



Meeting Minutes/Newsletter  
Roberts Lake Association  
. . . the general promoting, improvement,  
and protection of the property, natural beauty  
and resources of Roberts Lake.

### **Roberts Lake Association Spring Membership Meeting**

Date: Saturday, May 28, 2022

Time: 9:00 am

Location: Roberts Lake Association Clubhouse, Krahn Court

Please note: meeting minutes will no longer be read at the beginning of each meeting. The previous meeting's minutes were attached to the fall email newsletter. They are also posted on [robertslake.com](http://robertslake.com) and the Roberts Lake Facebook page. This spring meeting will be held in the building behind the clubhouse.

#### • **9 am Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:** Bob Nack, President

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Association President Bob Nack then offered condolences to the families of association members Jerry Payne and Marie Brem who have passed away since last meeting. He also offered condolences to Nancy Kampo whose mother passed away recently.

Bob called for a moment of silence in remembrance of the 19 children and two teachers who were killed this past week in an elementary school in Uvalde, TX and for all veterans who are deceased. He also requested all veterans in attendance stand and be recognized.

President Nack welcomed new members, Katie Bloom (Brem) and Becky Brem, to the association.

Mary Nack spoke briefly about the lake directory she and Sue Brunner have developed and are keeping updated.

#### • **Derek Thorn**, Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Coordinator for Forest, Langlade, and Oconto County Waterways (FLOW)

- [flowais@lumberjackrcd.org](mailto:flowais@lumberjackrcd.org)
- 715-490-3325

Derek began by summarizing his duties. He helps with state run campaigns to develop awareness of aquatic species spread. Some examples are: AIS Snapshot Day, which is Aug. 19 for Forest County. AIS Snapshot day is an education day for the general public to look for invasive species at boat landings or stream access points. The rendezvous point will be at Lake Lucerne Advance Pavilion this year. Derek also runs training of citizen volunteers to help test and report water clarity, nutrient analysis, ice-off data, and etc. He does "Clean Boats Clean Water" training (<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/lakes/cbcw>).

Derek actually grows the beetles that eat the leaves of invasive species plant purple loosestrife, in his office. He plants the beetles in purple loosestrife patches to help control the invasive species (<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Invasives/loosestrife.html>).

As part of Derek's duties he also conducts education and outreach days, holds events at boys' and girls' clubs and local schools. He has a quarterly newsletter which people signed up for at the meeting. You could be added to his mailing list by contacting him at the email address or phone number listed above.

Derek assists lake associations when applying for grants (such as the grant Roberts Lake Association (RLA) had for Eurasian Water Milfoil eradication), and assists in grant writing. He does not typically write the grants himself as that would take the lion's share of his time prohibiting him from being able to do his other duties. You should contact Derek if you suspect you see a new invasive species in the area and he'll investigate.

In responding to a question from membership about zebra mussels Derek described a homemade contraption to monitor zebra mussels in your lake, including PVC pipe made into a flat pyramid. He will send a diagram to Bob for distribution to anyone whose interest.

- **Secretary's Report:** was emailed in the fall and is online at [robertslake.com](http://robertslake.com)

- **Treasurer's Report:** Rick Dietzler, Treasurer

In response to question from a member Rick explained the amount in CDs does not affect our non-profit standing. The association pays no tax on any income, all interest free, because the association is a tax-exempt organization.

There was a question about fish planting and the associated cost. Rick Dietzler explained there was no fish planting expense last year. The association pays every other year, so we paid two years ago. The association will pay this year and it will be around \$14,000.

In summary, the association is looking pretty good financially right now. Annual expenses are \$12,000-\$15,000. But unexpected things do happen, such as COVID when there was no income but expenses still had to be paid.

Bill Brunner made motion to accept secretary's and treasurer's report. Lee Lamers seconded. All approved.

- **Old Business:** Bob Nack

- **Loon Report:**

The first order of old business was the loon report. In the past Lyle Weyers cared for all the nesting platforms, putting them out just after first ice-out and taking them in and cleaning them after the loons left in the fall. He also kept meticulous data on loon babies, sitings, accidental deaths, and etc. Lyle has since moved from the lake and new people are needed to continue his loon duties. The new volunteers include: Ken Blaedow, Joan and Jeff VanGrinsven, Rob Gezella and Jim Borsche. People who can see the nests from their homes are asked to give a report or email RLA at [robertslakeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:robertslakeassociation@gmail.com)

Informationally, platforms should be put on the water as soon as the ice goes out which is, of course, hard to predict. (Ice out on April 30, 2022; April 5, 2020.)

- **Status of eagles' nest:**

The eagles nest on the west side of the lake was damaged in a storm. There was concern the eagles would not return to the damaged nest. However, Bill Brunner recently saw an eagle sitting on the damaged nest. Eagles have been seen by others flying in the vicinity and sitting on the nest.

- **Fisheree: 46th Annual is August 13:**

Set-up is August 6. There are extra posters available to advertise the Fisheree, so if you know of a place to put a poster, contact us through email at [robertslakeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:robertslakeassociation@gmail.com). Also, raffle tickets are sorted for each property owner on the lake. Some picked theirs up at the meeting. If you haven't, please contact Mary Nack ([nackmary@yahoo.com](mailto:nackmary@yahoo.com)) or Sue Brunner ([stb39@aol.com](mailto:stb39@aol.com)). They are 3 for \$5 this year as opposed to 6 for \$5, but your odds of winning are the same. There are 58 prizes, with the top prize being \$1000. If you'd like more than the 12 you were given please contact Mary or Sue.

Volunteer sign-up sheets were passed around at the meeting. There are still many open volunteer spots. Please let us know if you'd like to work in one of the tents.

The meat raffle discussion brought up a few challenges for this year. Lee Lamers may a plea for help with the raffle wheel. He needs about 30 people, 6 people per shift to sell tickets. Furthermore, in the past Lyle Wyers would get the meat prizes ready. He has agreed to help this year but his wife, Jeannie will not be there. She had an important role in logging the names of people who wanted their winnings kept in a cooler until they were ready to leave. Someone is needed for this year to log in people who want to put their meat in the cooler and put the meat into the cooler. Rich Rummel (from Trout Lake) has agreed to help out but more volunteers are needed. Jeannie Wyers also took care of asking people for prize donations and organizing thank you notes to the donators. We need to have an organizer for that job. Jeannie left a detailed folder with all the contacts listed for whomever is willing to volunteer.

The Kampo family is taking care of beer stand. Sue Paulson she has everyone lined up to do the cooking for the food tent.

Related to the Fisheree discussion were the topics of awnings, tents and ceiling fans. There are presently two awnings on the pavilion for shade. There was discussion if we should get a third one at the estimated price of \$649. It was decided that should happen and Bob Nack directed Rick Dietzler to order one.

In the area of the beer stand there's a gray tent that's difficult to put up. The association has been looking for a new one that could go up more easily. Bob Nack asked permission to spend up to \$2000 to buy a 20x40 tent (approximately). Jay Klug made a motion to spend up to \$3000 for new tent. Carol Grezella seconded. The motion passed with a voice vote. Bill Brunner asked for anyone with an idea of someone who makes these tents so we could get them on order.

The possibility of ceiling fans under the pavilion was brought up. The Kampo family could possibly get 3 outside and one in the garage for \$1000. The question was asked if we'd want to put lights on those fans. Sue Paulson made motion to purchase the fans with lights. It was seconded by: Passed on a voice vote.

- **Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM)/Lake Management:** Gus Nordholm

Onterra usually does a fall survey but that didn't happen last year, they are coming this spring. Aquatic Plant Management is also doing 2 days of harvesting this spring. Gus indicated it doesn't look like EWM has grown a whole lot this past year.

Generally the association spends approximately \$6000 total for survey and harvesting. This year we'll do a spring and a fall survey. The topic of grant money was brought up. We previously had two grants. But it was understood future grants would need a lake management plan in place. That has proved to not be the case. Grants are available. The association would still need to do an aquatic plant management plan, not a full lake management plan. The aquatic plant management plan includes a social survey and a citizen lake monitor. The plan costs around \$10,000, but grants are available to help pay for the plan. Gus has managed plans but never written one. No decision was made on whether or not to pursue an aquatic plant management plan although there was discussion of how the AIS Coordinator could help with it. Derek Thorn, the AIS Coordinator, indicated he does training and helps get data uploaded. He would be willing to be the contact person. The grant application is about 150 pages long, but, again, Derek would help with that. Brett Kaehne volunteered to take over the EWM project.

The association owned pontoon was brought up. In the past there was discussion of possibly making it into a Diver Assisted Suction Harvester (DASH) boat. The liability of having lake residents being divers and the upkeep of the boat are issues. No members suggested we should make the pontoon into a DASH boat. There was discussion of possibly donating the pontoon to Forest County or to FLOW for them to use as a DASH boat. Derek Thorn indicated he is a diver and has done harvesting from a DASH boat, but no decisions were made.

- **Fish Rehabilitation Project:** Gus Nordholm

First Gus gave an overview of this year's ice fishing tournament, the purpose of which is to remove northern pike from the lake. It was a fun tournament with 220 tickets sold to fishermen. It was a super cold morning but that didn't seem to deter the fishermen. There may have been as many as 1000 lines in the water. Fishing was slow perhaps because the lake went from a quiet winter lake to a lake with ATVs, trucks, ice augers and fisher people making lots of noise. All-in-all there were 99 northern pike and one bass caught. Is that a sign there are less northern in the lake? Could be? The association made \$5000. Sold all raffle tickets. The bucket raffles were highly successful. Someone donated a shotgun and 2000 tickets were sold primarily because of the gun.

Gus acknowledged the Mole Lake tribe, Mike Preul and Clint for everything they did to make the ice fishing tournament the great success it was. Mole Lake gave the \$2000 prize

for tagged fish. Among other things they also donated tents and were out there working all day. In total they donated \$13,000 cash and raffle prizes including free hotel rooms at the Casino hotel.

Gus gave a brief overview of the Fish Rehabilitation Project. In 2016-2017 surveys were done to determine what kind of fish are there in the lake. The results showed tons of large-mouthed bass (LMB) and northern pike (NP). A plan was devised to get rid of LMB and NP so walleye pike have a chance to live and grow in the lake. So far 4000 bass are out of the lake and between 1500-1600 pike are out, either by netting or fishing. Bass are easy to net but NP are hard to net. Therefore the ice fishing contest. Anyone who catches pike, is encouraged to not throw them back. There is presently no LMB limit on our lake so we can get rid of them. In comparison in 2016 there were 1.5 walleye per acre (estimated by those caught in FYKE nets), in 2022 there are 1.85 per acre. That shows a healthy increase in the number of walleyes in the lake.

There was a brief discussion of walleyes being caught with “clipped” tails. It was explained that Greg Matzke of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources clipped the lower fin of many walleyes this year for identification and counting purposes.

- **Boat Parade:** Bob Nack

It was decided to have a boat parade for the fourth of July this year. It will be on Saturday, July 2. Boats should meet at 3:00 in front of the Wild Rose Resort. Decorations are optional.

There was also discussion of the Town of Freedom’s 100-year anniversary celebration on Labor Day Weekend. There is going to be a parade from the Recycling Center to the Town Hall that weekend. It was decided residents from Roberts Lake who’d like to be involved in the parade should plan to ride their UTVs (decorated or not) in the parade. There will be music and beverages at the Town Hall after the parade. Bill Brunner and Bob Nack will find out details and Su Senso will post on our website and our Facebook page.

- **Roberts Lake Website/Facebook Group:** Su Senso

- [robertslake.com](http://robertslake.com)
- Roberts Lake Facebook Group

- **New Business:**

Vi Lamers brought up the need for attention to the association clubhouse. She and others have noticed a smell and the presence of mold in the ceiling of the bathroom and the main room. She also mentioned the poor condition of the floor and the shelving. Bob Nack mentioned the mold in the bathroom ceiling is going to be addressed as soon as the carpenter he has contracted with recovers from surgery. It was decided there will be a remodeling committee that will make recommendations for improvements in the clubhouse. The committee includes: Vi Lamers, Sue Paulson, Joan VanGrinsven, Jay Klug and Tony Abitz.

- **Vice President Position:**

Bob brought up the fact that we are in need of a vice president. He delineated the duties, which are to basically fill in if the president is unavailable and to be a member of the board. There was no one interested in filling that position at the meeting. However, at some time after the meeting Mark Hauser volunteered to fill the vice president's position.

- **For the Good of the Association:**

- A drawing, including all members in attendance, was held and Gus Nordholm was the winner. Congratulations.

- **Adjourn**