

Spring  
2015  
Newsletter

# Long Lake Link

*Long Lake Property Owners Association*

[www.minnesotawaters.org/longlakepropertyowners](http://www.minnesotawaters.org/longlakepropertyowners)

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

### ***Fire Danger & Burning Restrictions:***

As of May 5th, the fire danger in Cass County is moderate (fires start easily and spread at a moderate rate). However, due to the extreme dryness this spring, Cass County is not issuing any burning permits. Campfires are allowed, but please be extremely careful; keep the fire small and under control at all times, have a water source available and be sure the fire is out and cold to the touch before leaving it.

You can check for fire danger and restriction updates at [http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/firerating\\_restrictions.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/firerating_restrictions.html).

### **UPCOMING AREA EVENTS**

Every Wednesday: June - August

June 19-20

June 20

June 27

July 4

July 16-18

July 18

August 2

September 5-6

September 17 - October 3

September 19

October 4

Turtle Races: Downtown Longville (1 - 3:30pm)

Moondance Jammin' Country: Hwy. 200, east of Walker

Firemen's BBQ Sandwiches; Pie Social; Arts, Crafts & Music Outdoor Show: Downtown (10am - 2pm)

Turtle Town Art Fair (rain or shine): Salem Lutheran Church (9am - 4pm)

Classic Car Show: next to Longville Bait (9am - 2pm)

Celebrate Independence Day in downtown Longville!

All day fun including parade, food & games; Fireworks over Girl Lake at dusk  
(*No Turtle Races on the 4th*)

Moondance Jam: Hwy. 200, east of Walker

Summerfest & "Taste of Longville": Food, garage sale, games & art for kids

Planes, Trains & Automobiles Pancake breakfast: Longville Airport (8am - 12pm)

8th Annual Arts off 84 Art Crawl: Hwy 84 between Pine River & Longville

"Fall Has It All" - Longville, Remer, Hackensack & Walker celebrate autumn

Oktoberfest in Longville: Arts/Crafts/Music Outdoor Show (10am - 2pm), Fall

Festival at Salem (10am - 3pm), German beer garden (11am - 2pm), Dinner

dance at the fire hall (5 - 11pm)

2nd Annual Harvest Moon Festival: Moondance grounds, Hwy 200, east of Walker

### **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 out there as glad as I am that the winter of 2014-15 is over? As some of you know, Meg and I really enjoy our outdoor time at Long Lake through all the seasons. Since we purchased our cabin in 2000, we have never failed to be up there enjoying the outdoors an average of 40 plus weekends per year...**until last winter**. We had our snowmobiles and ATVs all tuned up for some fun on the ice and snowmobile trails. We spent two weekends making a large hockey rink out on the ice, flooding it to give us nice smooth ice. We were ready; I even installed lights out on the rink so we could play some awesome night hockey with the kids and grandkids. And then came the cold. Not just any cold...bone-chilling cold. Of course, with that kind of cold, there was no snow. Nope...NO SNOW! Our snowmobiles never left the garage all winter. We only played hockey twice, and then only until the kids' chins went numb. Just how cold was it? It was so cold that hitchhikers were holding up pictures of their thumbs to get a ride.

Enough about last winter. It's time to get back on the water. We began putting out the buoys last weekend in preparation for the fishing opener. Regarding the buoys – remember, "Red and green...stay between." White buoys represent rocks or logs close to the water surface.

As the boating season begins, we are reminded that the threat of Aquatic Invasive Species infecting lakes in the North Country has never been more serious. One year ago, there were just over 400 Minnesota lakes infected with AIS. As of March 15, 2015, there are 693 bodies of water infected. We are asking all Long Lake property owners to take the necessary precautions when launching your boat in Long Lake after it has been in lakes or rivers known to be infected with AIS. Some of these bodies of water are fairly close to us: Leech, Mille Lacs, Winnie, Gull, Townline, Ruth, Emily, the Mississippi River, plus many more. Many of the recreational lakes in the Twin Cities area are also infested, so if friends and relatives come up to Long to go fishing or boating, check out their trailers, boats, personal watercraft, and even their ski equipment to make sure it is free of contaminants before launching. Think of it as protecting your investment because the cost of control, once a lake is infested, is not sustainable.

Your Board of Directors is keenly focused on protecting our pristine waters from AIS infestation. Over the winter months, I applied for two grants to give us additional monies to invest in permanent signage along the boat launch road, at the boat launch and to purchase AIS educational materials that we can share with property owners. We also applied for a grant to fund an AIS inspector at the boat launch during fishing opener and on major holiday weekends. How did we fare? We're batting 50/50. We received grant dollars for permanent signage along the boat launch road, and for educational materials to help property owners and resort customers become more aware of how to prevent AIS infestation. Our grant application for an AIS inspector at the boat landing during busy weekends was unsuccessful. Apparently the demand for grant dollars for inspectors was far greater than the monies available, so they had to prioritize the lakes that would get inspectors. Their focus was on the busiest lakes, some of which are already infested. We are not disenchanted with the process yet, and we will certainly try again next year.

If you have any specific things you would like the LLPOA Board of Directors to address at upcoming meetings, please feel free to e-mail me at [wayne@msireresults.com](mailto:wayne@msireresults.com). We appreciate and thank you for your continued support. Have a safe and fun summer!

### Really?! Now here's something you don't hear everyday...

#### Washington State Police Find Family's Stolen Vacation Cabin

Reuters News | Apr 09, 2015

SEATTLE - A vacation cabin that disappeared off its foundation in eastern Washington has been located several miles away, apparently stolen using a flatbed truck by people who intended to live in it, a law enforcement official said on Thursday. The Stevens County Sheriff's Office said deputies found the missing log cabin in a rural area near Springdale after receiving information about its whereabouts. "It was stolen. We do have suspects," said Steven County Sheriff Kendle Allen, who added that it appears the suspects had been living in the building. "We have search warrants and deputies are examining the property," he said.

Allen described the cabin as a very small, 10-foot by 20-foot weekend hunting shed that can be moved with a truck. He said it was located about five miles from where it was stolen and had been placed on a makeshift foundation. The cabin's owner, Chris-Haney Hempel, said she and her family discovered the building missing on Tuesday, about two weeks after they last used it. She thinks it was stolen with a flatbed truck sometime around March 25. "The gate to the property was cut. And there were some tracks around back. It looked like a middle of the night kind of thing," she said. The prefabricated cabin, which does not have a septic system or electricity, contained light furnishings and camping gear, she said. "We are relieved," Hempel said. "Thank God for everyone out there that helped look for it," she added.

**...so tonight, before you go to bed, make sure your cabin is bolted to the ground.**



Look familiar?!?

## Ranger Rick's Winter 2014-15 Fishing Report

Extremely cold weather, and almost no snow to speak of, made snowmobiling nearly impossible this past winter. But, with little or no snow on the lake, the fishing was actually better than usual.

Crappie fishing was decent over the winter, with good reports coming in from around the lake. In contrast, the sunfish bite was sparse, at best. Those reporting the best luck with crappies were using jigs and minnows for bait. Walleye fishing over the winter was spotty, with just a few reports of fish caught and released. Long is always good for bass fishing, and the winter of 2015 was no exception. Several bass were caught in the 3 to 4 pound range at several different locations around the lake.

In addition to walleye, the DNR planted cisco in Long Lake over the past few years as part of a program to assess the health of the lake. Apparently it is working, because fisherman reported catching cisco this past winter in the 1 to 2 pound range. It's a good sign of lake health and, hopefully, will help increase the fish population throughout the lake.

As reported in past fishing reports, there has been a decline in the number of small northern pike caught by fisherman over the last couple of years. This is actually good news as small northern are eating-machines that can greatly reduce the population of other fish species in the lake, as well as inhibit the growth of the existing fish population. With fewer small northern in the lake, the larger northern pike have more to eat and have a better chance of growing to good size. We received reports of fisherman on Long Lake catching northern up to 15 pounds over the winter. Even better news is that the fisherman that caught these larger fish practiced "Catch and Release," so those 15 pounders are out there and still growing.

In future newsletters, we will talk more about "Catch and Release" practices in hopes that more of us will actively participate. The result will be an ever-improving fishing experience on the lake and the return of larger fish - perhaps the 20 inch crappies that were so prevalent in Long Lake years ago. Now who wouldn't get excited about that?!



"Patience."

Photo by Wayne Voigtchild

## REMEMBERING...

**Joe Mojo Roalson**, 53, of Longville, passed away Sunday, August 31, 2014 after a long fight with cancer. Joe was born March 23, 1961 in Mankato, MN to Jerry and Sharon Roalson. He worked as a mechanic in the Twin Cities area, in construction throughout the Midwest, and after moving to Longville, he became a cook. He had many friends in the Longville area and was a member of the Longville Lions Club; Joe had been associated with Long Lake for 30 years or more. Joe was a loving father to Becky and Erin of Alaska, Jaci of the Twin Cities, and grandfather to Gunner of Alaska. He is also survived by his loving father, Jerry; sisters, Lori and Cindy of Wisconsin; MiRinda and Amy of Minnesota; and many nephews, nieces and cousins. Joe was preceded in death by his mother, Sharon. A celebration of Joe's life was held in Longville.

**Sonja M. Keating**, 76, of Longville, passed away Sunday, November 9, 2014 after a long battle with cancer and paralysis at her winter home in Arizona. Sonja was born on June 3, 1938 to Willem and Sophia Bonger in Amsterdam, Holland. She learned to be a beautician, and at the age of 19 she immigrated to the U.S. and became a citizen. She worked as a cosmetologist and opened her own salon. After marrying Ed Keating, they settled in Longville and lived on Long Lake. Sonja loved gardening, cooking and baking and had many other talents. She was a wonderful wife and friend. Sonja is survived by her husband, Ed. A Celebration of Life was held at her home on Long Lake in June.

**Eva Frances Jenkins**, 87, of Chanute, KS, passed away Saturday, November 22, 2014. "Frances," as she was known, was born July 25, 1927 in Arcadia, KS to Cecil Corder and Dessie Stephan. After her father died in an accident, her mother married Vernel Jenkins and they moved to Bronaugh, MO. Frances married O.D. "Bus" Jenkins in 1951 and they settled in Nevada, MO. She earned her Bachelor and Master's Degrees in Education from Pittsburg State University. After 40 years of teaching, she retired in 1985. Frances' hobbies included reading, crocheting and travel; she especially loved her dog, Tiger. Frances and her husband owned their property on Deer Run Trail on Long Lake for over 50 years, spending their summers there after they retired. Bus preceded Frances in death in 2005. Frances is survived by her sister, Kay Barclay; sister-in-law, Lou Jenkins; many nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews; other relatives and a host of friends. Funeral services were held in Nevada, MO.

### Your Board of Directors at Work

Last summer, we installed a series of signs along the boat launch road designed to emphasize the importance of Aquatic Invasive Species awareness and prevention. They are imitations of the old Burma Shave signs that were a common sight along U.S. highways from the 1920s to the 1960s - some of us actually still remember those signs! If you don't, there were always four individual signs, each with a rhyming line, spaced equal distances apart for easy reading. They were usually humorous and ended by advertising their product, Burma Shave. The hope is that our unique versions of those signs will catch the attention of anyone heading to the boat launch and will reinforce our efforts to keep AIS out of Long Lake. Many of you have probably seen the signs by now, but for those of you who haven't, here they are.



## 4th of July Boat Parade

The annual Long Lake boat parade will be held on Saturday, July 4th. As always, boaters will meet at the Narrows - and this year, the parade will head *SOUTH*. At last year's annual meeting, the Board heard from some members that starting the parade at 2:00 pm cuts into many of the 4th of July activities going on in town. **So we thought that this year we would try something different and start the parade at 4:00 pm;** that way, members can enjoy some of the action in town and still have time to get back to the lake for the parade. Also, for the past two summers, it seems as though the wind was trying to blow boats right out of the water, so maybe it will help to start the parade a couple of hours later in the afternoon when the wind tends to die down. We would appreciate your feedback on the 4:00 start time so we can decide whether we should stay with that in the future, or if we should just stick with the 2:00 start.



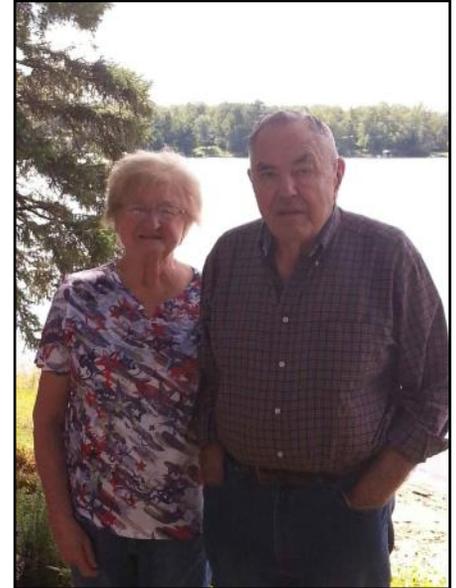
So, decorate your pontoon, boat or canoe in red, white and blue and join in on the fun. If the weather cooperates, and you have time, it would be great if boaters in the parade could make the entire loop around the lake so all the lakeside spectators can enjoy your efforts.

### The Laraway's Long Lake Story

Willis and Mary Laraway reside in New Ulm, Minnesota where they ran the family roofing business. Mary's father suffered from asthma and had a fair degree of difficulty with his breathing. When he went up north for little getaways, he found he could breathe easier; that set the Laraway's wheels in motion to begin looking for a family cabin in northern Minnesota.

Will Laraway was a pilot, and he owned an airplane, which made it possible for the family to fly up to lake country on weekends to look for a perfect location for their cabin. As they buzzed over Long Lake, something struck them about the beauty of this lake with its islands and bays, and it stood out over all the other lakes they had seen. The north end of the lake was particularly interesting to them so they decided to investigate further to see if there might be something available to purchase. Their timing could not have been better - Herb Macemon, who owned Macemon's Resort on the north end of the lake, expressed interest in selling one of the cabins in his resort, along with 200 feet of shoreline. Will and Mary purchased their seasonal cabin and property in 1970.

The 720 square foot, uninsulated cabin was more than adequate in the beginning, and it served the Laraway's needs for their northern getaway well. But as the family grew, so did their need for additional space, plus creature comforts like insulated walls, and a heating system that would allow them to extend their time at the cabin. As time went on, Will and Mary's love for the lake grew, and in 1988 they decided to move up to the lake full time. They spent three full years on Long Lake before deciding to purchase a property in Arizona where they could spend their winters. I asked Will why they decided so quickly to travel to Arizona for the winter months instead of spending their winters at Long Lake as they had planned. He coyly responded that he had discovered "scotch freezes at minus 50 degrees and that just would not do."



Mary & Willis Laraway  
Summer 2014

As residents of Long Lake for 45 years, Will and Mary Laraway have been on the ground floor of many of the activities that make Long Lake what it is today. One such action was the formation of the Long Lake Property Owners Association, which has served the role of caretaker of the lake for so many years. During my interview with Will, I asked him what had prompted them to form a lake association early on and how the association actually got started. He said initially eight or nine guys would get together twice a month with a squeeze box and a guitar for entertainment, and they would socialize and talk about what was going on at the lake. The group decided they should form an association that would guide them in working together to assure the health of the lake as more and more people were buying shoreline property. Recognizing the importance of membership, they went door-to-door speaking to all the property owners, and they eventually increased the membership to 60. (FYI...today we have around 230 dues-paying members, so those initial organizers should be proud of what they started.) The first annual meeting of the LLPOA was held on August 25, 1990 at Longville Elementary School.

The foresight of this original group has clearly benefited us all as the health of the lake has never been better, even with the large number of property owners now on the lake. We owe Will and Mary and all the original members of the Association a big thank you for their insight and actions taken over the years to preserve the health of Long Lake.

On a personal note, Will and Mary certainly instilled a love for Long Lake in their grown children. Their two sons and their wives, Dean and Shirley, and Steve and Peggy, have cabins on the lake; as does their daughter, Juli, and her husband, Paul. And Mary told us they have another daughter and son-in-law in Colorado who are looking for a place of their own on the lake as well. (Steve Laraway currently serves as Vice President on the LLPOA Board of Directors.)

*Written by Wayne Voigtschild*

*My personal thanks to Will and Mary Laraway for sharing their story with me.*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS**

Saturday, May 9th @ 10:00 am  
 Saturday, June 13th @ 10:00 am  
 Saturday, July 11th @ 10:00 am  
 Saturday, August 8th @ 9:30 am \*\*  
 Saturday, September 12th @ 10:00 am

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

Meetings are held at Salem Lutheran Church in Longville.  
 All property owners are always welcome to attend.

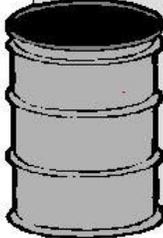
**2014 Loon Count...**

Every summer season we try to get a loon count, if at all possible. Obviously, they don't sit still, or stay in the same place, so the count has a certain margin of error. Last fall, Bob Alley and Wayne Voigtschild put their heads together and came up with a likely count of 16 adults and 7 chicks. That's a very healthy population for Long Lake and has stayed pretty consistent over the years.



Photo by Gale Kottke

We also have a healthy population of eagles, and often, as we know, that tends to decrease our loon chick numbers. As we always tell our kids, "What can you do when our national bird is going after our state bird?" Not much...that's Mother Nature.



**Burning Garbage is Illegal in Cass County**  
 However, for some reason many burn barrels remain. If you are aware of someone burning garbage, contact Paul Fairbanks, Solid Waste Administrator for Cass County, at 218-547-7287 paul.fairbanks@co.cass.mn.us.

**Here's something you may not have been aware of:**

Most cabin "weekenders" will know what we're talking about when we complain about driving back home on Sunday evenings with aroma-filled bags of trash in our vehicles. There is a service offered by City Sanitary Service of Longville that can solve that problem for you. Pick up one of their red trash bags at the One Stop for \$5.49 each. Put your trash in that bag, call the phone number on the attached tag and City Sanitary will tell you where you can leave the bag for their pick-up. And if you find out that you live along one of their regular routes, you don't even have to call, just leave the red bag in the appropriate spot when you leave on Sunday nights.

**LLPOA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!**

We will continue to run the "Join the LLPOA" membership campaign. 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, 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 costs 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 begin receiving the Link by e-mail, please send your e-mail address to Meg Voigtschild at meg@msireresults.com.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

The membership/dues form (*for new members or those members who need to update their information*) is included in this newsletter. Send the form, along with your 2015 annual dues of \$15.00 to LLPOA, PO Box 292, Longville, MN 56655.

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