best described as "How a 7-year-old city girl would draw a picture titled 'Life on the Farm.'"
- Madison, MN is known as "The Lutefisk Capital of the World." Avoid this city at all costs.
- The state motto of Minnesota is "Where even a man who wears a feather boa can grow up to be Governor."
- The Hormel Company of Austin, MN produces six million cans of Spam a year, even though no one actually eats that stuff.
- The first water skis were invented in Lake City, MN by Ralph Samuelson in 1922. Sadly, he drowned shortly afterwards, as the motorboat hadn't been invented yet.
- Pelican Rapids, MN is home to a 16-foot-tall concrete pelican, which subsists on a diet of 4-foot-long concrete fish.
- In 1973, Olivia, MN erected a 25-foot-tall fiberglass corn cob to celebrate its rich agricultural heritage. In 1974, it was eaten by a 50-foot statue of Babe the Blue Ox.
- Sorry, but I have one more...The snowmobile was invented in Roseau, MN so as to allow families a means of attending 4th of July picnics.

Some important reminders about...

Be sure to clean, drain & dry your boat to prevent the spread of AIS

Operate at safe speeds at all times

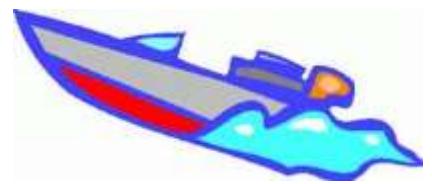
Always have an appropriately-sized life jacket for each passenger on your boat

Throwable flotation devices are required on all boats longer than 16 feet

Identify the buoys on a lake so you can avoid shallow spots & submerged objects

No wake near fishing boats or shorelines (**especially with this year's high water level**)

Go slow through the Narrows, it's a "No Wake Zone"



Stay to the outside when boats are fishing near shore

Avoid alcohol when boating

Failure to operate a boat safely can cause harm to yourself, your passengers & other boaters

Everyone younger than 13 years old needs to wear a lifejacket at all times when in a boat

Take time to read the Minnesota Boating Guide

You must use navigation lights when boating from sunset to sunrise

TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT!

As mentioned in the President's letter, there are over 400 Minnesota lakes and rivers that are already infested with Aquatic Invasive Species. We thought it would be important to find out which infested lakes are closest to Long Lake. Here is a list of known lakes with either zebra mussels and/or Eurasian water milfoil in Crow Wing and Cass Counties. Needless to say, boaters must be extremely diligent about following the rules for cleaning, draining and drying their watercraft when leaving any of the lakes or rivers listed below.

Cass County

Lakes infested with zebra mussels: Bass, Green's, Gull, Margaret, Spider, Upper Gull and Winnibigoshish.

Lakes infested with Eurasian water milfoil: Leech, Town Line and Washburn.

The Mississippi River and Lake Winnibigoshish also have faucet snails.

Crow Wing County

Lakes infested with zebra mussels: Arrowhead, Bertha, Big Pine, Big Trout, Black Bear, Boom, Clamshell, Cross, Daggett, Island, Little Pine, Little Rabbit, Loon, Love, Margaret, Nisswa, Ossawinnamakee, Pelican, Pickeral, Pine River, Rice, Round, Roy, Rush, Upper Hay and Whitefish.

Lakes infested with Eurasian water milfoil: Bay, Clearwater, Kimball, Tame Fish, Louise Mine Pit, Ossawinnamakee, Ripple River, Ruth and Upper Mission.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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We'd like to hear from you!

In the Spring Link, we included a map of Long Lake that showed the names (to the best of our knowledge) of islands, bays, etc. One of our property owners thought it would be fun to know what other people call features on the lake. Maybe they are the "real" names, maybe they are your nicknames that came from a special experience on the lake, or maybe they just evolved out of habit. If you, or your family, have names of favorite locations on the lake that you would like to share, please e-mail them to the editor and we will publish them in the fall edition of the Link.



2014 LLPOA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!

We will be running a "Join the LLPOA" membership campaign throughout 2014. We want to reach property owners that haven't joined the Association yet, or those who may not even know the LLPOA exists. We are hoping that we can enlist the help of our current LLPOA members in this campaign by asking them to talk to their neighbors and find out if they are members already or not. Share with them what we are doing to keep aquatic invasive species out of the lake, how we are managing the lake's water quality and how we are working to protect local wildlife and its habitat - and then encourage them to join. We need everyone's help!

In order to reach as many owners as we can this year, we will continue to send out paper copies of the Link to those people who are not on our e-mail list, whether they are members or not.

It saves the Association a lot of printing and postage cost when we send the Link by e-mail, so please consider adding yourselves to our newsletter [e-mail list](#); plus you'll receive the added bonus of getting the Link in color! We never use your e-mail for anything other than Association news.

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

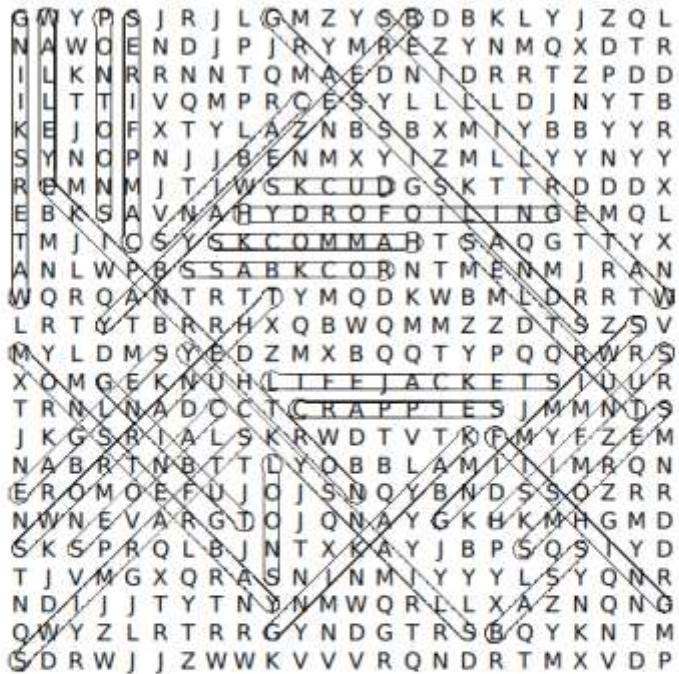
2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

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. Members and property owners are always welcome to attend.

Summer Fun on Long Lake



REMINDER

The membership/dues form - for new members or member renewals - is included in this newsletter. Send the form, along with your 2014 annual dues (\$15.00), to LLPOA, PO Box 292, Longville, MN56655.

Feel free to contact Meg to check on the status of your dues. Call 612-805-5995 or e-mail meg@msiresults.com.