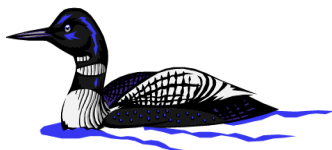




# Deer Tales

Deer Lake Improvement Association Newsletter  
Spring 2015

## President's Message



Welcome to another spring at Deer Lake! We were able to get an early start on the season this year. Having the ice out in early April is a real treat! We have another summer sprawled out in front of us with many opportunities for fun on Deer Lake.

Our Water Quality grant was renewed by the DNR and a big part of that is the Clean Boats Clean Waters program. The program is intended to educate boaters about invasive species and the efforts we are putting forth to keep Deer Lake water clean and free of as many invasive species as possible. We have been recruiting people to staff the boat landing, however, we have more slots than we have people so we are asking folks on the lake if you would consider signing up for a shift or two as volunteers. There will be more information on the web site ([www.deerlakewi.com](http://www.deerlakewi.com)) or you can call Joan Leedy to sign up for volunteering or just to get more info. Could be a fun time for a family to pitch in and help out Deer Lake.

We have our social calendar planned out beginning with a Spring/Summer party on Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. It will be held on the River Boat again this year, so come out and enjoy a river cruise and drinks and dinner with your friends and neighbors on Deer Lake. This issue of Deer Tales will have details and a registration form. You can contact Cookie Jandric for more info.

The DLIA dues statements will also be sent in mid-May and we strongly encourage everyone to renew your DLIA membership. If you are new on the lake or have never joined the DLIA, please consider joining and supporting all the good work that is done around Deer Lake.

*(President's Message continued on Page 2)*



## 2015 Event Calendar

### Neil McKenzie Youth Fishing Contest

Sat. June 13th 9-3 pm

**Spring Party** Sat. June 13th 6 pm  
*(Taylor Falls Scenic Boat Tours)*

**Fireworks** Fri. July 3rd 10 pm  
Storm date Sat. July 11th 10 pm

**Boat Parade** Sat. July 4<sup>th</sup>  
Register (Fermanich's dock) 10-11 am  
Meet at Lagoon 12:45 pm  
Parade Begins 1 pm

**Music on the Lake—Hungerford Pt**  
*(leeward side)* Sat. July 4<sup>th</sup> 7 pm

**Light Up the Lake** Sat. July 4th 10 pm

**Pontoon Party** Fri. July 10<sup>th</sup> 6 pm  
*(off Hungerford Pt.)*

**Annual Meeting** Sat. July 11th 9 am  
*(Trollhaugen)*

**Flagstad Farm Family Picnic**  
Sat. July 25th 6 pm

**Festival Theatre night**  
Sat. Aug. 22 7:30 pm  
*(A Streetcar Named Desire)*

**Music on the Lake—Hungerford Pt**  
*(leeward side)* Sat. Aug. 8th 7 pm

**Holiday Party** Omitted for 2015

**Schedule updates and additions  
available at  
[www.deerlakewi.com](http://www.deerlakewi.com)**

*(President's Message continued from Page 1)*

Included with your dues statement will be a magnet with the schedule of events for the coming year.

Because June has such unpredictable weather we will reduce the number of Music On The Lake events to two: one on July 4<sup>th</sup> and one on August 8<sup>th</sup>. We hope you put these on your calendar and come out on the water to enjoy an evening of music like none other. Check out the event schedule in Deer Tales or the Schedule page on our website for other activities planned for the summer.

There are many opportunities to enjoy the lake with neighbors, friends and family throughout the summer. I look forward to seeing you out on the water!

Tom McBride  
President  
Deer Lake Improvement Association

### Cell Tower update

As reported in the last Deer Tales the process to construct a 248 foot tall lighted Cell Tower on the west end of Deer Lake is working its way through the Polk County Circuit Court. The Court will rule on the matter by June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015. A further update will be presented at the Annual Meeting of the DLIA in July.



### Deer Lake is present on the web and facebook!



Our website is:  
<http://www.deerlakewi.com>



If you have a Facebook account you can view and "Like" our page Deer Lake, WI.

### Membership News

Deer Lakers, here is the 2015 membership update. Dues statements for 2015 have been sent to you and we encourage you to return them as soon as possible. Thank you all for your strong support of our beautiful lake!

I just want to remind you that a Deer Lake directory is included in your DLIA dues this year. Every household will receive one directory with their membership to DLIA. You can collect your directory at the Annual Meeting in July or make arrangements for a neighbor to collect it for you. Additional copies of the directory will be available to purchase at the meeting for \$5 if you would like more than one copy.

If you have any changes or additions to your information in the directory please let me know and I will do my best to get it corrected.

Susie Housh  
[shoush1@comcast.net](mailto:shoush1@comcast.net)  
612-702-3230

### *In Memoriam:*



*Mike Given*

*Ken McKenzie*



## Wisconsin Boating Laws reviewed



There are many boating laws and unfortunately most of us don't have time to read the new laws every year. We will be including a few of the laws in each Deer Tales. Feel free to put this on the refrigerator (if it's not stainless steel) so your visitors also know the laws.

Have a safe summer!



Quick Reminders of a few boating laws:

- A Personal Watercraft may not be operated at a faster than "Slow No Wake Speed" within:
  - 100 feet** of any other vessel on any waterbody.

- 200 feet** of shore on any lake.

- 100 feet** off a dock, pier, raft, or restricted area on any lake.

- "Slow No Wake Speed" is defined as a speed at which a vessel moves as slowly as possible while still maintaining steerage.

- Persons under the age of 12 years old may not operate a PWC under any circumstances.



## Environmental Report

Once again this year, Deer Lake has been awarded a grant from the Wisconsin DNR to help fund the Clean Boats, Clean Water (CBCW) program. The grant funds 75% of the program while the DLIA will fund the additional 25% with either dollars or volunteer time. The objective of the CBCW program is to reduce the spread of invasive species.

Three interns have been hired to work at the Deer Lake public boat landing throughout the summer during peak boat transfer hours. The interns will be informing boaters that it is the law to complete the following steps when transferring a water craft in or out of a waterbody in Wisconsin.

- Inspect boats, trailers, and equipment
- Remove all attached aquatic plants and animals

- Drain all water from boats, vehicles, and equipment

- Never move plants or live fish away from a waterbody

- Buy minnows from a Wisconsin bait dealer and use leftover minnows only under certain condition

To date, the only confirmed invasive species in Deer Lake is the Curly-leaf Pond Weed. The DLIA has sprayed to reduce the impact of the curly-leaf pond weed. This weed is active early in the season even under the ice. This provides the opportunity to spray for it early in the season when many of the native weeds will not be negatively affected. Though not eliminating it, the spraying has reduced the impact of the Curly-leaf Pond Weed in Deer Lake.

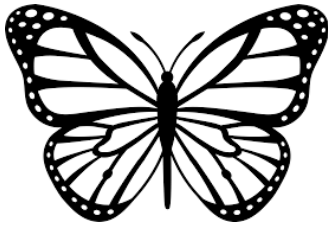
And yes, there is such a thing as a good weed. By allowing the native aquatic plants to populate the lake bottom, it is less likely that an invasive weed will take hold. Please keep this in mind when contemplating removing weeds from your swimming areas.

Some common evasive species we want to keep out of Deer Lake are Zebra Mussels, Eurasian Water-milfoil, Purple Loosestrife, Rusty Crayfish, Phragmites and Spiny Waterfleas, to name a few. As residents of the lake, make sure to inspect and clean any watercrafts (docks and boatlifts also) that are transferred from other lakes. Should any residents want to volunteer to work at the boat landing, give Joan Leedy a call and a one-time or on-going shift can be arranged.

Joan Leedy  
Environmental Committee

## Monarch Butterflies:

By Peter Boo



Most of you are aware of the plight of the beautiful monarch. It is estimated that the population of the butterfly has declined from over 100 million to less than 20 million. Many reasons are given

for this situation, the most prominent is the decline of milkweed, the exclusive source of food for the monarch.



As Deer Lake dwellers and conservationists we are making an effort, small as it may be, to help turn around the decline of the Monarchs. We have met with Rob Bursik, owner of The Dragonfly Gardens in Amery. Rob has willingly agreed to stock a variety of milkweed species at special pricing to help our cause. Prices are: 4 packs for \$3.00 or 48 plants for \$33.00. The best time for planting is late May through early June. He will also provide planting instructions.

Give some thought to helping restore our beautiful monarchs.

## Thank you for clean up day

If you noticed that the road areas surrounding the lake looked clean, than you were right. The lake was cleaned up by the following volunteers on May 9th:

- Bob Fedderly
- Phillip Foussard
- Susie Housh
- Don & Paula Knutson
- Joan Leedy
- Jim Miller
- John Patterson
- Denise Sinclear
- Bob Spinner
- John Wright

**THANKS!**

## Neil McKenzie Youth Fishing Contest

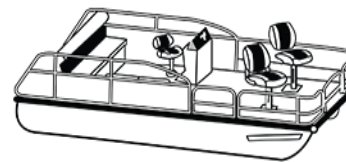


"The annual Neil McKenzie Youth Fishing Derby is being planned for Saturday, June 13, 2015. We again wish to thank Deer

Lake Homeowners for your generous and on-going support of this event to Keep Kids Fishin'!

The fishing contest takes place between 9 am - 3 pm on June 13th.

As in the past, if you are willing to donate the use of your pontoon or your time to be an on-



board driver and/or fishing guide, please call Joyce McKenzie at 715-646-2060. Your support is very much appreciated — especially by the kids!"

This contest is sponsored by the Family and Friends of Neil McKenzie & Polk County Sportsmen's Club.



Fun Going Fishing

## Deer Lake Tales— A Look Back at Deer Lake:



### The Mountain Ash Tree

*By Durand Blanding*

Shortly after my father, Howard D. Blanding, graduated from the Law School at the University of Minnesota in 1910, he and a friend went fishing in Deer Lake. As they rowed their boat along the southerly shore of the smaller part of the lake, my father saw a beautiful mountain ash tree growing along the shore near the lake. It so impressed him that it's location was etched in his mind. The land where the tree was located at that time was part of a farm owned by Elizabeth Thompson.

Baker Land and Title Co. purchased the land in 1915 and created the plat of "Deer Lake Park" in 1921. Chris Hermanson, a friend of my father's, worked for Baker Land at the time and told him of

a planned one day sale of all of the lots in the plat, starting at the northwest end of the plat and ending on the southeast. On the day of the sale, my father located the lots where the mountain ash tree stood and waited on that land until the selling activity arrived from the far end of the plat. This was his big chance! He put in his bid and successfully purchased the land with the revered mountain ash tree. The price was \$1,200 or \$10/ft for 120 feet of shoreline. But how do you pay for it when you don't have the money? The answer? - a land contract with the seller. When my father returned home and told my mother what he had done, she harshly berated him for endangering their future with such a stupid investment. He was able to pay off the land contract by 1922 and obtain a warranty deed to the land.

The beautiful mountain ash tree eventually died. New trees kept springing up from the roots but because of the suppression from surrounding trees, they never had a chance to reach full maturity. It was our sentiment that kept us clearing the weeds and debris from the small shoots that annually reappeared, but then it happened—the small remaining shoot had been severed cleanly by a sharp instrument. Our children, sensing my feeling of loss, presented me with a new mountain ash tree the following Father's Day which they planted in the back yard. This spring the new tree is leafing out beautifully and a new green shoot has appeared from the old root of our original mountain ash tree to remind us of this wonderful little piece of history of our home on Deer Lake.

This article "Deer Lake Tales—A Look Back at Deer Lake", is made possible by the residents of Deer Lake who are willing to share their stories with others.

If you have pictures, stories, memories, etc. that you would be willing to share with others please feel free to email me, send me mail, or phone me. Any stories/information would be appreciated.

Send Information, questions, and corrections to:

Laurel Fermanich

Email : [laferm@earthlink.net](mailto:laferm@earthlink.net)

Mail: 8267 Horizon Dr.

Shakopee, MN 55379

Phone: 612-810-8832 (cell)



## Dec. Holiday Party — Not Being Held

Due to the low turn out at the Holiday Party and the busyness of the holiday season it has been decided that we will forego the Holiday Party this year in December. We may move it to after the holiday in following years, but we're not sure on how many people may be "south" - for the winter.

So socializing this year is only at the Spring Party. We look forward to seeing you there!

If you have any opinions on this party please let Cookie know.

## Party in the Spring with friends on Deer Lake!



### Cruising Down the River

### A Late Spring Kick-Off Party

Do you want a really fun kick-off to the summer? Come and meet friends and neighbors for a cruise down the St. Croix River on the river boat "Queen" at Taylor's Falls Scenic Boat Tours on Saturday June 13th at 6:30 pm.

Come for dinner, drinks and a cruise, down our beautiful St. Croix River. The Deer Lake Improvement Association Spring opener will kick off the season with a Chicken and Rib dinner and a two hour ride down the scenic St. Croix River. There will be homemade desserts and coffee to cap off a delightful evening with family and friends. Please make your reservations early and join us on the Queen. A boatload of

fun for only \$40 per person, this includes the boat ride, chicken and rib dinner with vegetables, salad, potatoes, rolls and butter, and coffee. Homemade desserts will be a bonus, made by some of our own bakers from around the Lake.

Do you bake? Let Cookie know if you would bring a dessert! (651-645-8880)

See you there!

Send checks (\$40 per person) made out to DLIA to:

Cookie Jandric  
1709 Portland Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55104

(RSVP By June 5th)



# Kick-off Spring Party

Please join the Deer Lake Improvement Association  
For a beautiful scenic cruise and dinner on the

*St. Croix River*

**Saturday, June 13th**

**6:00 p.m.— Arrive at dock**

**6:30 p.m.— Boat leaves dock promptly**

**Dinner is served with friends and a beautiful ride down the river**

**8:30 p.m.— Boat returns to dock**

\$40 per person includes the boat ride, chicken and rib dinner with vegetables,  
salad, potatoes, rolls and butter, and coffee. Homemade desserts will be a bonus,  
Made by some of our own bakers from around the Lake.

Do you bake? Let Cookie know if you would bring a dessert! (651-645-8880)

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**Total Cost: \$40.00 per person includes the boat ride and dinner**

**Name**

**Phone**

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**Number in party:** \_\_\_\_\_

**X \$40.00/ea = TOTAL DUE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to "DLIA"  
And RSVP by June 5th**

**Send check with bottom of this form**

**To:      Cookie Jandric  
         1709 Portland Ave.  
         St. Paul, MN  
         55104**

**Questions can be directed to Cookie at 651-645-8880**

## **DLIA Board 2014-2015**

**President**

Tom McBride 651-483-1887

**Vice President**

Bob Fedderly 651-338-6806

**Secretary**

Denise Sinclear Todd 715-483-1442

**Treasurer**

Debbie Patterson 651-698-0340

**Executive Committee**

Debbie Patterson	Tom McBride
Denise Sinclear Todd	Bob Fedderly
Bob Spinner	John Wright

**Members:**

Bob Fedderly	651-338-6806
Laurel Fermanich	612-810-8832
Pat Haertel	715-483-9548
Susie Housh	952-952-4850
Cookie Jandric	651-645-8880
Joan Leedy	715-483-3830
Tom McBride	651-483-1887
Debbie Patterson	651-698-0340
Steve Schletty	715-483-3376
Denise Sinclear Todd	715-483-1442
Bob Spinner	612-961-6257
John Wright	651-442-5598

**Membership Committee:**

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Denise Sinclear Todd  
Bob Fedderly

**Marketing Committee:**

Tom McBride, Chair  
Cookie Jandric

**Environmental Committee:**

Steve Schletty, Chair  
Joan Leedy  
Bob Spinner  
John Wright

**Events Committee:**

Cookie Jandric, Chair  
Denise Sinclear Todd  
Bob Fedderly

**Deer Tales Committee:**

Laurel Fermanich, Chair



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