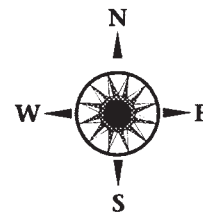


NORTH & SOUTH TWIN LAKES

RIPARIAN ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER

VOL 15 No. 2

P.O. BOX 163 • PHELPS, WI 54554 <www.nstrla.org>

SPRING 2010



President's Message...

A hardy welcome back to all you snowbirds, and a hardy hello to all our local residents, who braved the past winter. There was plenty of snowmobiling, cross country skiing and generally a lot of sliding around.

Waters are down; however, we should have a great year of boating on the lake. Again WATCH OUT when going through the channel as there are children and some careless people playing and/or wading across the channel. They cannot get out of the way of a boater while wading through that waterway.

Walleye, Perch, Bass and Crappies are abundant, so catch, fry and enjoy. I haven't heard anything about the Muskies. See the Fishing Report.

Once again have a Safe and Happy Summer, whether traveling by flying, driving, boating, biking, hiking, BBQing or what ever.

Hope to see you all at this year's new annual picnic/meeting in July. Meeting to last no longer than 15 minutes before the picnic fun begins. Bring questions. If we cannot answer them, then we will research and respond as best we can in the next newsletter.

Joe

16TH ANNUAL PICNIC AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON SATURDAY, JULY 10TH 2010 AT NOON AT WAVERING PARK, PHELPS...POTLUCK ASSIGNMENTS BELOW. BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY FOR FUN AND GAMES AFTER WE SHARE A MEAL. OUR MEETING IS GOING TO BE BRIEF. COMMITTEE INFORMATION WILL BE WRITTEN REPORTS FOR YOU TO TAKE HOME AND READ. TOM HICKSON WILL HAVE HIS ACCORDIAN AND ALSO HAS LOTS OF GAMES PLANNED FOR US. LET'S GET THE LEAD OUT AND KICK UP OUR HEELS AND PLAY, YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE!!!

POTLUCK ASSIGNMENTS:

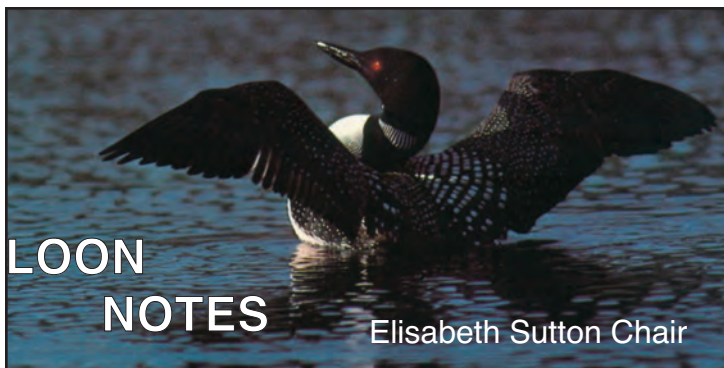
- A-I MEAT OR CASSEROLE
- J-R VEGGIES OR SALAD
- S-Z DESSERTS

CHECK OUT MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION ON PAGE 5. PLEASE FILL OUT AND SEND IN WITH YOUR DONATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

**LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING ALL OF YOU AT THE PARK IN PHELPS!!!
NSTLRA BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

2010 FISH BOIL

SAVE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2010 FOR THIS YEAR'S FISH BOIL HELD AT THE SUNDOWN TAVERN. BOB AND HIS CREW ARE ALREADY OUT FISHING FOR THIS AWESOME EVENT!!! IF YOU HAVEN'T IN THE PAST, PLAN ON JOINING US THIS YEAR. GOOD EATS, GOOD FUN, GOOD PEOPLE. LOTS OF DOUGH IS RAISED FOR THE HEALTH OF OUR LAKE. MORE INFORMATION LATER. SEE YOU THERE.



LOON NOTES

Elisabeth Sutton Chair

Loons appeared on North and South Twin between April 24 and April 28. To track migrations of Loons visit

<http://www.learner.org/jnorth/loon/index.html>

Also, don't forget to "Get the Lead Out". Lead fishing tackle is toxic. Lead poisoning from accidental ingestion of lead fishing tackle affects 25 bird species many of which can be found on our lakes, including loons, swans, geese, ducks, cormorants, cranes and herons. Loons are especially vulnerable because they eat rocks from the lake bottom to help them digest. Toxicosis from ingested lead tackle causes 30% of adult loon deaths in Wisconsin. To learn more about lead tackle impact visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/pages/get-theleadout.html>

2009 AMEN DONORS - Additional donors from mid September to December 31

Daniel and Jeanne Merlo and Laura and Jake Weinand

\$100 - \$199

Laura and Jeff Schnoor
Carol and Wendell Turcsany Joe and Suzanne Wallace

\$200-\$299

Barb and ??? Marra, matching grant

\$1000-\$1499

Jen and Jeff Schmidt

Plus the over \$1500 offerings that came in via the Fish Boil and other fund raisers. Every cent is used to help fight against aquatic invasives and helps. Thanks.

A Grateful NSTLRA Board

FISHING REPORT

This spring has been very warm and dry. The ice was off the lake on April 2nd. Lake levels are down, but not as bad as last year so far. The lake temperature has vaulted up into the 60's with 70's on the way if this keeps up. Do not get to excited though as things could change in an instant.

What does all that mean? Well the fish and the weeds are flourishing early. Earlier this spring we had some of the best perch fishing around. People reported lots of 12 inch plus fish. This could be a good sign for that late summer bite.

Northern pike were also active this spring as they often are being early spawners. By the walleye opener most walleye were long done with their spawning process and had moved off into the weeds. Even with the high winds people were able bring in plenty of nice fish. It was strange for many early anglers to have to fish a summer pattern.

The musky opener is right around the corner and they have been active. They should be done spawning and the ones I have seen were pretty beat up from that process. The bass and crappie have moved into the shallows and I am sure the blue gills are not far off.

All in all it looks to be a promising year as long as we do not get any violent changes in weather.

**HAVE A SAFE AND GREAT SUMMER,
MARTI PRIMICH
NORTH TWIN LODGE**

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

Suddenly it's summer!

Our Adopt-a-Highway volunteers will be working the first scheduled pickup-

in late May. The roadsides appear to be in fairly good condition, thanks to those who walk them and regularly pick up litter and debris. Please keep up the good work.

This season we hope to work more closely with Ted Ritter, Vilas Co Invasive Species Coordinator, to aid in controlling exotic, invasive plants in our area. Ted's department is attempting to locate, map, and control infestations of purple loosestrife, garlic mustard, glossy buckthorn, asian honeysuckle, and other non-native plants. These invasives present a serious environmental threat to our forest and wetland areas. More information on this project will be available at the annual meeting.

Enjoy the season, and please do your part to keep our adopted roadsides pristine and beautiful.

Priscilla and Ben Vanden Huevel



GRANT NEWS from April 15, 2010

In case you have not heard, NSTLRA got word March 26, 2010 that it received the 50/50 grant applied for in February. The amount of the grant is \$ 68,730. This year Jim Scharl of Bonestroo is the applicator having been given the work by the NSTLRA Board. Onterra will be doing the pre-treatment survey prior to the application. Permits and checks have been sent to Kyle McLaughlin at WDNR. The public notice appears in the April 14, 2010 issue of the Vilas County News-Review. The application will be done approximately late May.

Originally we were going to use the same chemical as last year on North Twin, but Onterra told us a newly registered herbicide named Renovate MaxG has been brought to their attention by Bonestroo. This herbicide is a combination of granular 2,4-D and granular triclopyr and appears to be very conducive to the sites in North Twin Lake. Research indicates that the combination of these herbicides have synergistic (greater than if added together) effects that hopefully will increase treatment effectiveness. There is also an indication that this herbicide will be conducive to these smaller treatment sites within a much larger lake basin. Board members agree and we will be using Renovate MaxG at 2.0 ppm this year on North Twin. South Twin will be treated with the recommended dosage of 2.50 ppm of Weedar on South Twin..

We will continue our work with the Army Corps of Engineers as we did last year to track the residual chemical in the water column. This is a program that most lakes in the area are now doing. Tom Hickson will lead this monitoring for NSTLRA and will call volunteers for assistance. Call to help. 545-3736 or email khickson@newnorth.net

Another project that was added to the grant for more point credits, is planting at the waterfront park in Phelps. Shelly Ray did the landscape plan, permits and implementation at the park now that Highway 17 is completed. She is using native plants. NSTLRA is helping with this project gave a monetary donation and had a crew of quite a few volunteers who helped with the preparation and planting on May 22. It looks beautiful.

As in the past, our Clean Boats/Clean Water project continues. Volunteers are needed for this program, too. Contact Mary Schindler or Laura Schnoor. See CB/CW article elsewhere in this newsletter for details.

The Adopt-A-Highway crew could use new volunteers. Priscilla and Ben Vanden Huevel are the chairmen for this program. Contact 545- 2283 or email priscillavh_1@hotmail.com

Both towns, Conover and Phelps have budgeted a monetary donation for the EWM treatment, so it is truly a whole community effort.

Even with this Grant, we will need the generosity of all our Lake Owners and your donations to our AMEN FUND. This grant is a 50/50 which means that 50% of the project cost is our responsibility. We appreciate all your help in the past and are hopeful you will continue with that stewardship for the health and beauty of our Twin Lakes.

Thanks

The NSTLRA Board

Clean Boats Clean Water

The Clean Boats Clean Water program is a great way to get involved with improving the health of our lakes. North and South Twin lakes already harbor Eurasian water-milfoil, but there are a host of other invasive species, like curly-leaf pondweed and zebra mussels that haven't reached us. The Clean Boats Clean Water program is an effective way to supervise what gets introduced into our lakes, but more importantly, it helps educate boat owners who use our lake about how to help preserve lake quality all over the state.

In addition, the government grant money we receive to help treat Eurasian water-milfoil is dependent upon volunteer hours. When we participate in our lakes' health through volunteer hours, the Department of Natural Resources recognizes our contributions through grant money for the treatment of Eurasian water-milfoil .

Clean Boats Clean Water volunteer hours are a great way to accumulate the required hours. Pairs of volunteers staff each boat launch for two-hour shifts to complete boat inspections, hand out literature, and talk with boat owners about the devastating effects of all invasive species. Training provided by the Lake Association in combination with the DNR provides all the necessary information.

Working at the launches is fun, easy, and very social. Most fishermen want to preserve lake quality. They are willing to discuss the situation and help perform their own boat inspections.

Home owners who visit the lake sporadically or only on weekends during the summer are ideal candidates for this opportunity. It's just a two-hour commitment that can be met before some of your cabin mates even think about rising in the morning. And it's a great way to get involved with our lake's health and contribute to the grant effort.

Training for Clean Boats Clean Water will be provided on Sunday, May 30, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. and Sunday, June 6, and Sunday, June 20 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. All trainings will be at the South Twin boat landing. In addition, representatives will be available to talk more about the program at the Annual Meeting and Picnic in July. Please bring your calendar so you can sign up for a shift or two.

Lake Merchandise

Don't forget, the Lake Association has some very handsome T-shirts, sweatshirts, caps and stickers available. Proceeds go to the AMEN Fund. Check out the new styles at the Sundown Tavern, or Contact Mike Hoffman at 715-891-4955.

Boat Launch Revitalization

Lakota and South Twin boat landings are scheduled for a complete up grade. The Town of Conover received a grant for these improvements. On Lakota landing the old concrete pads will be removed and replaced with an Armorflex Articulating Concrete Block Revetment System. The new ramp will replace the old 12'x35' ramp with a new 35'x48' surface. The Floe pier has a bent axel and will also be fixed and installed after completion of work in the water and asphalt replacement. This work is scheduled to begin after June 1st 2010. The Lakota ramp will be closed for a few days once the work has started. We should all give thanks to the Town of Conover for their interest in these projects as they serve everybody that lives or uses our great lakes.



WE WILL BE VOTING FOR BOARD MEMBERS WHOSE TERMS EXPIRE IN 2010. BALLOTS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE PICNIC. PLAN TO ATTEND TO HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD. BETTER YET, OFFER TO SERVE. CALL JOE TO EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST. CHECK THE ADDRESS PAGE FOR LIST OF CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS AND THEIR TERMS TO SEE WHO WILL BE RUNNING.

To check out current news, click on our website <www.nstlra.org> Go to News Flashes and Lake Treatment for late breaking news. Send your email address to <gapar@newnorth.net> to be alerted of postings. We will no longer be snail mailing newsletters except in rare instances where requested. It will be a great savings.

RECREATION & SAFETY

Our lakes are ready for another 'soft water' season. The buoys are all in place.

This spring we buried the two anchors (securing the red and green buoys) in the soft sand of the thoroughfare. We did the same thing last year, and the buoys never moved, even in the strongest wind. (There is enough wind resistance in those two buoys so that they could be moved off their intended location with +30mph winds...) Digging in the anchors should eliminate that worry, and that practice will be continued in the years to come. And, you might notice that I put the thoroughfare buoys closer together this year. Still enough room to get two pontoons thru side-by-side, but narrow enough so that people MIGHT slow down more going through there when there are people swimming in that area.

The ROCK buoys do not have the anchors dug in. First of all, that job would be pretty tough, as the anchors sit on rocks. And secondly, the wind resistance encountered does not have enough force to move the anchors.

We purchased new chain last fall, and the buoys all have new heavier chain and stainless steel fasteners this spring. No way will we lose buoys due to faulty chains or fasteners this year! Thanks to Roger Ganser for engineering the new chain specs and the Phelps Hardware for securing the chain.

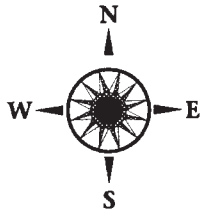
Also this spring we had to replace the RED flashing light in the thoroughfare (the old one was sent back to the factory, and they couldn't get it to work) and six of the ROCK buoys.

So, you may think that we only spend your dues monies on milfoil treatment, but here is an example of where else your money goes. Almost \$1,000 this spring for buoys.

Please join our association - and kick in a few more bucks to keep our lakes safe and successful in our milfoil fight !

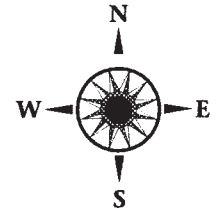
Tom Hickson

See you at the Park July 10 at noon.
Check page 1 for potluck assignments and page 5 for membership form. Fill out and send in. Thanks



NORTH & SOUTH TWIN LAKES

R I P A R I A N A S S O C I A T I O N



P.O. BOX 163 • PHELPS, WI 54554

MEMBERSHIP LETTER

Your lake association has been working to preserve our lake quality and protect those who use our lake. We have a state approved \$137,460 AIS project for 2010 and 2011 but the DNR grant is only half of that or \$68,730, so we must fund the other half with lake association funds. This project will enable us to continue our efforts to treat and control the Eurasian milfoil problem. We will treat 161.2 acres on South Twin and 10.7 acres on North Twin. NSTLRA is required to provide \$35,000 in 2010 and approximately the same amount in 2011. In addition, we were fortunate to receive financial support for the treatment program from the Town of Phelps (\$2,000) and the Town of Conover (\$1,750). This is truly a community effort, with everyone recognizing the serious threat of Eurasian milfoil we are once again asking for your help in three ways:

- 1) Join or renew your membership in NSTLRA (only 35% of owners are members!)
- 2) Contribute to our Amen Fund – these funds are dedicated to the Eurasian milfoil treatment program
- 3) Volunteer at one of the boat ramps for the Clean Boats Clean Waters monitoring program. It is part of our grant contract so we need your help! Call Mary Schindler at 545-3922 to volunteer. It's easy and fun!

Your annual membership dues pays for the “normal” things you expect from NSTLRA, like education and information programs, printing and mailing the newsletters and notices, and hosting and expanding the information on our website. In addition, this year we spent \$1000 for new chains and replacing or refurbishing the navigational aids on the lake.

A modest donation of \$70 to the Amen Fund by each property owner will insure that NSTLRA will have the resources to maintain North and South Twin lakes. Remember, your dues and donations are tax deductible.

We hope you participate in protecting and sustaining the beauty and health of our Twin Lakes. Join your neighbors at the Annual Picnic/Meeting on July 10, 2010, 12:00, Wavering Park, Phelps.

Thank you.

NSTLRA Board of Directors.

cut here →

NSTLRA Membership Form

Regular membership \$20 – Includes spouse and all family members under 18 (Renewal ___ New ___)

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Lake Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ email address: _____

AMEN FUND DONATION: \$70 ___ \$100 ___ \$150 ___ Other ___

Return with check or money order to: NSTLRA * PO Box 163 * Phelps, WI 54554

Annual Picnic/Meeting: Saturday, July 10, 2010 12:00 at Phelps Wavering Park

NSTLRA Board of Directors

2009-2010

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Ginny Parker	08-10	545-2496
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Recording Secretary		
Jackie Fruth	09-11	479-6869
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mmschind@gmail.com.		

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Mark Wisnefski	07-09	545-2380
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Don Zirbel	08-10	479-2800

2009 - 2010

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	khickson@newnorth.net	
Clean Boats/ Clean Water	Laura Schnoor	262-623-1037
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	mjprimich@earthlink.com	
Social	Shari Hyde	
	hydeehohoho.@gmail.com	
Lake District	Jim Fruth	479-6869
	Roger Ganser	545-3650
Lake Plan	Position available	
Loon	Elisabeth Sutton Coordinator	545-3683
	esutton@wi.rr.com	
	Jen Primich NT	545-3474
Membership	Rick Janick	477-0975
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