



LAKE SOUNDINGS

The Newsletter of Gilmore Lake Association
Spring 2011

www.gilmorelakeassociation.com

Board Members:

Officers:

President:

Bill Doeden
wgdoeden@comcast.net

Vice President:

John Ney
jney@vt.edu

Secretary/Treasurer:

Russ Robinson
russrobinson@centurytel.net

Directors:

Tom Bergemann
bergemann@gmail.com

Jim Holmes
jrhomes1931@charter.net

Bill Huelsman
Bill@bergmanagement.com

Dick Johnson
silverwing83@gmail.com

Committee Chairs

AIS/Eurasian Milfoil
John Ney
Fund raising
Amy Pfeifer
Membership/Newsletter
Barb Robinson

We'll Do Our Part But We Need The WDNR's Help

Another winter's behind us and spending time at Gilmore Lake lies ahead. As you look forward to that first visit, please take a moment to reflect on how you can protect our lake by inspecting your boat, motors, trailer and anchors/ropes for plants before entering and leaving any lake. Also be sure to drain your livewell and bilge, dispose of live bait in the trash and avoid the buoyed off Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) area.

Even as we do our part, we still depend on the WDNR to help protect our lake.

Last year, an assessment of the WDNR grant ranking program that is intended to combat Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) found a number of opportunities to improve the program in order to ensure that an AIS-contaminated lake was also taking steps to prevent AIS from spreading to other lakes. For example, the ranking system considers 200 hours of boat inspections per season an adequate effort on the part of a contaminated lake. Weekend inspections from May through Labor Day require at least 300 hours per landing. Inspections on boats leaving a contaminated lake are not required and no check of the inspection data is made by the WDNR to ensure that the inspection hours reported by a lake were actually spent doing inspections. So how does this affect Gilmore Lake?

The Minong Flowage, with 300 acres of EWM, represents the single greatest risk to Gilmore Lake. More boats enter Gilmore Lake after being in the Flowage than from any other body of water. The Flowage has received a \$200,000 WDNR grant to control EWM but is still only required to do 200 hours of boat inspections even though it has four landings. That level of effort was not enough last year to even provide weekend coverage on one of its landings and that is likely to be the case again this year. We have contacted the appropriate WDNR leadership, highlighted the grant issues and asked that the deficiencies in the grant program be addressed. We will continue to pursue improvement of the WDNR grant program so it better serves to reduce the risk to our lake.

Thanks to our volunteers, the EWM in Gilmore is under control, steps continue to be taken to prevent recontamination and funds to support these efforts are being raised. So as you take advantage of all our lake has to offer, please be safe, have a fun-filled summer with family and friends and continue to do your part.

Thanks, Bill Doeden

Disclaimer: *The materials, information and references provided in this newsletter are provided "as is". While every effort is made to ensure their accuracy, no warranty, expressed or implied, is given with respect to them.*

EWM UPDATE

John J. Ney, Chairman Milfoil Committee

The past year ended on a high note for the Gilmore Lake campaign against Eurasian water milfoil (EWM). Monthly visual surveys of the vegetated areas of the lake by Russ Robinson and Burt King discovered no new EWM. However the pioneer colony bounded by markers buoys along the south shore has proven resilient. Matt Berg of Endangered Resource Services dived on the bed three times in 2010, removing 100-200 plants each time. This rapid regrowth necessitates a chemical treatment with granular 2,4D this year in mid summer. This herbicide is not toxic to fish or humans.

Mr. Berg and associates also completed a whole-lake aquatic plant survey in July as required by the WDNR Rapid Response grant. More than 500 sampling points were included as determined by GPS. Among the findings: 67 species of native plants were identified, the highest diversity ever recorded by Matt on his many lake surveys. High diversity, due in part to the amount of undisturbed shoreline, indicates that our lake may be resistant to complete take over by EWM.

As the 2011 boating season begins, we start our 6th consecutive year of Clean Boat, Clean Water inspections to both keep EWM (and other invasives) from coming in and our own EWM from being exported elsewhere. Over the course of our program, more than 3,000 inspections have been performed. Perhaps more importantly, 7,000 boaters have been educated in prevention steps. Please remember **it is against Wisconsin law to transport aquatic vegetation, on your boat, trailer, or vehicle.**

Our EWM bed is very well marked with buoys made and placed by Russ and Burt supplemented with four new buoys built by Bill Huelsman. This does not guarantee that all boaters will avoid the infested area. In the past a few louts have ignored the signs, risking the spread of EWM fragments throughout the lake. Sadly, such behavior is not illegal. Please help educate boaters to stay away from the area.

This year we will contract for preparation of an Aquatic Plant Management Plan for Gilmore Lake. It is required by the Rapid Response grant and is necessary to be competitive for future WDNR grants. The Plan will be based on biological data as well as public input and will consider options for dealing with exotic invaders while preserving our native flora.

Financially, we continue to be on solid ground, thanks to WDNR grants and the contributions of GLA members in cash and volunteer labor. Over the next two years, the WDNR will contribute ~\$10,000 for EWM control and \$8,000 for the CBCW program. THE GLA will match this with \$6,000 and 500 volunteer hours in 2011-2012. All of this assumes no further spread of EWM in Gilmore Lake, either by boats or the river inflows in the three 2010 floods: fingers crossed! Regardless, we continue to need and appreciate everyone's support. We are all in this Weed War together.

DAVE SWANSON DNR AGENT

To report an incident on the lake, call any of the following numbers.

715-466-5428

or

715-645-0053

or

800-TIP-WDNR

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Jim and Nancy Holmes need help setting up the Annual Meeting on Saturday June 25 at the Town Hall. This involves setting up tables and chairs, setting out the food and then cleanup afterwards. Please contact Jim at 715-466-2197 or rjholmes1931@charter.net.

BOATER SAFETY 101

1. It's better to wear the life jacket rather than finding yourself in the water and the life jacket buried on the boat.
2. Every boat needs a spotter even if only one person is on board. If you are the only one on the boat then you are the helmsman AND spotter.
3. No-Wake means traveling slow enough not to create a wake and still maintain steerage. Boats no-wake within 100 feet of shore or docks. Jet skis no-wake within 200 feet of shore and 100 feet of docks.
4. Read the Wisconsin Boating Regulations. It doesn't matter what state you have your boat registered in, you're using it in Wisconsin.

TOWN OF MINONG LAKES COMMITTEE

By Russ Robinson, Chairman

MINONG TOWN FAIR

Be sure to schedule time on July 23, 2011 to attend the **Minong Town Lakes Fair** at the Minong Town Hall on Nancy Lake Road. The planning for this year's Fair is well underway. We already have word that we will receive money from two of three grants we have applied for which will help offset some of our initial expenses.

This year's Fair promises to be even bigger and better than the last Fair held in 2009. We will have loads of activities for kids, presentations, vendor displays, raffles and a **FREE** pig roast lunch. The band, *Second Time Around*, will provide musical entertainment during lunch.

We need your help! If you would like to get involved with your friends and neighbors in helping at the Fair please contact me at russrobinson@centurytel.net or call 715-466-4152. We need help with kids activities, setup and take down and the lunch. You don't have to commit for the whole day. Give us an hour or two. We'd love to have you join us!

LAKE SURVEY

The Minong Town Lakes Committee will also be doing aquatic plant surveys for five lakes in the town of Minong for which no current information is available. These surveys will be conducted by an outside consultant and will be used as a training opportunity for interested residents. These surveys are being jointly sponsored by the Town of Minong and a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources along with volunteers time from members of the Town of Minong Lakes Committee.

New Dock at Boat Ramp

Many of you who have already put your boats into the lake have noticed the new boat ramp. This was part



of a grant funded through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Town of Minong and the Minong Town Lakes Committee. Two other docks were placed; one on Pokegama and one on Big Bass Lake.

Editor's Note: A special thank you to Tony Tubbs of Kimball Lake, Bob Hendricks of Pokegama and Russ Robinson, John Ney and Burt King of Gilmore Lake for the installation on a day that was cold (temps about 35 degrees), windy, snowy, rainy and just plain miserable. There was some talk about trying to drown someone and someone showed up with his wife's waders instead of his own!

GLA FUND RAISING COMMITTEE

Amy Pfeifer, Chairperson

The GLA Fund Raising Committee continued the ad program again because of demand from our local businesses. The committee, with the approval of the board, decided to design a pull-out reference guide with business ads on one side and restaurant ads on the other side. This will be very handy for all our property owners. By expanding the ad program, we raised \$700 for the EWM fund. The renewal from our original ads was 90% which shows how well this is working. In review, the newsletter targets over 150 properties around the lake. Each ad costs \$50 and runs in both the Spring and Fall newsletters.

The committee is planning to hold a brat sale at Hensen's IGA sometime late this summer or fall. To see what the time and dates are check your Up North Updates and your neighbors. Other fund raising possibilities may pop up as well. These activities will help defray the expensive cost of the ongoing treatment of Eurasian watermilfoil on our lake.

We are in need of additional Fund Raising Committee members. If you are interested in volunteering some of your time, we would love to have you join us. Please contact Amy Pfeifer at 715-466-4515 oraimers169@gmail.com.

UP NORTH UPDATES

Those of you who have provided us with an email address have been receiving Up North Updates periodically throughout the year. This is a synopsis for those who don't receive these emails.

1. For those of you coming in from Minnesota, here's a heads up regarding highway 77. The road is closed from the Washburn/Burnett County line west to the Deer Lake area. According to the Burnett Highway Department the bridge is being replaced and the road is being repaved. Roadwork will be completed by October of this year.
2. Be careful what you dump at the transfer station in Minong. Things like small appliances etc are not to be dumped but rather placed in the containers provided. The Washburn County landfill is being closely monitored. If something is found in a load from the Town of Minong, the town will be fined.
3. **Burn permits** are required except for campfires. These are free and can be obtained by going on line at www.dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fire/burning-rp.htm to instantly download a permit, calling the DNR at 888-947-2876 to have it mailed to you or going to the Minong DNR station. Once again, IT'S FREE!
4. Harold Smith is our new Chairman of the Minong Town board. One of his duties is to sign off on **firework permits**. He will not sign a permit unless a copy of the fireworks license and insurance is also provided.
5. For those of you out and about on the water this year, Dave Swanson, our DNR Warden, will not be the only DNR enforcement presence on the lakes. The Water Guards who were out on the lakes last year are now enforcement certified. They can and will issue citations.

If you do not receive the Up North Updates and have an email address, please contact me at ribald@centurytel.net or 715-466-4152 and I'll put you on the list.

MOSQUITOES!

With all the rain we've had I think we may be back into the mosquito mode. I received this suggestion to help curb the critters....Listerine! Spray your deck area or sitting area with Listerine. It's cheap and safe to use around kids and pets

HOW CAN I HELP?

By Barb Robinson

I know for most of you volunteering at the lake is not why you bought lake property or you aren't here enough to be able to contribute on a steady basis. But there are many ways you can volunteer without taking a huge chunk out of your vacation time.

Sign up to inspect boats at the boat ramp (it doesn't have to be one person). Call John Ney at 715-466-4198 to find out how to sign up and what needs to be done.

Pick up trash from around the lake when you are out and about. You don't have to wait for the annual lake cleanup.

Help serve or offer to bake some cookies for the annual meeting on June 25.

Learn about your lake so you can help keep it beautiful. Russ and Burt would love to show you how to sample and monitor for AIS. You don't have to go diving or remove suspicious plants, just identify them and contact Russ or Burt if you think you've found it.

Helping hands....especially setting the EWM buoys would be nice.

Contribute ideas to the Communication Committee for the newsletter. You can contact me at 715-466-4152 or ribald@centurytel.net.

Meet your new neighbors and talk up the lake association or get their name and address and one of the Membership Committee will contact them.

Call Amy Pfeifer to see how you can help her with the fund raising committee. You may have a great idea to raise money for GLA.

Come to the Annual Meeting to give us your input.

Last but not least be a good neighbor. Respect your neighbor's right to use the lake legally.

MEMBERSHIP/COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

By Barb Robinson, Chairperson

MEMBERSHIP:

At the Fall GLA BOD the Membership Committee stated that their goal would be to maintain the current active members and pursue new owners on the lake. Last Fall Steve Lawrence told us about the new owner of the property next door to him. We made contact and Mr. Brian Manthey is now a member of GLA. Loreatta McNally's property sold this winter and we were able to get the contact information for the Wozniaks. A welcome letter was sent out to them and their name is now on our mailing list. Amy Pfeifer gave us the name of the new owners of Ray Mullenoff's property. A welcome letter has been sent out to them as well. Cheryl Hillsdale's property is now owned by Andy and Joanna Filer who are now new members to the association. Tom, Fran and I will continue our pledge to keep the members we have and to add any new owners on the lake. As of this writing we have 68 paid members.

COMMUNICATION:

As stated earlier, the Fund Raising Committee sold enough ads for our newsletter to be able to do a two-sider. The ads are also in the Kiosk. Extra ad sheets will be available at the Annual Meeting, saving enough for inclusion in the Fall Newsletter. Although it would be nice to not have a written newsletter we still have many residents who do not have email addresses. However, the Up North Updates has been a useful tool in getting information out in a timely manner. As we're going in to the high season on the lake, the updates will come out about once a month, depending on need. A synopsis of Up North Updates appears in the newsletter– things like fire permits, Dave Swanson's contact information, etc.

The Up North Updates have been a boon to our membership. It gives members an opportunity to ask if they've paid up, it gets a membership form out before the newsletter, and it shows value. We have received several email addresses from members who have never had an email address or had never shared one with us.

This past year we had an interesting weather pattern that caused three "floodings". This caused all sorts of personal items to break loose from their moorings

including pier sections and boats. It was wonderful to see how the Gilmore Lake residents came together to help their neighbors either in retrieving items for absentee residents or notifying their neighbors of some of the havoc being created with the high water. The platform of Up North Updates allowed people to share information about lost and found items, including the "pickle boat". When you see Bob Larson ask him about the "pickle boat". Thank you to all who took the time to help. Your neighbors appreciated it.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| June 24
7:30-3:45pm | Northwest Lakes Conference
Northwoods School, Minong
www.northland.edu/soei |
| June 25
10am | Gilmore Lake Association
Members Annual Meeting and
Picnic
Minong Town Hall |
| July 3
2pm | GLA Annual Boat Parade |
| July 9
9-10am | "Loony About Loons"
by Erica LeMoine
Minong Town Hall
learn.lakes@yahoo.com |
| July 16
9-10am | "Bears, Beavers, Bunnies and Birds"
by Chris Cold
Minong Town Hall
learn.lakes@yahoo.com |
| July 23
9-3pm | Minong Town Lakes Fair
Free and Open to Public
Minong Town Hall
russrobinson@centurytel.net |
| July 30
10am | "It Isn't Easy Being Green: Frogs in 9-
and Around your Lake"
Minong Town Hall
learn.lakes@yahoo.com |

GILMORE LAKE ASSOCIATION

The Gilmore Lake Association is committed to protecting our lake and your investments through the efforts to prevent EWM from entering the lake and detecting it in its early states when it can best be treated if it does get in. These efforts are both costly and time consuming. By joining the Association, your dues help support this work. Fill out the form below and mail it along with your check or money order for \$25 to:

Gilmore Lake Association
P.O. Box 188
Minong WI 54859

PLEASE SIGN ME UP FOR 2011 MEMBERSHIP IN THE GILMORE LAKE ASSOCIATION!

Name: _____ Lake Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Lake Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ e-mail address: _____

Amount Enclosed: () \$25 Membership () Donation \$ _____ () Extra Logos \$2ea _____



P.O. Box 188
Minong, Wisconsin 54859