

# NAMAKAGON

APRIL 2009



## Breeze

NAMAKAGON LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

### *Message from the President...*

It has been a wonderful but cold winter and I hope your family enjoyed it as much as mine did. The ski and snowmobile trails were great all winter. If you or a member of your family put in time grooming or maintaining these trails, my family and I wish to thank you for all your hard work.

Grants have been worked on and turned in. Hopefully we will have good news soon on what money will be available for projects this year. We are hoping to receive money to purchase more boat landing cameras which would ease the pressure of trying to get volunteers to monitor the boat landings this year.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will see a list of the boat landing supervisors that volunteered their time last year to help keep Lake Namakagon clean. If you see any of these people please give them a big thanks, they deserve it.

Last November the county sent out a survey to all homeowners. I hope that you took the time to fill out this survey as it will be the basis for future development or changes for our area. To see the results go to the Bayfield County website [www.bayfieldcounty.org](http://www.bayfieldcounty.org). The survey can be broken down to just the responses from the Town of Namakagon or Town of Grand View so that you can see what were the issues or what was important to the homeowners in our area. If you have questions or concerns please contact me.

By the time you read this, hopefully we will be starting our spring projects. Shoreline cleanup will be organized again this year by Tom Nelson. If you can help us out on this project please call Tom at 794-2405.

Buoys will be put out the last week of April if Mother Nature cooperates. If we still have ice during this week we will put them out on the first available date. Again if you can help, please call me at 798-2365.

Please note some date changes elsewhere in the newsletter. The Annual Meeting will be Saturday August 22nd this year and Fun on the Water will be Sunday July 26th.

Again this year the board wants to ask you to consider volunteering for one of the many projects that we are involved in this year. We will be posting notices in this newsletter of activities and hope that each and every member can find time to help.

I would also like to extend an invite to attend our board meetings. It is always good to have members in the audience to give input on the issue that we are discussing. All of our members will have differing opinions which we want to hear so we can make best decisions that reflect the feelings of the members that we are representing.

The best way to get your feelings heard is at the meeting not days or weeks later after decisions have already been made. Our meetings usually last about 1-2 hours maximum. Again I ask that if you cannot make a board meeting to please call any board member with your questions, concerns or issues that you would like us to address.

Again this year we are asking for people to consider running for the board. I hear from a lot of people with some real strong feelings about issues pertaining to the lake and the association. All I can say is get involved. The best way to do this is to be on the board and see what we do. Every member of the board has an important function and this association could not continue without the work that is done by each and every board member. I want to thank all the board members for their hard work and dedication to keeping Lake Namakagon the beautiful lake it is.

Well the warmer weather is here and maybe by the time you read this the lake will be water instead of ice. Have a great spring and see you out on the lake.

*Jim Krueger, President*

### **IMPORTANT**

Please note date changes in the upcoming NLA meetings and date for "Fun on the Water" event as well as the location of the June 6 meeting.



*Pied-Billed Grebe is a shy bird that is rarely seen but nests in the area.*

## GRANT & FISHING TOURNEY UPDATE

Your NLA Board is very concerned about mitigating the threat multiple lake fishing tournaments present to our chain of lakes by spreading AIS (aquatic invasive species). The WDNR has the authority under Wisconsin State regulations to require fishing tournament organizers to limit the number of boat landings they use & provide trained monitors to inspect boats prior to launch. They are aware of our concerns and our desire to have higher vigilance at any sites used in multi-lake tournaments.

We have joined forces with Bayfield County, our Townships and the Bayfield County Lakes Forum to raise awareness of this issue with DNR and support passing a local ordinance to address this issue if necessary. We are also working with retired DNR Warden & Grand View Town Supervisor Tom Thornton to work on the issue at the State level. Unfortunately this will take time to accomplish and that is something our lakes don't have.

On the grant front, the NLA Board voted unanimously to apply for a grant to fund 75% of the purchase of two additional ILIDS (landing camera monitors) which Tom Nelson, Tim Browne and I did last January. Our grant application faces quite a bit of competition, but it carries the endorsement of Bayfield County, the BCLF and the Townships of Grand View and Namakagon. Additionally multiple lake chains merit extra consideration from DNR and that is what we are.

In addition, NLA is managing three other grants that were extended from 2008 to the end of this year. These involve our comprehensive lake aquatic plant survey, sanitary sewer survey which is a data base and lake water sampling survey and our comprehensive lake management plan which all of you will be able to publically comment on. If you have any questions on any of this, please feel free to call me or talk to any of our Board members.

Thank you for your support of NLA and your Board.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Riley, VP*



*The image of wood ducks was taken from near the dam area on April 21.*

## CRITTER COLUMN

Finally, after a long winter spring is around the corner. As spring approaches so do a number of our feathered friends. Some will come and stay in the Lake Namakagon area while others will migrate through, only briefly stopping on the way to their summer homes. Rather than describe what species might be seen coming through the area, I've chosen to share some pictures from last April highlighting the various birds that migrate to Lake Namakagon. Some of the best places for watching the migratory birds are near the dam and in other isolated areas of open water before the ice has all thawed.

In 2009, the first loons were seen on April 14. Other species included trumpeter swans, pied-billed grebes, merganser is common and hooded. By May, other species including various warblers could be viewed up close along the shoreline. Each of the pictures below is labeled with both the species and the date of the photograph to give you an idea of when you might see them around the lake.

The next newsletter scheduled to be sent in June will contain an update on loon nesting on Lake Namakagon. Please contact me with any questions or comments about this column or other issues related to local wildlife.

*Denise Dupras, NLA Secretary*



*Trumpeter swans pass-through during April as well on their way to nesting regions.*

## BOAT LANDING SUPERVISORS

A special thanks to the following people that volunteered their time for the preservation of Lake Namakagon. These supervisors put in over 96 hours last year mostly at the County Hwy D boat landing. The beauty and cleanliness of the lake will be maintained because of your hard work.

Thanks to the following:

*Clyde Wishart-Boat Landing Coordinator, Tim Browne, Angelo Bollero, Mike and Phyllis Formhal, George Gillberg, Glenn and Diane Grage, Bob Lawton, Bob Nagel, Tom Nelson, Bill and Janet Porter, Steve Riley*

## CHECK YOUR ENVELOPE ADDRESS LABEL

If the number following your name (in parentheses) is (2008) or a lower number, for example (2004), your Annual Membership Fee/Newsletter Renewal is due now. If the number following your name is (2009) or higher, you are paid up. Keep in touch and keep the Newsletters coming for the next calendar year. If you have not been getting the Newsletter three times a year, you can start right now by sending in your membership dues. (It is not necessary to pay for unpaid years to reinstate the Newsletter)

**PLEASE JOIN OR RENEW NOW!!!!!!**

# NAMAKAGON LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

(November 8, 2008)

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 AM by President Jim Krueger

**Board Members Present:** Krueger, Riley, Dupras, Nelson, Browne, Holt, Rasmussen

**Board Members Absent:** none

**NLA Member Attendees:** 2

Minutes of September 28, 2008 read. Approved & seconded by Riley & Holt Additional comments from Board members: A NLA project was not included in the list, the Fisheries which is coordinated by Phil Rasmussen. Also at the time of removal the I-LID at Funny Bay did have functioning audio.

## Treasurers Report

Submitted by Tim Browne. Income of \$20, Expenses of \$83.88 leaving a balance of \$25,703.12 with an additional 91 Day CD valued at \$11,757.62. Board discussed and approved including the CD in the Treasures Report to give a Total of \$37,450.74.

## Environmental Sentry Protection (I-Lids)

Treasurer Tim Browne presented a bill from the for 2.6 months of monitoring at the two landings. The Board reviewed and directed Tim to pay the bill in full.

## 2007 WDNR Payment Update

President Jim Krueger - \$5800 was given to the town of Namakagon. The costs associated with paying monitors at the landings will be deducted and the balance will be given to the NLA.

## State Annual Report

Treasurer Tim Brown indicated that \$10 fee will be paid on behalf of the NLA.

## Buoy Removal

President Krueger expressed thanks to the members who helped remove the buoys on October 19th. Jim Krueger, Bill Porter, Tim Browne, Tom Nelson, and Rick Yerhot removed the buoys. 3 of the buoys were discarded and will be replaced. The chains that anchor the buoys will also be replaced with ropes which should make removal easier and prevent the rust damage to boats used in removal.

## Newsletter Contributions

Denise Dupras reviewed the items that are included in the upcoming newsletter and encouraged members to submit items of interest. Jamie at Advance Printing is currently working on printing and will send for distribution.

## Website Update

Denise Dupras told the Board she has not yet been able to contact the WebMaster (Steve Schlitz) but has sent another email. The Website needs updating and she will send information about current Board members, the PDF for the new brochure, minutes for the meetings and also a list of contacts for NLA projects.

## Bayfield County Lakes Forum

Denise Dupras recently learned that the BCLF now offers a free web page to member lake associations for posting of their minutes and information. After discussion with Board they unanimously supported submitting NLA information to BCLF for a web page. She also indicated that BCLF now offers individual membership, which could be included as an item for upcoming newsletter.

## Lake Maps Distribution

Denise Dupras discussed the distribution of the updated brochures. Both she and Jim Krueger have many brochures. Brochures were given to businesses around the lake. The Board suggested additional distribution sites and consideration of putting brochures at landings such as County D and the National Forest Campground. Also at Vacation Reality who has an office in Cable, the Evergreen Bar, the Rookery, & Cable Nature Lodge. Board members will also distribute to private owners who rent their lake properties and local Cable businesses.

## 2008 Grant Updates

Steve Riley discussed the recent bill from FOTH which is under review. His discussion with his contact indicated that there were errors in the current bill. He reviewed the contract with the Board and indicated that correcting the bill should put the project back within the budget. The DNR has approved the roll over of funds and expectations so that no additional reporting is needed for this year. Jim Krueger reminded Board members to track the time spent on NLA issues as that is considered volunteer time so it can be reported to support our grants.

## I-Lids Grant Opportunity

Steve Riley learned that there may be opportunities in the coming year to apply for grants to pay for I-Lid monitoring based on a successful DNR pilot project in the area. The Board discussed the potential for funding and unanimously support Steve proceeding with contacting the DNR and moving ahead to apply for funding. The Board also directed Mr. Riley to apply for additional grant money if available to fund the acquisition of additional I-Lids.

## 2009 Grants

Nothing additional needs to be done at this time.

## Fishing Tournament Ordinance

Steve Riley reviewed the past events related to the attempt to pass a fishing tournament ordinance. The Board discussed the various threats to the health of the lake which include not only the fishing tournaments but also the novice fishermen who may be unaware of the measures essential to keep our lakes clean. There was unanimous support for Steve to proceed with working on developing an ordinance with the help of Mr. Tom Thornton from Grandview who is a former DNR Warden. The



*Lake Namakagon is considered the southernmost range of the common golden-eye; however, the past two years I have seen evidence of breeding common golden-eyes on hold Lake Namakagon and Jackson Lake.* April '08

## WISCONSIN DNR REPORT

(March 12, 2009)

overall goal would be to develop an ordinance that can be passed by the towns of Namakagon and Grandview which will require trained and qualified monitors of all landings used in fishing tournaments. Tournament sponsors should be required to obtain and pay for the monitors during their respective tournaments.

### Boat Landing Supervision

President Krueger reviewed the difficulties associated with getting volunteer monitors for the boat landings. During the past year, the County D landing was covered only 4 hours from August 1 to the end of the summer. The Board recognizes the challenges to providing supervision at the 9 landings around the lakes.

### Beaver Activity at Dam

President Krueger told the Board that the initial removal of the beaver dam, was quickly rebuilt by the beavers. There is now a plan to have a back hoe come in and remove the debris. The lake level is high and poses a threat to the shoreline if not lowered. He also indicated that Jim Anderson is conducting a survey of the Dam height to determine if it is as the 1929 standard. The dam is under the control of the Town and the Forest Service.

### Budget Development

President Krueger and Treasurer Tim Browne will develop a budget for the NLA to cover the calendar year. Since there are expenses and income associated with the various grants, this information will also be included in the budget.

Correspondence: None

### Other new Business

The June 6th meeting tentatively will be held at the Grandview Town Hall and include a public forum prior to the meeting. Phil Rasmussen updated the Board on the status of the fisheries projects. He is now in contact with the DNR and parties in Rhinelander as a potential source of fish stock.

Next Meeting will be held tentatively January 17, 2009.

*Respectfully,  
Denise Dupras, Secretary*

## "FUN ON THE WATER" YOUTH SAFETY AND SKILLS DAY

It's official!! Youth Fun Day will be held on July 26th. Mark your calendars and make plans to bring your children and grandchildren to this 6th annual special event.

Al Stawicki will once again spearhead this activity. The more volunteers he can get, the better the event. It is fun and it is so worthwhile for the kids as well as the adults. Those that attended in the past continue to attend. If 2008 is any indication, the popularity of this event is growing. The June newsletter will provide additional details on the activities for the day and a registration form. Please register ahead, to allow us to ensure we have adequate food and drinks at this event. If you are interested in volunteering to help with this event please contact Al Stawicki at 794-2397.

State wildlife health officials are reporting multiple bird-feeder-associated mortalities of redpolls and pine siskins across the state in the past week.

What is it? Salmonella infection, or salmonellosis, is a common cause of mortality of wild birds at bird feeders, affecting many bird species nationwide. Salmonellosis is caused by a variety of bacterial strains; strains differ in both their usual hosts including humans, domestic animals, wild birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and fish and in how likely they are to cause disease in different hosts. Most recognized outbreaks in wild birds occur in passerine birds during the winter when they are nutritionally stressed and concentrated around bird feeders.

What to do? Salmonellosis is not thought to contribute to substantial population decline in wild bird species; however, the risk of salmonellosis can be reduced through simple precautions.

1. Clean feeders, feeding areas and birdbaths regularly using a 10% bleach solution as a disinfectant before a final rinse.
2. Clean up seed hulls under bird feeders.
3. Consider moving bird feeders periodically to prevent buildup of waste underneath the feeder.
4. Consider adding additional bird feeders to reduce crowding and reduce potential interaction and contamination
5. Keep seeds and food dry.
6. Change water in bird bath regularly.
7. Wear disposable gloves when cleaning a bird feeder or birdbath.
8. If you observe dead or sick birds near a feeder, take it down, discard all seed, and thoroughly clean the feeder. Wait at least a week before setting up the feeder again.

## 2009 BUOY PLACEMENT

We are looking for volunteers to help put in the buoys once the ice is off. We are hoping to put them in during the last week of April weather and ice permitting. Most of the work is done during the week as we need the assistance of the Town of Namakagon road crew, but some might need to be done on a weekend. If you can help please contact Jim Krueger at 798-2365.



*Hooded merganser's are known to breeding in this area of northwest Wisconsin.  
April '08*





A common loon seen April 19 is my first sighting of a loon on Lake Namakagon for 2008.

### NLA MEETINGS:

April 4, 2009 - 9:00 a.m. . . . NLA Board Meeting **Canceled**  
 April 18, 2009 - 9:00 a.m. . . . . NLA Board Meeting  
 Namakagon Town Hall  
 May 9, 2009 - 9:00 a.m. . . . NLA Board Meeting **Canceled**  
 June 6, 2009 - 9 a.m. . . . . NLA Board Meeting  
 Grand View Town Hall  
 August 22, 2009 - 9:00 a.m. . . . . NLA Board Meeting  
 Annual Meeting – Namakagon Town Hall

### NEWSLETTER PUBLICATIONS:

April, June & November

### ACTIVITIES DATES:

Lake Shore Clean-Up . . . . . Month of May  
 NLA Fun On The Water Youth Event . . . . . July 26  
 Fall Fest/Cable Days . . . . . September 26

## NAMAKAGON LAKE ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:	Jim Krueger	(715) 798-2365
1st Vice President:	Steve Riley	(715) 794-2069
Secretary:	Denise Dupras	(715) 798-5087
Treasurer:	Tim Browne	(715) 794-2405
Director:	Lisa Holt	(715) 794-2384
Director:	Tom Nelson	(715) 794-2405
Director:	Phil Rasmussen	(715) 794-2561

#### Email board members:

[board@nlaonline.org](mailto:board@nlaonline.org)

#### Visit our website:

[www.nlaonline.org](http://www.nlaonline.org)

## JOIN THE BOARD

All members are strongly encouraged to consider running for the NLA Board. Each of us has a responsibility to do what we can to protect Lake Namakagon and its environment for enjoyment today and in the future. Whether you call the "Lake" home or a great place to visit, you can make a difference. Consider running for the board. We will be asking for nominations and short biographic statements by June 1 so that they will be included in the summer newsletter. Please contact any board member for additional information. Self nominations are encouraged.

### REMINDER THAT WE DO HAVE A WEB SITE

Anyone wishing to see past NLA meeting minutes, meeting dates, newsletters, Board member contacts, interesting photographs of our lake or other neat information is encouraged to use our web site. Just visit our website at:  
[WWW.NLAONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.NLAONLINE.ORG)

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

**STOP** Help Stop...  
 the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species

- Non-native, exotic species, such as Eurasian Water Milfoil, Purple Loosestrife, and Zebra Mussels threaten to harm the quality of our Wisconsin lakes.
- Before you launch your boat, please inspect and clean it, including the motor and trailer, to prevent the spread of exotic species into our Wisconsin lakes.
- Never Empty Your Bait Bucket or Release Live Bait into the Lake
- Please *immediately report* any exotic species to your local lake association, The Wisconsin Wetlands Association, or the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
- Visit the Wisconsin DNR website, [www.dnr.wi.gov/invasives](http://www.dnr.wi.gov/invasives) or contact the DNR at 608.266.9270 for more information or to answer questions about aquatic exotic species.

BE AWARE of your ACTIONS and HELP PRESERVE the ENVIRONMENT!

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Namakagon Lake Association, Inc. was formed in 1995 for the purpose of preserving and protecting Lake Namakagon and its environs. The Namakagon Lake Association, Inc. (NLA) is a not for profit organization that relies on the contributions and membership fees of land owners and other concerned citizens for its funding. It is our goal to preserve and protect Lake Namakagon as an environmentally healthy watershed, by sponsoring educational programs, adopting a pro-active role in the formulation of water and shore land regulations, and responsible use of this unique and irreplaceable resource for all citizens.

The Namakagon Lake Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 536  
Cable, WI 54821



**ALERT: IT IS TIME TO PAY OUR ANNUAL DUES!!!**

**YOUR DUES ARE PAID THROUGH THE YEAR PRINTED NEXT TO YOUR NAME ON THE ADDRESS LABEL**

To be eligible to vote, all members must be 18 years of age and a paid member 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

**NAMAKAGON LAKE ASSOCIATION RENEWAL OR NEW MEMBER REQUEST FORM**

MEMBERSHIP DUE ANNUALLY ON CALENDAR YEAR BASIS

NAME OF EACH VOTING MEMBER

- Individual Membership Per Person... # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$20.00 = \_\_\_\_\_
- Wildlife Watcher ..... # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$25.00 = \_\_\_\_\_
- Loon Lover ..... # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$50.00 = \_\_\_\_\_
- Lake Steward ..... # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$100.00 = \_\_\_\_\_
- Keeper of the Lake..... # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$200.00 = \_\_\_\_\_
- Other: ..... # \_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

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**MAILING ADDRESS:**

Namakagon Lake Association, Inc.  
PO Box 536 • Cable, WI 54821

TOTAL ENCLOSED..... \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (        ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_