



Deer Tales

Deer Lake Improvement Association Newsletter

Summer 2002

Upcoming EVENTS



- July 20 Sat. DLIA Annual Meeting, 9:00 a.m., Dalles House
- July 27 Sat. Conservancy Annual Meeting, 9:00 a.m. at the Dalles House
- Aug 23 Fri. Family Bonfire and Singalong, 6:30 p.m. at Camp Lawton
- Aug 31 Fri. Pontoon Party, 6:00 p.m. at Hungerford Point

President's Message



Summer finally seems to be in full swing and it is good to see all of the people out enjoying the lake.

As the number of boats increases so, it seems, do the number of close calls and conflicts among the various types of users of the lake. Please take a moment to ask yourself just how well you know and understand Wisconsin's boating laws. Operating within the law and showing a little common courtesy go a long way toward a safe and enjoyable lake experience for all.

With the difficult issue of the power line clear cutting, last year's Annual Meeting had a record attendance. The Annual Meeting is open to all lake residents and is a great opportunity to meet your neighbors and to express your views. Let's make this year's attendance a record too.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to the outgoing members of the Board of Directors: Jane Sackett, Cheryl Johnson and Pat Corcoran. Their hard work and willingness to serve will be greatly missed.

Be safe and have a wonderful summer!

John Wright,
President

Conservancy Corner

The Deer Lake Conservancy's Annual Meeting will take place at 9:00 a.m. on July 27 at the Dalles House. There will be an important discussion of a land acquisition project which could have a significant effect on the lake. We hope that everyone interested in future growth patterns around the lake will be able to attend.

The Conservancy will report on interim water quality data from the current monitoring grant in which we are participating with the DNR and the Polk County Land and Water Resources Department. This study will continue until next spring, and when completed, will be compared with the Barr Engineering studies of the mid 1990's. This comparison will show us how far we have come in our lake restoration program and will also show us where our future efforts need to be focused.

As you may recall, the Barr Engineering studies placed the highest emphasis on storm water management, especially the large ravines which drained agricultural runoff into the lake. Control structures have been developed in all five of the large drainage areas which were the focus of the Barr studies. There has been a significant improvement in the lake's water quality and, with the help of a trail grant from the DNR, it's possible to view some of these practices and better understand the relationship of these watersheds to the overall well-being of the lake itself. These trails also provide an excellent opportunity for recreation; a quiet walk through the woods along Rock Creek or a hike in one of our native prairie restorations. A new meadow, on the site of an abandoned gravel pit, has been planted with butterfly milkweed and should be in full bloom this month. The butterfly garden is located just west of the bridge across Rock Creek.

We need volunteers, and if you are interested in gardening or in trail development, we would especially like to hear from you.

Jim Miller

Polk-Burnett ^ã

The DLIA is appreciative of the effort of Polk-Burnett and its subcontractors regarding the underground primary power line process. Work has been underway and is almost at completion. Many segments of the underground line have been energized. The secondary underground process will follow with eventual removal of many overhead segments and power poles.

The Deer Lake Improvement Association feels that a very positive relationship has been established with Polk-Burnett. This relationship has resulted in the saving of thousands of trees and positive environmental maintenance.

Thank you to all who have worked to make this project successful

DLIA Board Members

Aquatic Plant Laws

Wisconsin laws concerning aquatic plant management have changed and new sets of rules are being drafted. Major changes are:

- 1) Boats or boating equipment may not be launched if aquatic plants or zebra mussels attached
- 2) A permit is necessary to remove and harvest aquatic plants
- 3) A permit is NOT necessary if the area to be cleared is less than 30' along the shoreline, but cut plants must be removed.

A fuller description of Wisconsin's policy and of the laws will be available at the DLIA Annual Meeting.

Lake Monitors

The DLIA joins with the state of Wisconsin in honoring

Jean Adamson and Les Swanson

for their outstanding volunteer service in monitoring the water quality of Deer Lake. In March of this year Joan received a 15-year pin so he is currently in his 16th year. Les, who monitors with Jean, became a member of the Self-Help Century Club. Water samples are taken from two sites, with eight to ten samples being taken at different water depths at each site. These samples are checked for phosphorus, chlorophyll levels and dissolved oxygen. Jean reported that water quality is improving and he attributes the improvement to the work of the Deer Lake Conservancy. We thank both Jean and Les for their many hours of volunteer work.

Highway 8 safety warning

Left turns can be FATAL:

Most severe accidents on Highway 8 happen as a result of left turns. Even in places with turning lanes, head on collisions take place. Vehicles can also be hit from behind by unsuspecting motorists who are not paying attention.

Please save your life and others. Take a few additional minutes to find another route or to turn around in a safe place. Don't make left turns on Highway 8!

Boat Landing Improved

Do you remember the snowfall on April 28th? Enough snow fell to blanket the ground, but eight intrepid volunteers braved the elements and cleaned up the public boat landing. John Tester, Bob Rawlings, John Wright, Don and Joan Leedy, and Mark, Joe and Becky Thayer picked up and bagged trash. The township agreed to pick up the trash as well as to match the appropriation of the DLIA. The purpose of the appropriation was to improve the condition of the public boat landing. A truckload of rock was purchased and poured at the end of the cement pad.

DLIA Annual Meeting Dues & Fireworks Contributions

All residents of Deer Lake are invited to attend the Deer Lake Improvement Association's Annual Meeting, Saturday, July 20, 2002, 9:00 a.m. at the Dalles House.

Thanks to all of you who have joined the Association by paying dues and a reminder to those of you who wish to join, but have forgotten to send them, that dues are only \$25.00 a year

You are also encouraged to contribute to the Fireworks Fund (\$25.00 is suggested). The fireworks display is self-funding, meaning that the total of the contributions determines the amount that will be spent. What is received this year will be the budget for next year's fireworks.



Bonfire & Singalong

AUGUST 23rd, 6:30 P.M.

Bring your family to Camp Lawton. We'll have a campfire and grills will be available. Bring your own fixin's for a cookout. Roger Foussard will lead us in song, so bring your instruments to accompany us.



You and your family are welcome to camp overnight, tents will be available. No activities are planned for Saturday morning, so bring breakfast. A lifeguard will be present.

26th Annual Boat Parade

The 26th Annual Boat Parade was a great success as 28 entrants demonstrated patriotism, creativity and, above all, enthusiasm. As had been the case during the past few years, the bar continues to be raised in the quality of decoration and choreography of participants. This year's panel of judges (who have requested anonymity due to the keen competition) were faced with the difficult task of awarding, First, Second and Third Place awards, as well as the Spirit Award, which is given to the contestant that best demonstrates the spirit of the 4th of July. This year's winners were:

- ◆ **First Place:** The Brady Clan for their spirited portrayal of all things patriotic
- ◆ **Second Place:** The Munson Family for their Egyptian interpretation of the July 4th spirit
- ◆ **Third Place:** The Marinovich Party, which not only included patriotic body painting, but decorations that were rumored to have been imported from the Rose Bowl Parade.
- ◆ **Spirit Award:** The Dummer's, for their minuteman drummer, who entertained participants and spectators alike.

Overall, it was a great success and we thank all the contestants and judges for all their efforts.

Phil Foussard

DLIA Spring Party

Eighty-four people attended the Spring Party held onboard the Taylors Falls Queen on the St. Croix River. The weather could not have been nicer for a riverboat ride. It was a very enjoyable evening. The spring and winter parties are great opportunities to socialize with friends and to meet new people from the lake. If you have never attended a DLIA social event, please consider doing so.

Joan Leedy

Pontoon Party

At 6:00 p.m. on Friday, July 15th, 12 pontoons met on the north side of Hungerford Point for the purpose of participating in the 8th Annual Deer Lake Pontoon Party. There were more than 100 people in attendance, each looking forward to a beautiful evening. The boats were tied together so that people could move from one to another and enjoy socializing as well as tasting some of the wonderful hors d'oeuvres, main dishes, delicious desserts, and tasteful liquid refreshments. The weather was perfect and the entire group stayed until sundown, which was a scarlet red beauty. Towards the end of the evening there was some group singing and, at the very end, a very enthusiastic and beautiful singing of "God Bless America." This is one of the very nice traditions of Deer Lake and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who participated. Next year, let's plan on making it even bigger and better!

Roger Foussard

Fireworks 2002

We all enjoyed the fireworks display, one of the best shows we've ever had. The fireworks were fired from a pontoon boat that had been purchased by the DLIA. Because the Wisconsin State Highway Patrol would no longer allow the fireworks to be shot from the Johnson property, a new location was needed. The pontoon boat provides a long-term solution and provides excellent viewing. Each year its precise location will be determined by the winds. Remember it's your contributions that made the fireworks possible.

DLIA Committee Assignments

Finance

Dick Gustafson

Deer Tales

Joanna Victor
Pat Corcoran

Annual Meeting

Joan Leedy

Environmental

John Tester
Mark Thayer

Nominating

Pat Corcoran
Cheryl Johnson
Jane Sackett

Deer Lake Conservancy

Joanna Victor
Bob Rawlings

Holiday/Spring Parties

Joan Leedy
Pat Corcoran

Safety and Education

Molly Keyes
Peter Sammond

Website

Pat Corcoran

Family Picnic/Campout

Jane Sackett
Dick Gustafson
Phillip Foussard

Sailing Days

Paul Sammond

Fireworks

Bob Rawlings
Mark Thayer

Taxes/Zoning

Dick Gustafson
Joan Leedy
Joanna Victor

Membership

Peter Sammond
Jane Sackett

Highway 8

Cheryl Johnson
Peter Sammond

Pontoon Parties

Roger Foussard

Boat Parade

Phillip Foussard



Deer Lake Improvement Association

P.O. Box 741

St. Croix Falls, WI 54024