



LAKE SOUNDINGS

The Newsletter of Gilmore Lake Association
Spring 2013

www.gilmorelakeassociation.com

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John Ney
Fund raising
Amy Wandel
Membership/Newsletter
Barb Robinson

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President's Message

Our long, harsh winter appears finally to be over. The ice disappeared from Gilmore Lake May 7, six weeks later than 2012 and probably a record for modern times. Among the many consequences of endless winter was a complete bust for the fishing season opener: no boats = no traffic jam at our landing.

But we can expect lots of congestion at the landing this summer. The Minong Flowage is being drawn down five feet for dam repairs. It will be inaccessible to most boaters, who will go to other lakes, including Gilmore. Our landing is situated between blind curves on Narrows Trail, making for a potentially dangerous situation for vehicles and pedestrians alike. We have an agreement with the Town to restrict parking to one side of Narrows Trail in the vicinity of the landing if vehicle+trailer parking becomes problematic. Please be extra careful on Narrows Trail this year. And also on the lake; more boats mean more problems unless everyone practices boating safety.

Another consequence of the snowy winter is that the lake has flooded – no surprise and not uncommon after ice-out. Whether we will again experience summer flooding from the Triple T cannot be predicted. Floods have a double impact: physical damage to shoreline and import of high levels of nutrients to stimulate algae blooms. The beaver dam at the outlet is back –for now. That dam serves to damp inflow and stabilize our water level. But it cannot prevent major floods and it is an imperfect and unreliable fix. Vice President Bill Huelsman and the water quality/water level committee continue to explore long-term solutions.

Eurasian watermilfoil will soon make its distribution known. We will be ready for it, thanks to DNR grants and your contributions. Read the milfoil committee report for details.

So, it's all part of life at the lake – challenges but also opportunities. Gilmore Lake remains a treasure for so many activities: fishing, swimming, boating, wildlife watching, or just getting away from it all. Enjoy the summer at the lake we share and the opportunities it provides.

John Ney

FUND RAISING COMMITTEE

By Amy Wandel and Fran McCloskey

The fund raising committee is off to a good start once again with a 100% full page of ads. This generated \$800.00 and this is, hands down, our easiest fund raising effort. Please support our advertisers with your business.

The committee is planning to have a booth this summer at a local business to sell the remaining 24 "Foil The Milfoil" shirts. If you would like to assist us in this event, the committee would greatly appreciate it. Please call Amy Wandel at 715-520-7150 or e-mail at aimers169@gmail.com. The committee has been approaching other avenues to sell these shirts over the winter. If you would like to show your support and make a purchase, we have some medium, large and extra-large sizes available for \$15.00 each. Just touch base with Amy, and she will fill your order. The fund raising committee is grateful for all of your donations as well. The donations enclosed with your GLA membership support our anti-milfoil efforts. Anyone interested in joining our committee please let Amy or Fran McCloskey (fran@fa-llc.com) know. Have a great summer!

2013 NW WISCONSIN LAKES CONFERENCE (NWLC)

This year's conference will be held at the Spooner High School on Friday June 21, 2013. the registration opens at 8:00AM and sessions are planned from 9:00AM until 3:00PM. The conference registration fee is \$40.00 which includes a continental breakfast and luncheon. Registration can be made on line at : www.wisconsinlakes.org or by calling 800-542-5253.

The 2013 keynote speaker is Dr. Christine Thomas, Professor and Dean of the College of Natural Resources at the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point. Attendees will have the opportunity to choose three different sessions from a total of 12 presentations. The topics include subjects ranging from fishing and lake management, citizen action groups and regulatory issues.

This conference is a unique opportunity to learn more about what is happening on the lakes in the northwest region of Wisconsin.

REVERSE DARWIN DICTIONARY*

AKA Boater Safety

By Barb Robinson

CONFIDENCE: The feeling you have before you fully understand the gravity of the situation.

DETERMINATION: The feeling you get right before you try to do something incredibly stupid.

2013 is a new year of boating and with it comes my boating safety reminders.

1. **BEFORE**, taking your boat or jet ski out for a spin around the lake, READ THE BOATER SAFETY BOOKLET. If you don't have a copy, I'll get you one.
2. **WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET** when out in your boat. It doesn't help you much if you go over board and your jacket is stowed away in the boat locker.
3. If you see someone doing something on the lake that you think poses a danger to people or property, **CALL DAVE SWANSON: 715-645-0053 OR 800-TIP-WDNR**. If you have a camera, even your phone's camera, get a picture. If the situation is really out of hand, **CALL THE SHERIFF: 911 OR 715-468-4720**.

Here is a quick quiz:

***A boat is approaching you head on. What should you do?**

Answer: You pass them just like when driving a car. Boats are driven on the right side of the water highway just like cars on pavement in the USA.

***A boat is coming up fast behind you and is going to pass you. What should you do?**

Answer: You are the "stand on" boat meaning that you continue at your speed and course. The boat over taking you is the "give way" boat, meaning that they must alter their course to prevent hitting you.

***What does "slow, no wake" mean?**

Answer: The slowest speed you can do and still maintain steerage. Make sure your wake is not creating damage along the shoreline..

*The Reverse Darwin Dictionary is to remind you that Confidence and Determination do not take the place of **COMMON SENSE** and **COURTESY**.

EWM Update

John Ney, Chairman, Milfoil Committee

About the only good thing about Eurasian watermilfoil is that we don't have to deal with it in the winter. So the Milfoil Committee's report in the Fall 2012 newsletter is still current. To recap:

1. Treatment with 2,4 D and manual removal have been effective, but EWM continues to spread, probably via fragmentation – a single strand is enough to establish rooted plants. Boat props are especially effective at clipping EWM – please avoid the two established beds marked by buoys. Small stands of EWM now occur in the south bay of Big Gilmore and at multiple locations in Little Gilmore.
2. The two established beds will be treated by a commercial pesticide applicator as was done last June when they totaled 1.6 acres. Clusters and individual plants will be subject to spot treatment of the herbicide. Daryl Iverson, Dick Johnson, Russ Robinson, and I are in the process of becoming state licensed pesticide applicators. (A lot of reading, followed by a written test; the tables are turned for this old professor). We will also use manual removal on a limited basis. Pulling weeds is only effective in the Spring, and must be done very carefully to get all the roots and prevent escape of fragments. Conversely, 2,4 D is an effective and safe herbicide that dissipates quickly. It has long been used to remove dandelions from lawns.
3. The Association is in good shape financially to take on the Weed from Hell. The WDNR has funded \$45,000 in control grants, which will allow us to treat up to 5 acres/year via commercial applicator. However, this grant money can only be obtained on a reimbursable basis. Thus, the Association needs a large cash reserve to pay costs as incurred – keep those contributions coming!
4. Education remains a big component of the EWM control strategy. Last year, eight Association members got to see EWM up close and personal aboard the *Milfoil Marauder*. Sign up at the annual meeting or contact Captain Russ Robinson. The more folks that can identify EWM in the water, the quicker we can attack it.

There is something new. The Clean Boats, Clean Waters inspection program will be conducted at the landing for the seventh consecutive year. But this time it will be part of a township-wide boat inspection program, funded by the WDNR with Town support and administered by the Minong Town Lake Committee (see MTLC report). Lakes to be included are Gilmore, Bass, Horseshoe, Kimball, Nancy, Pokegama, Big Sand, and No Man. This program is intended to prevent the transfer of EWM among our lakes and educate boaters about AIS. It is especially critical this year, with would-be Minong Flowage boaters headed elsewhere. The MTLC grant pays for inspectors, who must be supplemented at times by volunteers. As in other years, we will need your help.

MINONG FLOWAGE DRAW DOWN

By Barb Robinson

I spoke with Jon Johnson, Washburn County Highway (and dams) Commissioner. I asked him about the progress and the time frame for the draw down of the Minong Flowage. He told me that they had started the draw down on April 26 and as of the following week they were 1.8 feet lower than the previous week. He anticipated that the draw down would be completed by mid May, weather permitting, a total of 5 feet below normal level. When I spoke with him it was in the first week in May and we were getting a lot of melt going in to the Totagatic River. If everything goes according to plan, they will start work of the dam repair once the water is at full draw down. They expect to start filling the Flowage and have it back up to its normal level by first ice cover in December of this year.

For more information you can contact Mr. Johnson at: 715-635-4480 or highway@co.washburn.wi.us .

EMERGENCY SERVICE REQUEST

Linda Featherly, our local EMT, has asked that if you or someone you know may need special assistance during an emergency such as fire, flooding or weather, to let her know in advance so there are no surprises. Information given to her is strictly confidential. She can be reached at: lindaleefeatherlyemt@hotmail.com or 715-466-5514.

MINONG TOWN LAKES COMMITTEE REPORT

By Russ Robinson

This is the sixth year that the Minong Town Lakes Committee (MTLC) has been operating and its reputation for providing a proactive approach in dealing with lake issues and protecting property values is becoming well known. This year we were asked to make a presentation at the annual Wisconsin Lakes Conference in Green Bay describing our unique approach as an environmental group working with local government to protect its most valuable assets.

John Ney described in his EWM article MTLC's responsibility for Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) inspections on the town's lakes in 2013. MTLC hopes that this more unified approach will provide better coordination between lakes in the town of Minong. It also expects that it will be able to increase by 2.5 to 3 times the amount of time spent on inspections.

The MTLC has also recently distributed over 1000 newsletters to area residents promoting its activities and asking for contributions in time or money to help in its efforts.

This group has already done a tremendous service to lake property owners in the Town of Minong. It has accomplished all this without charging membership fees or charging for the activities they have presented. It relies primarily on grant money along with contributions from area business and residents. It also has support from the Town of Minong.

Plans for the future include a website: <http://www.Minonglakes.org> which should be up and running this summer. We are also tentatively planning a third Lake Fair for 2014.

If you would like more information or would like to help with MTLC's effort, please contact Russ Robinson at rubarb@gmail.com.

May 5th 2013, The Fishing Opener That Wasn't

By Jim Holmes

Lake Gilmore was at flood stage and mostly covered by ice. To get from Little Gilmore to the big lake was a walk pulling a boat, the culvert was filled with water. In all my years on the lake I can never remember an opener that the lake was covered with ice. Maybe the DNR should go back to the second week in May opener like it was for many years. Mothers day was always ice free. I have been coming to the lake for

fishing openers since 1939 and never had seen the lake covered with ice this late. Granted it has been cold and rainy, but not ice covered. Let us all hope for a warmer summer.

DID YOU KNOW?

1. If you need to send out a **distress call** and you don't have a cell phone or bars or battery, use three short, three long and three short flashlight flashes. No flashlight? Three short, three long, three short of a car or boat horn will do.
2. **Fireworks** – Permits must be issued by a municipality and must specify date of use, type and quantity. Permits from fireworks stores are not valid. Possession or use of fireworks without a legal permit risks forfeiture of up to a \$1000 fine per violation.
3. Got **Geese**? They contribute to swimmers itch. Eliminate feeding them, let the grass grow and don't fertilize the grass. Plant fescues rather than Kentucky glue grass. Less palatable to geese. You can also build a goose buffer along your shore at least 6-10 feet wide with vegetation 20-30 inches high.
4. When **skunk** meets dog: Better than tomato juice, mix one-half teaspoon really good quality dish soap, one-eighth cup baking soda and one pint hydrogen peroxide. Thoroughly scrub then rinse your best friend.
5. These are **not** what you want to associate with your lake vacation:
 1. No boat registration \$200
 2. Reckless boating \$200
 3. Transport aquatic plants* \$232
 4. Launch with aquatic plants* \$295
 5. Tow skier without spotter \$173

*Remember this when a boat inspector offers to inspect your boat prior to launching. They are trying to save you money.

MEMBERSHIP/COMMUNICATIONS

By Barb Robinson

This year we were off to a very slow start. It's hard thinking about your lake property when there is snow and ice everywhere. Recently, paid memberships have picked up. Last year we finished with 115 paid members which was more than we anticipated – that's a good thing. If you have a question about your membership status you can always email or call me. ribaldness@gmail.com or 715-781-7737.

But now the ice is gone, thunderstorms have replaced snow storms and although we're a little late Spring has finally decided to show herself. Several UpNorth Updates have gone out already this year. If you have an email address and would like to receive these updates just let me know. If you have not paid your 2013 membership dues, fill in your email address on the membership form. Also if you have changed information, phone numbers, email addresses, mailing addresses, please let me know as well. We have several new people on the lake. If you happen to notice that you have new neighbors make a point to say hello. It's an informal neighborhood watch.

GLA Board Meeting: The Board decided on June 29 at 10AM for the Annual Member's Meeting and Picnic at the Town Hall and July 4th 1PM for the Annual Boat Parade. Please bring a dish to pass.

Burn Permits: As most of you know we had a very large fire in the Barnes area just north of here. The DNR had suspended all burn permits but has since lifted the suspension in our area. No matter if you have a tropical rain forest in your front yard you still need a burn permit which you can get on line at: dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestfire/permits.html This should get you to the permit site. You can always call 888-WIS-BURN or stop in at the local ranger station or Emergency fire warden too. The permits are free and are good for a year. Before burning you do have to call a number to find out if that particular day is okay to burn. Burning without a permit could cost you \$175, I know from experience! Remember, the permit is FREE!

Free Day for Disposal of White Goods: The Town of Minong managed to get funding for a “free” day for white goods (appliances, computers, TV's and tires). You can take them over to the Recycling Center (the dump) to drop them off for free. When I find out the date I'll post it. You will need your Disposal User Permit which is free and available to all Town of

Minong Property Owners (not just residents). If you don't have one call JoAnne at the town hall: 715-466-2062.

Town of Minong news: Fran Bogner asked the Town of Minong to publish their meeting minutes on the Town's web page. They will do that but only meeting minutes that have been approved. Therefore the minutes will be posted about a month after the meeting date. The Town board will keep an eye on the parking situation on Narrows Trail. If it becomes a serious safety issue they said they would limit parking to one side of the road. The town has been given permission at the Annual Meeting to investigate the cost of putting up a pavilion right next to the Town Hall building.

Launch Ramp/Kiosk: The kiosk is open for Spring. I have a favor of the membership. If you are on your way to the dump and you pass the boat ramp, could you check the garbage can to make sure it's not overflowing? If it looks like it has quite a bit, could you add it to your garbage? Burt King spotted a bear in the neighborhood and we've seen sign on our side of the lake as well. An overflowing garbage can is a great lure for a hungry bear and we certainly don't want encourage any bear activity. Thank you in advance.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 13	7PM	Minong Town Board Mtg 2 nd Monday of every month Minong Town Hall
June 21	8AM 9AM – 3PM	Northwest Lakes Conf. Registration Sessions
June 29	10AM	GLA Annual Members Mtg and Picnic Minong Town Hall
July 4	1PM	GLA Annual Boat Parade

Want to learn more about what the EWM committee is doing for you on the lake? Contact Russ Robinson at 715-781-7737 or John Ney at 715-466-4198 to schedule a trip on the Milfoil Marauder.



P.O. Box 188
Minong, Wisconsin 54859

GILMORE LAKE ASSOCIATION

The Gilmore Lake Association is committed to protecting our lake and your investments through the efforts to control and to treat EWM in our lake. These efforts are both costly and time consuming. By joining the Association, your dues help support this work. Fill out the form below and mail it along with your check or money order for \$25 to:

Gilmore Lake Association
P.O. Box 188
Minong WI 54859

PLEASE SIGN ME UP FOR 2013 MEMBERSHIP IN THE GILMORE LAKE ASSOCIATION!

Name: _____ Lake Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Lake Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ e-mail address: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$25 Membership Donation \$ _____