



Deer Tales

Deer Lake Improvement Association Newsletter

Spring 2007

President's Message

I always look forward to spring. The first boat ride of the season brings forth the anticipation of a full summer yet to come.



The enclosed schedule of events is packed with

opportunities to share in the fun with your family, friends, and neighbors, from a sailing regatta with prizes for all participants, to music in the middle of the lake, a pontoon party with pot luck hors d'oeuvres, or a June dinner out to renew friendships after a long winter, a Conservancy open house and BBQ, and the highlight for many, the annual fireworks display on the water. The volunteers that make up your association board are working hard to insure that this will be a memorable season.

A large part of what makes this lake such a special place is the high level of social interaction among the residents. I encourage you all to participate and become more involved in the community we call Deer Lake. Wishing you the best summer ever.

John Wright

Upcoming Events:

<u>Event & Place</u>	<u>Date & Time</u>
Spring Fling Party Paradise Landing	June 9, 6:00 pm
Conservancy Open House & BBQ Flagstad Farm	To be announced
Music on the lake Hungerford Pt	June 30, 7:00 pm
Fireworks Hungerford Pt	June 30, 10:00 pm
Fireworks (Storm Date) Hungerford Pt	July 1, 10:00 pm
Sailing Regatta East Bay	July 4, 10:00 am
Boat Parade Lagoon	July 4, 1:00 pm
Pontoon Party Hungerford Pt	July 6, 5:00 pm
Annual Meeting Trollhaugen	July 14, 9:00 am
Holiday Party	To be announced

In Memoriam

Gerry Given	John McManus
Elsie Johnson	Dr. Jim Moore
Mac McBride	Larry Riegel



Mark Your Calendar!

Hall of Fame

The Deer Lake Improvement Association Board of Directors is again soliciting recommendations for the 2007 Deer Lake Hall of Fame.

The Board is seeking individuals, couples or organizations who, in their judgment, have made significant contributions to the quality of life on Deer Lake. This commitment is consistent with the mission of the Association. Nominees may be deceased.

New members of the Hall of Fame will be recognized and awarded appropriate plaques at the annual summer meeting.

Prior Hall of Fame inductees are: Rob Ilstrup, Jim Miller, Bill and Pearl Patton, Hugo "Suke" Victor, Dr. Mark Thayer, Jerry Carroll, John Wright and Les Swanson.

It is because of the wisdom and efforts of these individuals, and many others, that Deer Lake is recognized as one of the premier lakes in Wisconsin.

Please submit your recommendations for the honor to Peter Boo, 150 Eaton Street, St. Paul, MN 55107.



Property Assessment Fees are Different than D.L.I.A. Membership Costs

The state has put into place the ability of improvement associations to assess on property taxes, specific amounts, "\$50.00" for direct use of maintenance and improvement of lake waters. The association tries to be as accurate as possible in checking over the tax rolls of St. Croix Falls and Balsam Lake townships to appropriately assess any contiguous lands of Deer Lake. These funds are specifically used in regards to maintenance of the Deer Lake watershed region.

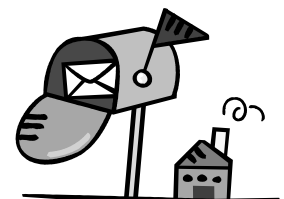
The Deer Lake Improvement Association membership fees are asked of those individuals that utilize, enjoy, and regard the Deer Lake Improvement Association functions as being important. The majority of the Deer Lake Improvement Association work involves immediate lake concerns, such as aquatic plant management, safety of the public landing region, along with surveillance and testing of the quality of Deer Lake. Ancillary considerations include the 4th of July programs, the fireworks, and a few social events during the year.

We ask that individuals please support both of the fees, but most importantly the Deer Lake Improvement Association membership, both financially and in a service fashion.

Thank you. Mark Thayer

Know a New Resident?

The deer Lake Improvement Association needs your help. If you are aware of a new family that has recently moved to the lake, please contact any board member and let them know. We would like to send the Deer Tales out to all residents, and tell them the Association's story. All board members are listed on the Deer Lake website: www.deerlakewi.com.



The Boat Parade

It's as American as apple pie and Chevrolet. The annual Deer Lake Boat Parade will be held on Wednesday, July 4th. The Parade will start at 1:00 p.m. at the Lagoon and proceed counterclockwise around the lake.

Entry qualifications are easy. Register and secure a boat number at Boo's dock on the north side of the lake between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon on the 4th. The dock will be marked by an American flag. Again, simple or elaborate, join in the fun so that you will have another tradition to pass on to your family.

To keep the Parade competitive, yet friendly, several valuable gift certificates will be awarded. This year as an added incentive, a \$100 Sweepstake prize will be awarded to one of the lucky entrants.

Last year's winners were the Butterfield/MarKee families, the Wrights, the Munson/Baumann families and the Aslesens.

Boo's Dock

If you are unable to join the Parade, please join the throngs on their docks to cheer on the boats as they circle the lake. Also, a special thanks to Phil and Jeanne Foussard, who have chaired the Boat Parade Committee for the past several years -- they have retired after doing an incredible job. Oh, for the value of good volunteers!



Deer Lake Aquatic Plant Work Continues

The Deer Lake Improvement Association is working to prevent the introduction of Eurasian Water Milfoil and other invasive species into Deer Lake. These activities are funded by 50 percent grants from the Department of Natural Resources.

We are pleased to have our intern returning to provide a line of defense at the boat landing. Corey Carpentier, a student at UW La Crosse, will talk to boaters about removing plant fragments from boats and trailers and provide written information at the landing. Corey will also periodically check the aquatic plants growing near the landing.

The Lake Association is also working with Harmony Environmental and Lake Management to reduce the amount of curly leaf pondweed, a non-native invasive plant species growing in scattered patches in the lake. Harmony monitors plant growth before and after an early May herbicide treatment by Lake Management. This three-year treatment and monitoring regime is aimed at knocking back the growth and spread of curly leaf. Curly leaf can be a nuisance early in the season because it forms dense mats at the surface of the water. It generally dies back by early July.

You can do your part to help with these efforts by protecting a healthy growth of native aquatic plants along the shoreline. Removing native plants can open up a growing surface for invasive plants.

- To open a small area for swimming and boating, remove plants by hand using rakes or pulling rather than herbicide.
- Limit runoff and erosion from your property to avoid altering lake sediments and encouraging invasive plant growth.
- Limit boating disturbance within 200 feet of the shoreline. Although this is a no-wake zone according to state regulation, some boaters still travel close to the shoreline at high speeds.

Cheryl Clemens

Why Does Deer Lake Need Two Organizations?

The Deer Lake Conservancy and the Deer Lake Improvement Association differ in their focus and function. Yet the two organizations complement each other and cooperate to ensure and improve the quality of Deer Lake.

The Conservancy

- Deals with long range issues and planning
- Obtains conservation easements and installs conservation practices
- Educates homeowners and the public about lake quality concerns
- Implements projects, such as the wetland and prairie restoration, land and watershed management and development of a trail system.
- Builds relationships with the Wisconsin DNR
- Established 501c3 status

The Association

- Focuses on immediate and short term issues and threats to the lake
- Monitors in-lake water quality, provides algae control and inspections for invasive aquatic species
- Addresses the usage and function of the public boat landing
- Plans social events and activities for Deer Lake homeowners
- Publishes the "Deer Tales", an important way to share water safety tips and information with homeowners.
- Arranges the fireworks for the July 4th holiday

The Conservancy AND the Association are vital organizations. Both are essential to protect and preserve Deer Lake!

Invasive Species Grant Funded

Deer Lake has been known to have the aquatic invasive species named curly leafed pondweed. We have implemented an aquatic plant management study and program to address this. Early this year, the funding of an aquatic invasive species control program, with management and monitoring, has been approved with funding by the Department of Natural Resources. The applicant for the grant was the Deer Lake Improvement Association in conjunction with the Deer Lake Conservancy and the Polk County Land and Water Resources Department. The grant application and much of the grant consideration has been carried out by Cheryl Clemens who has been instrumental in this and many of the DNR grants and funding considerations from the Department of Natural Resources for the continued improvement, management and study considerations.

The curly leafed pondweed has become a nuisance in certain areas of the lake, impeding recreation and navigation. The monitoring surveillance and treatment of curly leafed pondweed will occur with the goal to minimize the consequence of curly leafed pondweed and try to recuperate the native plant community. The grant is a one-half cost share to include plant surveys, pre and post-treatment monitoring. This will also include mapping nuisance areas, treatment sampling, reporting, coordination of project activities, treatment, newsletter considerations, and equipment. The total grant application and approved funding is for one-half cost share of \$33,225. This grant and plan is currently in place for three years with the results to determine continued considerations.

Mark L. Thayer, Environmental Committee Co-Chairman



DNR Funds Sought for Lake Protection

The Deer Lake Improvement Association board has elected to contract with Lake Management Incorporated, Wisconsin Operations, regarding aquatic nuisance management and Eurasian water milfoil inspection and prevention for the summer of 2007.

There is a high risk that Eurasian water milfoil and other aquatic invasive species may become established in Deer Lake. Many ways can potentially involve introduction of invasive species into Deer Lake. These include primarily birds in addition to boats and trailers from other infested lake regions. The Eurasian water milfoil inspection prevention program includes five monthly inspections May through September of the Deer Lake lagoon and public landing areas. These inspections are coordinated with algae applications, and reports are then carried out of the study areas in regards to plant identification and specific inspection for Eurasian water milfoil. The cost for the inspections is \$350 plus potential need to spend \$4,000 to \$5,000 for treatment of Eurasian water milfoil if, in fact, it was to be identified.

The aquatic nuisance program includes filamentous algae control on areas up to 15 acres per treatment with approximately seven treatments throughout the summer of 2007. This is carried out after a DNR permit is obtained and generally the treatment days include Tuesdays or Wednesdays. This program occurs with an approximate spending of \$8,000 to \$10,000 per year.

Starting last year and to continue this year, with years into the future, control of the aquatic invasive species, curly leafed pondweed, will be carried out. Curly leafed pondweed is an increasing problem for Deer Lake. It is an exotic plant that generally will continue to spread throughout a lake, often with native aquatic plants unable to compete. This can make swimming, boating, fishing and other recreational uses of a body of water difficult if not impossible. This exotic plant usually mats at the surface in early spring and even boats can have trouble navigating through the area.



Curly pondweed in Minnesota
Potamogeton crispus
Photo by Vic Ramay
Copyright 2001 Univ. Florida

In Deer Lake, the curly leafed pondweed has been found primarily along the north shore and the public landing area with a few other sporadic sites along the south shore. It is estimated that we have between 51 and 71 acres of curly leafed pond weed in our lake at the present time. Generally it takes approximately 3-5 years of treatments to reduce the plant significantly. We recently have been given DNR approval and a grant to help us address this issue. We have contracted Lake Management Inc. to help us address curly leafed pondweed with a cost of \$319 per acre.

Mark L. Thayer, Co-Chairman, Water Quality and Ecology Committee

DLIA Board 2006-2007

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John Wright

Deer Tales

Mary Coyte
Peter Boo



Deer Lake Improvement Association
P.O. Box 741
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024

DLIA

Spring Fling

Join Us To Greet Friends Old And New

Paradise Landing

Balsam Lake, WI

Saturday, June 9th

Cocktails: 6:00 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m.



- **Wood Oven Roasted Meat Loaf** Qty _____ at \$23.00 = _____
w/ House-made BBQ Sauce, Roasted Garlic Mashed Potato, Caesar Salad & Bread
- **Shrimp on Angel Hair Pasta** Qty _____ at \$23.00 = _____
w/ Lemon, Capers & Tomato, Caesar Salad & Bread
- **10oz. Grilled Sirloin Steak** Qty _____ at \$23.00 = _____
w/ Garlic Whipped Potatoes, Steamed Broccoli, Caesar Salad & Bread

TOTAL DUE (+ tax & tip) to: "Deer Lake Improvement Association" Total = _____

~ Dessert and Cash Bar available ~

NAME:

MENU CHOICE:

Send this form with your dinner selections and money, by Tuesday, June 5th, to:
Denise Sinclear Todd, 1873 Peer Ave, St. Croix Falls, WI 54024 (715-483-1442)