

# RALALA Lake Association

## Roosevelt and Lawrence Area Lakes Association Newsletter

Fall 2014

### Special points of interest:

- Silent Auction & BBQ
- Raffle Results
- New Golf Shirts!

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### President's Letter—by Bob Lee

I hope you all had a wonderful summer and fall here in the Emily-Outing area! I am a little slow in getting this fall edition out. I apologize.

As I reported to you this summer the Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation (LLAWF) is in the process of purchasing about one mile of undeveloped and essentially untouched lakeshore on Woods Bay of Roosevelt Lake plus some 105 acres of heavily forested land behind it. The idea is to turn this property into an aquatic management area administered in its natural state in perpetuity by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). This is some of the most picturesque and untouched lakeshore in our area and some of the most critical terrain in our watershed for ensuring abundant fish spawning and high wa-

ter quality. Of course, it also provides a gorgeous scenic backdrop for boating and swimming in Woods Bay. The land is now owned by the heirs of Charlie and Judy Eggers (who paid the taxes and kept this property intact and pristine all these years!

This spring the project took a major leap forward with the approval by the Minnesota Legislature of an allocation of \$1 million of the Lessard-Sams Legacy Funds, an amount sufficient to cover the preponderance of the acquisition cost. The grant does stipulate, however, that a significant amount of funding must also come from private donations. The Eggers family itself is stepping up to the plate with a very substantial donation in the form of a reduction of the purchase price well below the ap-

praised value of the property. But we also need to demonstrate that there is substantial and widespread local support for this project. Both the LLAWF and RALALA have been working hard to ensure that this goal is accomplished.

RALALA's Board of Directors approved a donation of \$10,000 and an offer to match up to \$5000 of individual donations. Both donations were made out of our accumulated funds raised through your past EQI donations and other RALALA fundraising activities.

Then to spur individual donations we arranged for a mailing soliciting your help in funding this project. That mailing was made possible by a generous grant from the Initiative Foundation that covered nearly all the costs of the appeal. If we

*Cont'd on p.3*

### RALALA Golf Shirts in time for Christmas!

We now have RALALA logo golf shirts available for order on the website! You will find them on the website (at rala-lalakes.org). Just select the merchandise tab. You will see the order form that looks like the page at right. Just click on the image and fill out the online form and pay via PayPal. If you do not have a PayPal account or don't have

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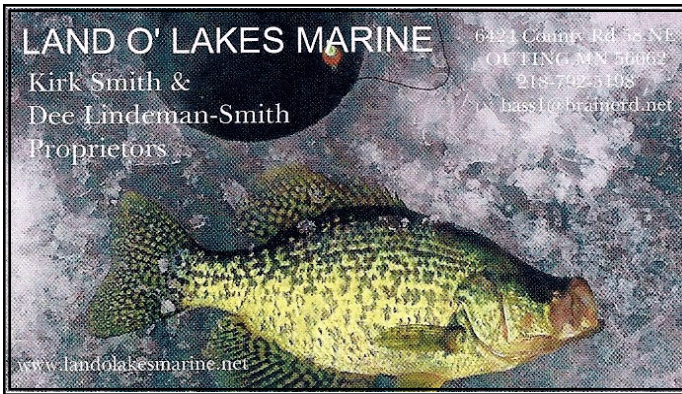
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internet access, and want one or more of these shirts, call 612-710-2756 and we will set you up and give you

and address to which you can send your check.

We need a minimum order of 24, so we will not place the order until we get that many orders from you folks. Shirts

have to be picked up here in the Emily-Outing area, because we do not have the ability to ship.



### Another Successful Silent Auction and BBQ—by Bonnie Rowell

Once again this year lots of hard work by many dedicated RALALA volunteers resulted in a yet another successful fundraising event in August of 2014, the silent auction and BBQ lunch.

I am not sure everyone realizes just how much planning and work goes into making this event a success.

The silent auction involves soliciting and picking up all the donated items, preparing and staging these items for bidding, supervising the bidding process and collecting the money from successful bidders. It consumes a huge amount of volunteer time and effort.

Pictured below are some of the members of the silent auction volunteer team (from left) Linda Van-Straaten, Don Dee (and Mary Jo Dee not pictured); Mary Kowalski, Bonnie

Rowell and Diana Lee.

Thank you to the following businesses and individuals for providing support for the silent auction: 50 Lakes Bar & Bottle Shop, Ace Hardware Crosslake, Acorn Millworks - Deerwood, Antlers Restaurant, Applebee's-Baxter, Barstock Liquors (Crosslake), Bay Lake Marine - Deerwood, Black Bear Lodge & Saloon, Boat Doctor Up North, Breezy Point Resort, Chanhassen Dinner Theater, Crosslake Drug, Crosswoods Golf Course, Cuyuna Rolling Hills, Nicolas David, Don & Mary Jo Dee, Sandra Dee, The Deerstand, Emily Ace Hardware, Emily Greens Golf Course, Emily Meats, Ernie's on Gull Lake, Golden Eagle Golf Course, Grizzly's Restaurant, Denise & Doug Hagge, Heartland Power Co., Holiday Station Emily, Iron Range Vet Clinic, Itasca Leathergoods, Dave & Corey Johnson, Lance Johnson, Judy's House of Gifts, Amy Klobuchar, Mary Kowalski,

Joyce Krohnberg, Lake Country Foods Emily, Lake Country Grocery, Lake Country Journal, Lakes Area Gallery & Frame Shoppe, Land O' Lakes Marine, Sheila Langer, Diana Lee, Lundrigan's (Crosslake), Maucieri's Restaurant - Crosslake, MN Lynx Foundation, Minnesota Twins, Mark & Jan Mosman, Moonlight Bay, Carolyn Neill, Ardis Ninke, Northwedge Nursery, Norway Ridge Super Club, Mary Kay Olson, Outing Boutique, Outing Hardware, Outing Yarn & Craft Shop, Paul Bunyan Land, Barry Pederson, Pestello's, Pine Peaks - Crosslake, Pine River State Bank - Emily, Poncho & Lefty's, Prairie Bay, Rafferty's Pizza, Reddings Sports & Spirits, Marie Reidel, Rustic River Trading, Ruttger's "The Lakes", St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, St. Paul Saints, Bill & Sue Schaefer, Mel Schramm, The Shadberry, Inc, Ron Stainer, Super One - Crosby, Sweets N' Such, Ingrid Thyen, Vacation Land Realty, Jack & Linda Van Straaten, The Village Inn - Outing, Whitefish Golf Club, Whistling Wolf, Zorbaz on the Lake.

At the BBQ award winning pulled pork was served at the Village Inn and at Land O' Lakes Marine to hundreds of appreciative consumers. This BBQ involved a substantial amount of work as well. The first step was obtaining the meat, buns, beverages and other sides and condiments and arranging for the use of the sales locations. Thank you Roger Brekken! Thanks also to Nick

*Cont'd on p.2*





**President's Message cont'd from p. 1**

somehow missed you, please e-mail or call me and I will make sure you get a copy.

So far, the results have been very impressive indeed—more than 80 families and several community organizations have donated a total of \$13,225. Thus, when you include our direct donations, RALALA has already raised \$28,225 and that number continues to grow as additional individual donations come in. LLAWF raised another \$10,000 in donations, so the total amount of community funding is approaching \$40,000.

LLAWF will be accepting donations and engage in fundraising until end of spring 2015. So if you want to be part of this effort, there is still time to make a contribution!

LLAWF has hired a firm to conduct a formal appraisal this fall. They will then hire another firm to review this appraisal (DNR requirement). Once they have information in hand LLAWF will finalize a price with the landowners. If all goes as planned LLAWF hopes to close on the property in Summer of 2015.

I am very proud of the part that our lake association has played in this effort and very excited about the final result that is now on the horizon. I am sure that many of you are too!

Other things are also afoot. Your board is working on a plan to try to increase membership in the association and to re-vamp our fundraising activities for 2015. We will be filling you in once these plans have been fleshed out and are ready for your input.

Thanks to all of you who have contributed to our efforts this year either by volunteering or sending in cash contributions. Have a nice winter!

**Silent Auction and BBQ- cont'd from p.2**

Loreno at the Viking CocaCola Bottling Company in Brainerd who graciously donated all of the beverages for this event!

Once the stage was set by Roger, all of the pork needed to be picked up, prepared and then smoked. Our award winning BBQing team is pictured on the right (starting from left: Rog Brekken, Dave Johnson and Mike VanStraaten.)

Thanks too go to the Village Inn

and Land O'Lakes Marine for allowing us to use their facilities! Finally, we want to thank all of you who bid in the silent auction and bought some of that delicious barbecued pork. The proceeds from these events are an important part of RALALA's funding of our AIS containment efforts as well as providing the resources to engage in other environmental initiatives such as the Woods Bay Project.

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**2014 RALALA EQI Donors**

Thanks to the generous support of our members the year 2014 was a very successful one for RALALA. We would like to acknowledge the following members who supported our organization through cash donations beyond their membership renewal. These donations go into the RALALA Environmental Quality Initiative Fund. The Environmental Quality Initiative provides RALALA the opportunity to further pursue the Association's objectives beyond what the modest annual dues would allow.

Connie Anderson, John & Laurie Andresen, Nick & Mary Barten, William & Peggy Blenkush, William & Jane Block, Wally & Audra Bokovitz, Ann Bonnerup, Roger & Edie Brekken, Irwin Brown, Sam & Barb Carlson, Willis Cline, Dennis & Nancy Crowe, Patricia Cunniff, Bob & Linda

Dahlsgaard, Nicolas & Kim David, Don & Mary Jo Dee, Steve & Patricia Dinsmore, Shirley Doten, Grant & Ilene Evanson, Thomas & Mary Jo Exley, John & Betty Figi, Greg & Sandy Floyd, Peter & Suzanne Gill, Dolores Gragert, Mike Gragert, Eric & Mary Hanson, Marlene Helgesen, Harvey & Barbara Helmin, Dennis & Jeanne Heppelman, Paul & Gracia Jensen, Charles Allen Johannes, Dave & Corey Johnson, Tom & Darlene, Johnston, Dale & Jodie Jones, Gregory & Jean Kemmitt, Tom & Jenny Ketcham, John & Rhonda Kosiak, Marlin & Joyce Krohnberg, Lowell & Sharon Kutches, Gary & Sheila Langer, Ted & Donna Larson, Thomas Lauman, Bob & Diana Lee, Scott & Debbie Lemire, Ronald & Rebecca Lien, Richard & Sharon Lindman, William & Emily McFarland, Dale & Linda Mensing, Kirk Meyers &

Therese Kunz, Dave & Rhonda Mol, Bruce Olseth, Jeff & Barbara Palkovich, David & Petra Powers, Matthew Rand, Michael & Renae Renstrom, Henery Rines, John & Bonnie Rowell, Bradford & Catherine Sax, Bill & Sue Schaefer, Karen Schneider, Sue Sergeant, Jerry & Jeannie Smedberg, Todd & Lori Stafford, Bill & Lois Stevens, Randy & Michelle Strobel, Bob & Patsy Sumpter, Jim & Niki Thielen, Dick & Yvonne Thunstrom, Lloyd & Ingrid Thyen, Tony & Joyce Tillemans, Ken & Joann Todd, Dr. Frank Tycast, Rick & Jane Ullom, Uncle Tom's Cabin (C.K. Walker), Jack & Linda Van Straaten, Lou Vietti & Pat Lahti, Robert & Laura Vogel, C. Keith & Janet Walker, Darril Wegscheid & Mary Kowalski, John & Lynnae Weiland, Craig & Judy Wendland, Jerry & Barb Wessman, Josef & Susan Yonkovich,



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**The Raffle Results—by Darril Wegscheid**

RALALA held the 2014 drawing for its 'Choice Raffle' on August 9th at the Village Inn in Outing.

First ticket drawn had the choice of a Browning rifle with scope, sling and case OR \$1,000 cash. Second prize would get whichever of those two was not taken first.



Mike Gragert, (above) longtime property owner on Roosevelt Lake, was the owner of the first ticket drawn, and chose the \$1,000.

Robert Ammerman of Remer owned the second ticket, and received the Browning Medallion X-bolt rifle prize. He was more than a bit surprised to learn he 'finally' won a raffle – and a very nice one.

Amanda Witlow of Little Falls won the \$250 Target gift certificate – and is very grateful to her father for writing her name on the stub!

The raffle tickets and door prizes at the drawing were drawn by the team of Megan (in gray) and Ali (in orange) Reed shown here with Chris Dunmire of the Village Inn as he announced winners.




If you have only bought a raffle ticket and have not attended the drawing, you are missing out on half of the fun. There is no shortage of prizes, beverages or noise. Why don't you come on down to the Village Inn next year and join us? You might be in the picture next year!

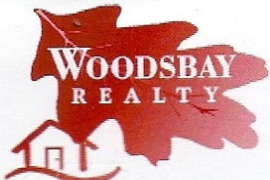
The proceeds of the raffle, like all other RALALA fund raising efforts are used for protecting the waters and natural environment of the area for the benefit of the community, visitors and future generations.

In 2014, the funds we raised went towards: (a) funding for AIS inspections; (b) the new ILIDS at Roosevelt and Lawrence Lakes; and (c) our contribution towards the establishment of an aquatic management area in Woods Bay.

Thanks to everyone who sold tickets, bought tickets, and the attendees at the raffle drawing!



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**LIBRARY NOTES by Carol Pierce**



Our library just keeps getting better and better. The most recent additional touch of class is the lawn

that was planted by the township and the perennial garden planted for us by Jackie Evans. Thank you, Jackie.

More and more people are appreciating the available Wi-Fi connectivity and the laptop for public use in the library. New books continue to come in

weekly. We had a second book sale over Labor Day to help with winter heating bills and also to alleviate the crowding of our storage space. Several people have made large donations to the library before leaving for the south; they are greatly appreciated. Our latest project is a nice sandblasted cedar sign made for the library that you can read from the road, so more people are aware that it is there.

If you will be here all winter, or most of it, and would be willing to volunteer to

help us cover the daily hours that we are open, please stop by and give us your name and phone #, or call Carol Pierce at 792-5438. You will be immensely appreciated. (Remember, we are open every day, except Sunday. Check after the first of the year to see if there are any winter changes.)

This community's generous support is greatly appreciated and it shows!! Thank you to all of you.

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### Update on Sandpiper Pipeline—by Mary Kowalski

RALALA members have expressed concern for the proceedings of the proposed Sandpiper pipeline route. The Enbridge proposed route runs through the Mississippi headwaters and through the watershed that feeds Roosevelt, Leavitt, Washburn, Thunder, and other lakes in our area. Serious concerns have been raised about the potential damage that could be incurred if there was pipeline failures any where near the lakes. Oil spills across the Headwaters of the Mississippi would be everybody's concern.

Damage to wildlife, fishing, fish hatcheries, the wetlands and our lakes calls

for us to have our voices heard on behalf of the protection needed for our Minnesota waters.

As the process moves forward we encourage you to take action. Here are some things you can do.

1. Make yourself knowledgeable about the proceedings. The website: [friendsoftheheadwaters.org](http://friendsoftheheadwaters.org) has updated information that can help keep you current.

2. Write your state legislators voicing your concerns. In Emily Carrie Rudd and Joe Radinovich and in Outing Tom Anselc and Tom Saxhaug are local

representatives.

Seasonal property owners need to contact your local state and house representatives. This is a Minnesota concern, not just a local property owners concern. Send Enbridge your concerns as well.

Questions about the pipeline and the RALALA lakes can be sent to me at [mjkowalski@earthlink.net](mailto:mjkowalski@earthlink.net).

Our children deserve a legacy of clean water and natural beauty that we enjoy. It matters that our voices be heard in support of our stewardship responsibilities.

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