

FROM: Kim Bowen, President, 10th & 11th Crow Wing Lakes Association



April 30, 2013

Hello neighbors! Ice is still thick on 11<sup>th</sup> as I write this (average date of ice-out is around April 20) and we're a wee bit concerned Governor's Fishing Opener will be affected (Park Rapids is hosting the event this year. I got roped into coordinating a resort booth at the community picnic Friday night, May 10 - c'mon over for free food and music if you're in the area. I'm dressing Big John up as Paul Bunyan and me as Lucette, his sweetheart wife - with a crazy black hoop skirt big enough to hide four kids under, so if you wanna laugh, drive over and join the fun. We'll be wandering from the resort booth to the Akeley Chamber booth to promote the rich history of our area and celebrate the opening of fishing season in Minnesota - hopefully on open water ☺.)



Last September's Lake Association meeting was a blast, hosted at Jan & Bob Carlson's cabin on the SW basin of 11<sup>th</sup>. They took all of us on a pontoon ride around the lake prior to the meeting. I loved seeing the "no wake" buoys across Solie Bay that we asked for from the Sheriff's Department in which the water patrol deputies graciously donated and committed to maintaining for us two

years ago. It was great seeing the little dam at the bottom of the lake, the campgrounds, the view of the culvert from that end of the lake and just pointing out various neighbor's cabins. It was a perfect fall day and a real treat for those of us attending. If you have a pontoon boat and would be interested in hosting a fall meeting in September, please contact me - we'd love it! (I especially would be interested in anyone on 10<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing hosting a meeting - anyone have a pontoon on 10<sup>th</sup> who'd be willing? Some of us have never taken a cruise around 10<sup>th</sup>, and we'd be happy to view it and discuss any lake issues about which you might be concerned.)

**Loon Nests:** Two of the three newer Lake Association permitted loon nests will be placed on NE basin of 11<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing Lake as soon as ice is out (we noticed a pair of loons 'eyeing' the loon nest near our resort in a big cattail stand last year and are hoping to entice them to nest this year. I researched loons on-line and learned that they can start having babies at 3-4 years of age. Hoping that same pair comes back and is mature enough to raise some young. We are considering having a 'loon cam' set up if I can talk my son-in-law into helping with the tech part. ☺ Amos and Rich and Phil B. --- do you guys need help getting the loon nest in this year in Solie Bay? If so, just contact me and I can put the request out on e-mail group blast or send one of our guys over to help you. (If anyone else would like to take charge of placing the loon nests out in early spring and bringing them back in during fall, please connect with me and we'd be happy to give you the responsibility!. ☺)

### Spring Meeting

**Saturday May 18**

ARCC (old Akeley school - meeting room behind stage)

**10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.,**

and YES, we will be ending on time again,



(Akeley city-wide rummage sale Day - a great weekend to come up to your cabin, spend a couple hours at our meeting and run around town lookin' at stuff.)



10 - 10:30 a.m. Zebra Mussel show & tell. This is one of the (AIS) aquatic invasive species Minnesotans are most freaked out about, causing legislative action and affecting lakeshore property values, boat license and fishing fees, etc. Ken Grob will be presenting a 20 minute slideshow, display real live specimens, and have a Q&A session about how we can protect our lakes. We are inviting the mayor, council members and township reps - it's a big deal having Ken talk about this to our group. If nothing else, TRY to make time to come for 1/2 an hour to see what all the fuss is about. (Regular meeting will start around 10:30-45.)

**Lake Level Gage Monitor:** hearty thanks go out to Beth Elliott and Bob & Andrea Thelin for volunteering to read the lake level gage for the DNR, which will support the fish/lake statewide database: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us> (click on "LakeFinder" then when asked to search a lake, spell out "Eleventh Crow Wing" or "Tenth Crow Wing"). This is a weekly commitment to keep track of 11<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing lake levels for a scientific baseline and research project. Gage readings taken after a rainfall event help show the interaction of the lake and its watershed. I am not sure of the history of this particular gage (shown here in photo at the SW basin dam in 1993) but if one of you find out more details, we would love a few sentences about it for an article in next year's newsletter. You all are doing a great favor for the continued health of the lakes and community - it's a little thing, but holds a great impact in the long run, thanks again!



**Fisheries Committee:** Suggestions are welcome to help focus on a fisheries project. (Largemouth bass stocking has been researched and deemed impractical. Northern Pike stocking on SW basin is still a possibility, but needs more discussion with DNR, as they seem hesitant to give the go ahead on that species without more research. Shoreline restoration project for better spawning habitat? Erosion control efforts? Anyone want to research what other Lake Associations have done in past as successful fisheries projects? Barbara Riggs (218-652-3743) and John Bowen (218-652-3111) are on Fisheries Committee -please connect with them with your suggestions or commitment to help out. (Note: we voted at 2011's Spring Meeting that of the \$3,000 matching grant funds available to us, as reward for completing Lake Management Plan, we would split these possible grant monies between a Fisheries effort and a Highway 64 project.)



### **AIS - Aquatic Invasive Species:**

- **Lake Service Providers (LSP)** You are allowed to install your own docks, boatlifts, swim rafts, etc. without a permit, but if you hire anyone to do it for you, you need to make sure they have a LSP permit according to newer MN AIS legislation. (By the way, state law at moment requires equipment removed from one lake to be let out to dry for 21 days before putting it into another lake.) Website Committee neighbor Scott Solberg has volunteered (bless you, Scott!) to gather a working contact list of LSP permitted locals. Who do you hire to install your docks and swim rafts? Please connect with Scott so that he can add 'em to the list and upload to our website to make it easier for other neighbors to hire guys who do a good job for reasonable price ([Scott.Solberg@bsci.com](mailto:Scott.Solberg@bsci.com)).
- **Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) update on 11<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing Lake** During the last 4 years, we've averaged using 3 buckets of chemical (approx. \$600) and several DNR chemical permits (\$35 each), funding of which is coming out of the AIS Fund in our Lake Association (a big, hearty THANK YOU to each and every one of you who continue to add a little more \$ to your Lake Association dues to pay for this! To those of us who are out doing the actual work, it feels incredibly supportive to have others in the association contribute to this effort and show your concern.) We estimate that between the dozen or so members actually scouting, hand pulling/raking up the CLP, (along with applying chemicals in the spring) throughout season, we average about 45 - 60 "hu-"man hours year. I have written a grant request to DNR AIS Funds, but have not heard back yet if this is a 'go'. We've had some monies put into our own Lake Association from various other sources last couple of years, but it is running out, so YOUR CONTRIBUTION is a huge help to this project.



**LAKEWEEDES; Please do NOT ask for chemical if you do NOT have CLP in front of your property.** (Well, okay, I guess if you bring me your DNR chemical permit and \$40 we might be able to donate that money back into



the AIS Fund and you can walk away with a coffee can full of chemical for your nuisance aquatic vegetation. But I'd need to see your permit please.) Reminder: you need a permit

to remove any cattails, bulrushes, wild rice, water lilies - emergent vegetation, and you DO need a permit if you use an auto weed roller or apply any chemical whatsoever. The DNR requires the permits because these particular plants "reduce wave action (thereby reducing the threat of shoreline erosion), provide fish and wildlife habitat, buffer shorelines from pollutants, and provide other environmental benefits." You are allowed to hand pull/rake submerged vegetation in a 15 foot wide path (i.e. the area around your dock) to open water for swimming/boating use without a permit.

**New lake equipment decontamination unit in**

**LaPorte**. This unit uses 140-degree (F), high-pressure water to remove and kill any aquatic invasive species that might be attached to boats or marine equipment. The sprayed water is captured in a reclamation mat so it doesn't wash into lakes and streams, and then filtered and reused.

This is where Hubbard County boaters would be required to wash off their boats/trailers/equip. if they are caught by volunteer (or hired) watercraft inspectors. We can ask Ken Grob at upcoming meeting if anyone can use this facility for a fee.



**Request for Volunteers to get involved in Watercraft**

**Inspections**. As you can see from re-printed article (at right) stopping/slowing the spread of aquatic invasive species via watercraft inspectors is an effective tool. DNR have a few professional inspectors around the state, but are desperate for more, which is why they created the Volunteer

Training Program. You, too, can make a difference in protecting your lakeshore property by volunteering to become a watercraft inspector (certification good for two years). These free trainings were meant for citizens (i.e. lake association) to organize volunteers to 'man' a busy boat launch (say . . . Akeley Campgrounds on lower SW basin of 11<sup>th</sup>, or 10<sup>th</sup> CW Lake public access) for several hours during busiest recreational weekends during summer. Thank you, neighbor Barbara Riggs for offering to attend a free training this spring and consider scheduling a possible group to 'man' one of these busy access points this season. Would you like to help?

Reprinted from recent COLA (Coalition of Lake Associations) newsletter:

Hubbard County lakes and rivers are our greatest asset. Water influenced properties make up 37% of all county tax parcels, which represents 59% of all property values and 53% of all property tax revenue.

**2012 Hubbard County Watercraft Inspection Program Highlights: by Jeff Bjorkman**

The 2012 watercraft inspection program in Hubbard County concluded with over 4700 inspection hours logged on 16 area lakes. Nearly 7200 boats were inspected from 30 different states.

During these 7200 inspections 189 boats were found to have attached vegetation prior to launch. In each case the boat and trailers were cleaned prior to launch. **Two of the 189 cases were confirmed to be vegetative AIS with one being Curly Leaf Pondweed and the other Eurasian Water Milfoil.** Nearly 2% of the boats launching were arriving from zebra mussel infested waters. The top 5 most frequent were:

1. Mill Lacs
2. Mississippi River
3. Minnetonka
4. Prior Lake
5. Pelican Lake

In these cases extra attention was given to ensure all water was removed from the boat and trailer. In all instances the goal was to educate boaters on the correct methods to:

**CLEAN-DRAIN-DRY** their boats, trailers and equipment. By following the **CLEAN-DRAIN-DRY** procedures the spread of AIS can be stopped.

**May 29th**  
5:00pm-8:00om  
Wescott Library  
1340 Wescott Rd  
Eagan, MN 55123  
Contact Evan Freeman:  
320-223-7845 to register

**June 8th**  
9:00am-12:00pm  
Lake George area (Location TBD)  
Contact Ken Grob to register (Hubbard Co.  
COLA will happily schedule more if we have  
the demand)  
[Hgrobak@paulbunyan.net](mailto:Hgrobak@paulbunyan.net) 218-699-3040

**June 12th**  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Ideal Corners Community Center  
35458 Butternut Point Road  
Pequot Lakes, MN  
Contact Keri Hull: 218-833-8737 to register

**Akeley Campgrounds Erosion Control Project:** Neighbor Bruce McMahon volunteered to lead this possible project, thank you Bruce! (Hubbard County Soil & Water Conservation grants available: 218-732-0121, [www.minnesotawaters.org](http://www.minnesotawaters.org) has possible funding available, we can maybe partner with local civic groups or school groups for native plant restoration projects, etc. Maybe we can collaborate with Akeley township, Akeley council, look into Akeley Heritage Foundation - Randall Morrison at 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank is a contact person? ) If you would be interested in helping make some phone calls and figuring out what could be useful for this lake improvement project - contact Bruce, ([bmcman453@aol.com](mailto:bmcman453@aol.com) ) and welcome!

**Highway 64 Issues:** Rumble strip noise pollution, biking safety, ATV noise/safety issues, plus replacement of culvert are long-running issues the Lake Association has continued to discuss. Talk of a community visioning session inviting a MN DOT rep, a couple of legislators, DNR and environmental engineers along with shoreline residents (particularly those with culvert replacement concerns) had been bandied about. If Highway 64 Committee needs to meet or discuss possible action items prior to any vote at upcoming Spring Meeting, this can be a reminder to do so. (I agreed to craft a letter at last Fall Meeting to MN DOT re: rumble strips and bike safety shoulder areas and will include some pics of a neighbor biking across culvert - I will bring to meeting so we can discuss and edit if needed.)



**E-mail LIST:** If you don't receive occasional e-mails from Lake Association, you are missing out (average about 12 a year). We do one 'snail' mailing a year (this one). The fall newsletter, reminders about fall meeting, forwards from COLA, incidental news about issues going on at the lakes, etc. is done via e-mail the rest of the year. If you'd like to get on the list, e-mail me at [kimb Bowen@eot.com](mailto:kimb Bowen@eot.com) or write your e-mail address (legibly!) on your dues slip with your check in the enclosed envelope.

In the meantime -- hope to keep connected with you, thank you for caring about the lakes, and looking forward to seeing you around this summer or at the meeting!

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**Facebook reminder:** if you're a social networker, our Lake Association has it's own page thanks to member Carl Madison. Ask to join "10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing Lake Association" and get posts of any discussion going on - this has been underutilized so far, but I think it could be a great tool to chat about any incidents that crop up on the lake, any fun things happening on the lake, sharing photos of wacky wildlife, stating any opinions about new state laws or guidelines and getting real-time answers to questions you might have about lake safety, invasive species, boating regulations, shoreline concerns, bridge/culvert activity, etc. etc. etc.



**Website:** member Scott Solberg has been graciously keeping up the 10th & 11th Crow Wing lakes assoc. website: <http://crowwing11.org>. View to help identify Curly Leaf Pondweed, see past meeting minutes, view the lakes Management Plan, Shoreland resources, lake/fishing links, Hwy 64 bridge/culvert history, etc. Scott has done a fabulous job with this!!!

Minutes (Submitted by Jan Carlson, Secretary)

Fall meeting September 29, 2012

10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing Lakes Association

(10 members in attendance: Jan Carlson, Kim Bowen, John Bowen, Mike Aker, Scott Solberg, Dina McMahon, Bruce McMahon, Lisa Hanson, Bob Carlson, Barbara Riggs)

Minutes from Spring meeting approved , motion made by John and 2<sup>nd</sup> Scott S.

Treasurers report Lisa H.

In bank \$3,649 paid \$200. To COLA , \$1,938.38 AIS Fund

30 members are paid. Expenditures Newsletter, COLA and 2-3 buckets of Chemicals CPL discussion.

Scott found free shipping and cheaper product. So far CLP not in lower basin. Pixie Point Resort really clean. Get 3 more buckets for spring.

COLA update : Need to go in April and August meeting at Hubbard County Court house.

COLA wants \$20 a member for legal fees. Bruce McMann made a motion to donate \$50, Barb Riggs second and give directly toward COLA Legal Fund. Mike Aker will represent Association 2 meetings a year.

Loon Report: 6 new babies noticed during 2012 season. Loon nest in Solie Bay. 2 pair of loons on Upper Basin near CWC.

Web site committee: DNR update now on the site. Get more ideas from the Membership. E-mail members pictures. John has been reimbursed for Web. Bridge Book the Hard Bound Copy at Museum?

Discussion about Rumble Strips over Culvert and safety issues for Bikes. The fine sand is bad. Kim will take pictures with Bike on the Rumble strips. Noise is also troublesome.

Beaver Population review: The numbers are down. DNR AND SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION GRANTS 952-846-9434

Akeley Campgrounds Erosion Control: Bruce McMann volunteered to work on this. Work on getting Grant money. Partnering with the Akeley leadership and getting the community involved once the grant money comes in.

Fisheries committee John B. says cannot get MN to Stock Bass. Barb R. says DNR says we are a Healthy Lake , but not enough for Northern, Walleye and Bass during the Summer. Can not catch Crappies like they used to on Lower Basin. Doug Kingsley, DNR Fisheries, there are Grants for vegetation more than fish stocking. John B. is going to talk to Doug about future ideas.

AIS: Come over to CWC to see CLP up close. COLA has been pushing lake service providers to be certified. Send Scott the names of people who put Docks in and out. Bruce suggested getting providers to contribute money to be on our list.

Kim asks for Volunteers to man the public boat landing. Training 1-2 hours. Barb Riggs will do this next year. Kim also asked for new Board Members or old Board Members to volunteer to continue. Shelved for now.

Septic clean out bulk deal. No one thinks this is necessary. We all do this on our own. Hubbard County inspected 5 years ago.

Motion to Adjourn by Mike A. and John seconded.

## AGENDA

Spring Meeting May 18, 2013  
10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing Lakes association  
10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. ARCC

10 – 10:30 **Zebra Mussel show & tell** – Ken Grob (COLA AIS taskforce)

- Minutes from last meeting to approve – Jan Carlson
- Treasurer's report – Lisa Hanson
- **Water clarity testing** – validate testing this year (Rich Willhaus)
- **COLA** update – (Mike Aker)
- **Loon Nest** Committee report – (Amos Hard)
- **Website** Committee update ([www.crowwing11.org](http://www.crowwing11.org)) (Scott Solberg) LSP list
- **AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species)**
  - Curly Leaf Pondweed Control plan for 2013 season (Kim Bowen)
  - Volunteer Training for Boat Inspections at public boat ramp? (Barb Riggs)
  - Reimburse & count neighbors who got chemical permit
- **Akeley Campgrounds Erosion Control** (Bruce McMahon)
- **Fisheries** Committee – John Bowen, Barbara Riggs, Tom Sandberg (\$1,500 available matching fund grants from Lake Mgmt. Plan) What's next?
- **Highway 64 Issues:** rumble strips, ATV erosion and safety, bridge/culvert - (\$1,500 available matching fund grants from Lake Mgmt. Plan.)(Norris Kowalke, Martin Merk)
- Election of Officers and Validate Board members
- **OLD BUSINESS**
  - Water Safety Issues:
    - Need Volunteer to check/re-post Boat Safety flyers at Akeley campgrounds 10 bathrooms, and to contact manager to see how many flyers they still have. Copy and deliver more if needed?

### NEW BUSINESS

- Request member vote to donate \$20 to ARCC for meeting space
- bring up a topic you think appropriate to discuss --- We want you to feel "heard"!