

SUNSHINE LADY OF THE LAKERuth Kazlauskas

Is Winter over yet? Let me know cause I'm hibernating. I'm a little under the weather myself and looking forward to Spring. Back in November we were sorry to hear of the death of Roberta Barg, the mother of Connie Maines of Timbering Haven Drive. Our deepest sympathies were extended. In December, get well wishes were sent to Dave

Masiakowski of Wilderness Trail. Dave was hospitalized for a few days and is at home recovering.

Think Spring. I'm sure most of us are a little weary of the snow and cold. And...stay healthy.

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Muskellunge Lake Association, Inc.

January 2011



President Tom Cerull

In the October Newsletter we included a survey card to learn what your thoughts were about a number of subjects. Fifty survey cards were returned which was quite a good response and very helpful for determining what is most important to lake residents.

There were twenty-three respondents that indicated that they were interested in working on shoreline restoration if we could get a grant to cover most of the costs. We felt this was a strong response as probably only 30% of the properties really could benefit from shoreline restoration. We plan to pursue a grant and those of you that responded positively will be contacted.

There were thirty-one respondents that said they were interested in having an MLA website. We plan to follow-up on this as well. One of our lake residents has expertise in this area and we hope to be able to discuss the cost of setting up and maintaining a website at our next meeting in May.

The last item on our survey was in regard to the annual meeting and whether or not it would include a picnic or just be a meeting with an informational session like we had this past year. There were twenty-five respondents that preferred last years format without a picnic and only six that preferred having the picnic. Mimi Johnston will have more details about the meeting in her report.

During our Board meeting in September we agreed to

transfer some of our lake association funds from our checking account to certificates of deposit where we would earn some additional interest. Therefore, \$10,000 has been transferred to CD's that mature at various lengths of time.

As many of you are aware, participation in boat landing inspections has been decreasing over the years. Recently we became aware of a program developed by Ted Ritter, the Vilas County Invasive Species Coordinator, that will employ college students from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh to monitor boat landings. The students are paid \$12 per hour and their pay, taxes, insurance, etc. are all handled through the university. Ted Ritter takes care of their scheduling with some input from us as to when we most need their help. Because the Board felt that preventing a problem, such as Eurasian Milfoil, was much more cost effective than eliminating it in the future, an expenditure of up to \$1200 was approved for this program. Because this program has experienced a significant amount of interest, we won't know until March or April just how many hours of work we will get.

As I'm completing this article, there are snow flurries in the air and we again have a winter wonderland in the north. Although it's beautiful to witness, summer and open water will be nice to see again.

Treasurer's REPORT Roger Johnston

As of the issuance of this newsletter 75 property owners have responded to the dues request mailed in late November. If you have been waiting until 2011 to write that check - it's here ! If you have miss-placed the pre-printed envelope, simply mail your \$40.00 check to:

Muskellunge Lake Association
PO Box 2203
Eagle River WI 54521

and write (MLA 2011 Dues) on the MEMO line of your check.

Thank you,

Roger Johnston
Treasure

AERATOR Robert Hodkiewicz

On January 8, eleven volunteers put in the aerator fencing and started it up. Ray Rinehart, Dave Larson, Jeff Splitt, Roger Johnston, Mike Newmeister, Tom Cerull, Larry Grzesik, Bob Petersen, Tom Scheuerman, Mark Fouts and myself. The ice conditions where very good and we got the job done in less than two hours.

After the work was done we met at our home and my wife Susan made some chili and desserts were donated by Mimi Johnston. We then had some refreshments.

The aerator is running very well and the water opening is of good size.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Mimi Johnston

Winter Social 2011 provided a great break here in the North Woods. Forty-three of us gathered at Eagle Waters on Saturday, Jan 29th for good food - good games & good cheer. Big winners for the evening were **Tom Cerull** won the lake mug, 50/50 were: **Debbie Larson, Nancy Scheuerman, Kim Victoria** and **Judy Petersen**. Our big raffle of the evening was a Muskie print from **Roberta Barg's** collection along with a \$40.00 gift certificate from the **Paint Bucket** and it was won by **Tom Scheuerman**. The evening closed with the exchange of white elephant gifts, leading to much laughter. I would like to thank those on the Social Committee for their work making this a special evening. It was a great opportunity to catch up on what neighbors have been up to.

Next up, **ICE OUT**. Be sure to buy your squares early. The sooner you buy your squares the better

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

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chance you have of getting on one of the boards. Last year we filled four boards, but were not able to honor all of the late requests.

ANNUAL MEETING - CHANGE OF DATE

The fall survey results showed that most people preferred cutting back to a business meeting only, but would like more space. To that end, the meeting will be on:

Saturday, July 23, 2011, at 8:30 A.M.
The Kalmar Center
1011 N. Railroad Street
Hwy. 45 N.
Eagle River

A similar format to last year will be followed with the meeting with coffee and rolls.

Change your calendar NOW!

Update on the Town of Cloverland's CLASS project

Justine White - Richards

The three year CLASS grant for the Town of Cloverland will be coming to an end in December of 2011.

MLA will be getting the final draft of their lake management plan sometime this Spring. If you will recall, the first lake management plan expired in 2007. It would have cost \$5 to \$10,000 if MLA had chosen to produce a new plan on their own.

Because MLA joined the town wide CLASS project, there was no cost in dollars for your new lake plan. The 25% (approximately \$50,000) that CLASS owed was paid for entirely through volunteer hours. Thanks to all of you that gave of your time to benefit your lake and your neighbors.

The new plan will be a road map for lake residents to follow as needed in the next 5 years. It will help MLA to decide what is best for the lake environment as situations arise. MLA has always been in the forefront of the Cloverland Town Lakes when it comes to doing what is best to protect the lake environment.

This has included building the dam, using an aerator, inspecting watercraft using the Clean Boats, Clean Waters protocols, recording water chemistries, sampling aquatic plants, harvesting aquatic plants, stocking musky and walleye fingerlings and benefiting from a very active Social Committee.

MLA's challenge, beginning this year, is to continue the work of those who have put in many hours in the past to make what our lake and its association is today.

This includes maintaining what is good and making improvements where needed. "Thank you" in advance to each and every one of you for whatever you can do.

Every hour helps.

The MLA Grant Committee

OFFICERS & BOARD of DIRECTORS **Of** **MUSKELLUNGE LAKE ASSOCIATION, Inc.** **2010 - 11**

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