

NAMAKAGON

SUMMER 2013



Breeze

NAMAKAGON LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Four years have gone by so fast since I first came on the board of the Namakagon Lake Association. I was very hesitant to join this organization at first because I felt I did not have anything to contribute, but I soon found out that just by being a "part" of something can be contribution enough. The people that are on the board are just like me, love living/spending time here and wanting to give back something to show our appreciation of the lake and surrounding area. I've met some awesome people, learned an absolute ton of stuff about our community and got educated on another ton of what happens in and on our lakes during certain times of the year, and how we can improve on that... so extremely interesting and gratifying.

So now that my time is up it is time for someone else to take their hesitation and throw it aside and come join the Namakagon Lake Association and find out how truly worthwhile this organization is, PLUS it really is fun! It does not take a whole lot of time out of your life, maybe 6-9 Saturday mornings a year (for an hour or up to two) and you accomplish so much for yourself and your community.

We had a community member at our last meeting, he had some questions and then towards the end of the meeting we asked him if he would consider joining the board, and he said "that's kind of why I'm here, I want to do my part and give back." How cool is that!!

Think about it, and if you do decide you'd like to run for the NLA board please give me (715-794-2166) or any other board member a call. Have a great rest of your summer.

Linda Fischer, NLA President

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD FOLKS... JOIN THE NLA BOARD!

This year 3 board members will be leaving. Pres. Linda Fischer graciously agreed to serve this past year, her fourth to complete the board, but will also be stepping down. Please contact Linda Fischer if you have an interest serving on the board.

GOVERNORS FISHING OPENER APPEARANCE

Governor's Fishing Opener was delayed by weather, but Gov. Scott Walker made good on his promise and came to Lake Namekagon on May 25th. He caught a walleye and fished with Tom Rice. It was the first time since 2009 that a governor caught a fish at the opener according to the Ashland Daily Press. After fishing he shook hands and made a presentation at Lakewood's Resort. The event was hosted by Wisconsin Indianhead County and the Cable Area Chamber of Commerce. He briefly discussed the Wisconsin Walleye Initiative. For more information see http://dnr.wi.gov/news/BreakingNews_Lookup.asp?id=2812.



Gov. Scott Walker shakes hands with NLA President Linda Fischer

2013 NLA ANNUAL MEETING

Our Annual Meeting will be held on August 17th at 9:00 AM at the Namakagon Community Hall. Please join us. The agenda is going to be finalized after this newsletter goes out. We will have a plan on Aquatic Invasive Species from Diane Daulton of the WDNR. We are also hoping to have Dr. Randy Lehr from the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute of Northland College speak on the health of the lake and also our current grant activities. Stay tuned as we may have a public forum following the meeting. Please check www.nlaonline.org for the final agenda and program. Reminder, all members who paid dues by July 1, 2013 are eligible to vote.

NAMAKAGON LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

MAY 25, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 by President Linda Fischer

Board Members Present: Denise Dupras, Jeanne Baxter, Steve Musser

NLA Member Attendees: 4 - Yerhot, Jan and Bill Porter, Moulds

Minutes of October 20, 2012 Meeting

Read by Denise Dupras. Reviewed by Board and membership in attendance. Minutes were corrected and a motion to approve with was made by Steve Musser and seconded by Jeanne Baxter. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Read by Steve Musser. Current balance as of 5/24/13 = \$27,425.73 and the CD value = \$11,974.24 for total assets of \$33,399.97. This does include a prepayment for the WDNR towards our Grant (\$11,617.76). A motion to approve was made by Denise Dupras and seconded by Jeanne Baxter. The report was approved.

ILIDs:

The ILIDs have been installed. Jan Porter indicated that we continue to need individuals to routinely review videos and ensure that the ILIDs are working. She indicated the Eric was very responsive when questions or problems arise. We are contracted with the EPS for 10% video review. Jan Porter is monitoring the Funny Bay camera and Dianne Grage the County D landing camera. The issue of the Garden landing camera and the expenses associated with supplying power and internet through Mr. Biggott. We are covering all of the expenses which is \$50/month. Steve Musser led a discussion about the importance of keeping our lake clean and the need to continue to maintain the ILIDs. There was also consensus that since this is so important, we should develop a steering committee to manage the ILID issues and plan for the future including the expected upgrades that will be coming. Jeanne Baxter will work with Barb Best to line up video reviewers and landing monitors. They will communicate with Randy Lehr our contact at Northland College. The new grant did not include money for monitors but town contributions could be used for this purpose.

Board Members Discussion:

Three members will rotate off this year, Linda Fischer, Denise Dupras and Steve Riley. We discussed the need to start recruiting volunteers for the positions.

Meeting Dates 2012-2013:

The following meetings and activities for 2013 were updated. The next meeting will be June 15th, July 13th, and Annual Meeting on August 17th. The FOTW event is organized by Mr. Al Stawicki and will not be held this year. These dates will be posted on the Web site. Additional dates were selected for meetings on September 14th and October 12th. The annual volunteer dinner will be combined with the Community Club the first Thursday in October. This will increase visibility of the NLA and we hope result in more members.

Grant Update:

Steve Musser indicated that we have had a partial pre-payment and will need to spend the monies this year. He emphasized that we will need to ensure that we meet our obligations for the grant.

Membership:

Denise Dupras received the receipts from paid members and will update the records. She will send a postcard with important NLA dates and information about membership/dues to new and old members.

New Business:

Governor Scott Walker is in Cable for the celebration and will be giving a talk at Lakewoods at 10:00 a.m. and will discuss the Walleye for Wisconsin initiative of the WDNR.

Next Meeting is June 15th at 9 AM at the Namakagon Town Hall. President Fischer thanked the Board and the members in attendance.

A motion to adjourn was made by Denise Dupras at 9:43 AM and seconded by Steve Musser. The meeting was adjourned.

GRANT PROGRESS REPORT

The Namakagon Lake Management Planning Project which is funded by a Grant of \$24,313.22 by WDNR and an additional \$14,400.00 grant from the Townships of Namakagon & Grand View is progressing on schedule and should be completed in December 2014. This project is under the management of Professor Randy Lehr of the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute at Northland College in Ashland in coordination with Pamela Toshner & Jane C. Malischke of WDNR Spooner and NLA.

The primary goals of this project are as follows:

1. Synthesize the existing data for the Namakagon Chain of Lakes related to lake uses, water quality, fisheries and aquatic plants.
2. Expand water quality data collection and develop a watershed nutrient budget and in-lake aquatic response model for Jackson, Garden & Namakagon Lakes.
3. Identify opportunities for shoreline restoration.
4. Implement a comprehensive stakeholder engagement process to review the existing and newly collected data and develop a comprehensive set of lake management goals and management alternatives that encompass public usage, water quality and biological communities throughout the Namakagon Chain of Lakes.

At present water sampling has been commenced and the first stakeholder meeting is scheduled to follow the NLA Annual meeting in August 2012. Lake data is being compiled and a stakeholder survey will be developed following stakeholder input in August. Any questions, suggestions or input you have should be directed to either Steve Riley at sriley@cheqnet.net or Professor Lehr at lehr@northland.edu

In closing, I would ask that you consider thanking our Town Chairmen and Supervisors without whose support this project and the goals stated above would not be attainable.

Steve Riley, NLA VP

NAMAKAGON LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 15, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 by Acting President Steve Riley.

Board Members Present: Denise Dupras, Jeanne Baxter, Steve Musser, Greg Dehring

NLA Member Attendees: 5

Minutes of May 23, 2013 Meeting

Read by Denise Dupras. Reviewed by Board and membership in attendance. A motion to approve with was made by Greg Dehring and seconded by Steve Musser. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Read by Steve Musser. Current balance as of 6/15/13 = \$27,695.73 and the CD value = \$11,977.23 for total assets of \$39,672.96. A motion to approve was made by Denise Dupras and seconded by Jeanne Baxter. The report was approved.

Landing Blitz 2013:

Denise Dupras shared information about the WDNR sponsored Landing Blitz scheduled for July 4-7 this year. The Blitz this year will include handing out CBCW towels at the landings. Up to 25 towels per landing will be available at no charge from the WDNR. Linda Fischer has been in contact with Jeremy Bates. Steve Riley will be meeting with Randy Lehr soon and will find out if we can hire students for this. Jeanne Baxter will help identify local volunteers to for landings as well. We discussed using money from the Towns to cover this expense, as it is not included in our current Lake Management Grant.

County Journal Article on NLA:

Jeanne Baxter has been in contact with the County Journal who is willing to put an article in the paper about the NLA. She will work with Denise Dupras to get the information to the Journal by Wednesday for inclusion in the paper. We hope to focus on the importance of volunteers, the use of WDNR grants and that the lake remains free of the most damaging AIS, which is in many of the surrounding lakes.

Grant Update:

Steve Riley provided an update on what has been going on with the grant. Northland College is administering the grant and has done water sampling, and is in the process of setting up the lakeshore and stakeholder surveys. There was a high level of satisfaction with what has been done this far.

Landing Monitoring:

The group discussed on going issues with the Garden Lake landing. Steve Musser told the board that the cost of the monthly operation has gone up. Janet Porter indicated that she was concerned about the functioning of the Garden Lake ILID. There are times where there are no videos to review and it is unclear if the camera is functioning. This camera works on solar power, so this may be part of the issue. Denise will contact Eric Lindberg to determine what the set up is for power and transmission so that we can make this more cost effective. Janet Porter also indicated that Funnys Bay ILID was out much of the past month after lightning strike. They have tried to switch out transformers with no success.

We clarified that the current grant does not cover students monitoring the landings and that we would like to unify the landing monitoring scheduling for both the college students and local volunteers. Jeanne Baxter will work with Barb Best and Randy Lehr to coordinate efforts. The group recommended that we find monitors for County D, the campground and Funnys Bay landings.

Video viewing was discussed and will identify other members who can help in this effort.

Lake Report:

Greg Dehring provided an update on the status of the lake. The lake is the highest it has been since the 1940's. It has come down over 1 foot. He discussed the contribution of the late ice out, heavy snow, rain and saturation of the surrounding areas to this phenomenon. There are increased tannins in the water changing the color, but has no effect on the lake health. The water remains cold 62-66 degrees. The changes have affected the fish populations but overall the populations of walleye, northern pike, perch and panfish are good. He also shared that he has a wonderful recipe for pike patties and will share it on the next newsletter.

Board Members Discussion:

Three members will rotate off this year, Linda Fischer, Denise Dupras and Steve Riley. We discussed recruiting volunteers for the positions and the goal to get some new members involved.

Membership:

Denise Dupras received the receipts from paid members and will update the records. She will send a postcard with important NLA dates and information about membership/dues to new and old members.

Old Business:

Fishing Opener: Governor Scott Walker was at Lakewoods for a delayed fishing opener event. He caught a walleye and shared information on the Walleye for Wisconsin initiative. Greg Dehring provided additional background on this project.

Web Updates: Denise Dupras has updated the web site to reflect the most recent information and upcoming meetings.

Membership Drive: Denise Dupras mailed out 156 postcards to households. She shared that 107 households as of today have paid through 2013. The members thought this was a good option for future years as well.

New Business:

Propane Discount Option: Steve Riley indicated the Lake Owen Association has a buyer's cooperative for propane gas. Each year it puts out the contract for bid, often resulting in a substantial discount. If NLA members are interested they can contact Steve Riley with the information.

New Grant Opportunity: Denise Dupras led a discussion about the Clean Boats Clean Water Project Funding Request and Agreement. This would provide up to \$4000/landing for 200 hours minimum inspection. They require a 25% local match and the deliverables are straightforward which include entering the data into the SWIMS database. After discussion, Denise Dupras made a motion to submit an application for 2 landing, County D and the federal campground. This was seconded by Jeanne Baxter and unanimously endorsed.

2013 NW Wisconsin Lakes Conference: Denise Dupras shared information about the upcoming meeting to be held in Spooner on June 21, 2013. As in past years if there are members who would like to attend, the NLA will reimburse the \$40 registration fee.

Next Meeting is July 13 at 9 AM at the Namakagon Town Hall.

A motion to adjourn was made by Greg Dehring at 9:58 AM and seconded by Denise Dupras. The meeting was adjourned.

NLA FEATURED IN COUNTY JOURNAL

"A Citizen Group Keeps Aquatic Invasive Species at Bay" was the headline on the front page of the County Journal of Thursday, June 27, 2013. If you missed the issue, you can access this very interesting article: http://www.ashlandwi.com/county_journal/article_84a93110-e049-11e2-9cc8-0019bb2963f4.html

Photos on front and back page illustrate NLA's extensive partnerships and reliance on volunteers to educate the public, monitor water conditions. In interviews with NLA president, Linda Fisher, and secretary, Denise Dupras, precautionary measures were explained to prevent aquatic invasive species (AIS) such as Eurasian water milfoil, zebra mussels and viral hemorrhagic disease. "Any one of these could spoil a lake in a relatively short period of time. That's why the Namakagon Lake Association, Inc., (NLA) formed".

Staff writer Hope McLeod's article also included photos of our posted landing signs, baby loons, and an explanation of our newly installed motion-activated I-LIDS monitoring cameras at four public landings. The heart of her story, however, focused on the many volunteers, like Janet Porter, our "designated loon ranger" and all of our members who give time or support our lake in other ways. Should any newsletter reader want to explore one of our volunteer opportunities, please contact any member of the Board.

2013 MID JULY LOON REPORT

Our Loon families seem to be having a successful summer. There were many reports of a long and stressful migration. The ice did not leave Lake Namakagon until May 13.

A nest was spotted in the Jackson Lake channel as early as May 23. On June 23 two Loon chicks hatched from that nest. They are both still doing very well and growing fast in Lake Namakagon near the channel.

The Loon platform that has been in Jackson Lake for many years hosted a nest this year. One chick is doing very well in Jackson Lake at this report.

Around June 30 a chick was hatched from an unknown nest location close to County Highway D. This chick has not been seen during the past week and a half.

A Loon nest on the Namakagon River near Juneks Point road hatched a Loon chick about July 13. That chick is also doing well and growing fast.

So far we cannot confirm any chicks in Sugar Bay this summer.

If you see any of the Loon families while enjoying the lake this summer, please use caution and enjoy them from a distance.

Janet Porter



WILDLIFE UPDATE 2013

Thanks to Janet Porter our resident loon ranger for her report and continued efforts to monitor our loon population. This year the nesting bald eagle pair on Governor Island hatched a single eaglet. By now the young one is even bigger than the parents and seems to have fledged from the nest.



The Loon Saloon osprey nest is again very productive and has produced 3 young. They seem to be a bit behind previous years, but all appear healthy. There is also an active osprey nest on Hwy D just north of the Namakagon Chief overlooking June Bay. According to Greg Dehring, the fish populations are doing well. There are large numbers of panfish, but the large numbers of small fish is keeping the big ones off the hook.

RECIPE FOR PIKE CAKES

Ever wonder what to do with the "small ones"? Try this recipe from Greg Dehring and make the most your catch.

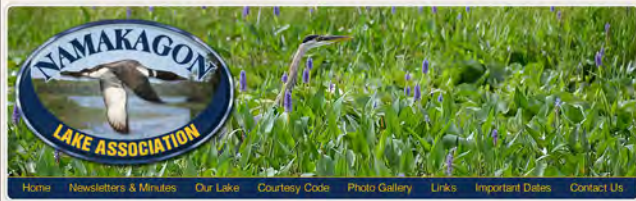


Grind filet of pike, add finely chopped onion and red bell pepper, add garlic powder, Emeril essence (his secret ingredient), salt, pepper, egg, panko crumbs, Italian bread crumbs, paprika, and (optional) pickle jalapenos.

Mix to consistency of patties about ½ inch thick – re-bread with Italian bread crumbs. Fry in oil until brown and crispy.

So how much of each ingredient? Not even he knows...

Come visit us on-line!
www.nlaonline.org



LAKE NAMAKAGON COURTESY CODE

- Know and obey** Wisconsin boating safety rules.
- Be courteous** on the water. Remember, anglers fish early and late in the day.
- Stay far enough away** from the shoreline to prevent wave-action erosion and to safeguard nesting waterfowl.
- Inspect and clean** your boat, motor and trailer to prevent the spread of exotic species.
- Please immediately report** any exotic species to the Namakagon Lake Association.
- NEVER empty** your bait bucket or release live bait into the lake.
- Empty AND dry** all live wells, bilges, and baited tanks **BEFORE** entering the lake.
- Operate motorized boats** at slow speeds in shallow water.
- Observe "no wake" zones.**
- Operate your boat or personal watercraft** with consideration for

Welcome to Lake Namakagon

Namakagon Lake Association - Preserving & Protecting Northern Wisconsin's Lake Namakagon

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.



R-E-S-P-E-C-T

- RESPECT:** The rights of others.
- ENVIRONMENT:** Enjoy wildlife from a distance.
- SAFETY:** Heed the boating regulations - go slowly.
- PEACE:** Watch your nose and your wake.
- ENJOY:** Have fun - share the moments with your friends.
- CONSIDER:** Other people and creatures on the lake.
- TRASH:** Take your trash home.

Important Dates

April 21, 2012
 NLA Board Meeting

NAMEKAGON RIVER PARTNERSHIP

News from a new citizen-volunteer river organization working to celebrate and conserve the upper Namekagon River.
<http://namekagon.org/>

NLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|----------------|
| President: | Linda Fischer | (715) 794-2166 |
| 1st Vice President: | Steven Riley | (715) 794-2069 |
| Secretary: | Denise Dupras | (715) 798-5087 |
| Treasurer: | W. Steven Musser | |
| Members at Large: | Jeanne Baxter | |
| Members at Large: | Barbara Best | |
| Members at Large: | Greg Dehring | |

Email board members: board@nlaonline.org

Visit our website: www.nlaonline.org

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES UPDATE – LOCAL BODIES OF WATER

While Garden, Jackson, and Namakagon remain free from AIS, the most dreaded Eurasian water milfoil, has been documented by the Wisconsin DNR in a number of surrounding lake. Please continue to keep our waters clean.

- Ham Lake • Little Trade Lake • Shallow Lake
- Buskey Bay • Chequamegon Bay • Eagle Lake
- George Lake • Hart Lake • Lake Millicent
- Sand Bar Lake • Tomahawk Lake • Twin Bear Lake
- Callahan Lake • Clear Lake • Connors Lake • Hayward Lake
- Lake Chippewa • Little Round Lake • Mud Lake
- North Fork Chief River • Round Lake • Squaw Lake
- West Fork Chippewa River • Whitefish Lake

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 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

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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 by JULY 15TH, 2013.

NAMAKAGON LAKE ASSOCIATION RENEWAL OR NEW MEMBER REQUEST FORM

MEMBERSHIP DUE ANNUALLY ON CALENDAR YEAR BASIS – 2013

- Check here if NEW address or e-mail
- 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 _____ = _____

NAME OF EACH VOTING MEMBER

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

MAILING ADDRESS:

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

TOTAL ENCLOSED. _____

Indicate preferred contact method: US Mail - Home US Mail - Lake E-mail

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ E-mail address: _____