

MOOSE LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Fall 2014



Since 1970

LETTER FROM THE MLIA PRESIDENT

Dear Members of the Moose Lake Community,

Alas, the warm time of year is trending to shorter days and cooler temperatures. If one looks carefully you can see the leaves beginning to be touched with fall colors as Mother Nature prepares to put on her spectacular fall color show. While I like fall and winter at the lake, I have to admit that spring and summer are my favorites.

Spring had a hard time pushing away winter this year. Ice persisted on the lake until well into May. The first sign that spring is here for good is when Doc Grayson and his buoy boys and girls put the navigation hazard markers back in the water. The garden committee of Betsy Vogel and Katie George revived the flower plots at Moose Lake Road and Pine Point roads. Both gardens have matured into a bright welcome to our home. Don Rossiter's roadside clean up had to wait a bit for the snow to leave before getting into action. All participants discovered that Miller Lite bottles were a favorite among local litterbugs.

Our membership had decreased significantly from recent years thus we launched a spring membership campaign. This effort chaired by Lou Grayson can be credited for a revival of membership from 120 to the

(cont. on page 2)



Damage at the Neuswanger's

SUPER STORM OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2014

By Jan Stapleton

There are many dates that Moose Lake residents keep in their memory banks. Birthdays, anniversaries, 9-II, the Halloween blizzard of 1991, and now, the Super Storm of September 4, 2014. A massive thunderstorm hit Hayward first, around 7:30 A.M., with high winds, hail, and up to seven inches of rain, causing immediate flooding and power outages. The Super Storm rolled east through Round Lake, with its fury aimed at Moose Lake. Sawyer County's red alert phone system was initiated, but only a few local residents received the call as the power went out around 8 A.M. when the skies turned black and the storm hit Moose Lake.

Most residents headed for the basement or interior rooms. It was clearly not a storm to be taken lightly as the wind shifted from the south to north-west, accompanied by large hail and straight-line winds. Residents report that between 3.5 and 5 inches of rain fell during the heaviest part of the storm. After about 30 minutes, the fury passed, and residents left their dwellings, startled to see the damage that had occurred.

(cont. on page 3)

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LETTER FROM THE MLIA PRESIDENT *cont. from page 1*

almost 170 of today.

The annual meeting was held under our tent at Louie's Landing on a bright summer July 5th morning. The new venue encouraged a larger than normal attendance. Katie George and Dottie Stassen retired from the board. Dave Wells and Ted Eisenbacher were elected to replace them. A new slate of officers was elected and the 2014-15 year for the MLIA officially began. If you have any concerns, issues, or projects to benefit the lake please contact any board member to have them considered at a board meeting. The best way to monitor the actions of your board is to visit our website (www.mliahaywardwi.org). I encourage all to visit the website which contains lots of useful information for Moose Lakers.

Jim Onarheim presented a program on Fish Sticks, a fish habitat improvement project your board is considering. The purpose of his informational program was to start the discussion about the feasibility of Fish Sticks for Moose Lake. Due to the fact that Moose Lake is a tannin stained body of water we have less than usual aquatic vegetation growth which serves as refuge for small fish. In the past, wood from the time the Moose Lake impoundment was formed a hundred years ago served

this purpose. Over time the wood stock in the water has degraded significantly thus challenging the small fish population. This ambitious program has many pros and cons. If you have input on this matter or want further information please contact a board member.

The Moose Lake Festival sponsored by the Round Lake Fire Department Auxiliary and the Chequamegon Lions was a great success. The first Saturday in August was a perfect summer day and had a terrific crowd. According to chair Lou Grayson, a new record for profit was set, which will really benefit the worthy local efforts of both organizations. The success of this event is largely due to the hundreds of volunteer hours donated by community members. Congratulations to all on a job well done!

I hope each and every one of you had an enjoyable spring and summer on the lake we all love. The natural beauty we are surrounded with combined with a warm community spirit makes Moose Lake a wonderfully unique place to live and to visit.

*Sincerely,
Dave Wiltrout
MLIA Board Chairman*

MLIA MISSION

The purpose of the Association is to preserve and protect Moose Lake and its surroundings, and to enhance the water quality, fishery, boating safety, and aesthetic values of Moose Lake, as a public recreational facility for today and for future generations, while respecting the interests of property owners and the public, in accordance with Chapter 181 of WI statutes.



CLOCKWISE FROM UPPER LEFT:
 Pine Point Road; Clean Up on
 Whaley Drive; Karns' driveway,
 after being cleared by the Graysons and Leuschens (Late afternoon on September
 4th. Thanks for the rescue!); Tree down at Wiltrout's; Boat and Shelter Damage
 at the Whaley's; Looking across the lake to Louie's at the narrows.

PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY BRYAN NEUSWANGER, DAVE
 WILTROUT, MARCIA WHALEY AND MARILYN KARNS

SUPER STORM *cont. from page 1*

Some of the most devastated areas locally were Forest Circle Drive, Moose Lake Road east to the campground, Virgin Timber, the south end of Pine Point Road, and Whaley Drive. Folsom Island was hit hard, but most islands were spared. Thousands of trees were flattened or broken, with many on structures, vehicles, and boats. Boats were overturned, and docks washed away. Amazingly, there were no reports of human injury from the storm itself, but wildlife was eerily absent after the storm.

Terry and Doug of the Town of Round Lake road crew, and the town fire department volunteers, were immediately clearing paths on the town roads for emergency travel. Every resident in the area that owned

a chain saw was in action clearing their driveways so that they could continue to do the same for their neighbors. Many helped clear the town roads, working along with the town crew. Debris was pushed off the roads, into the right of ways, and further cleared from the right of ways as the days passed. Contractors were hired to remove dangerously leaning trees over the roads. Logging is in progress in some areas, and orange tape marks many sections planned for future work.

Electric power went out immediately, and was out for up to nine days in some locations around the lake. Jump River Electric, assisted by four other electrical cooperatives from northwestern Wisconsin, worked round the clock to restore power,

which involved replacing poles, lines, and clearing trees. Occasional power outages can be expected as weakened trees and branches fall on the lines.

The Town of Round Lake recycling center on County Road A has been accepting storm related tree debris during its Saturday morning hours of operation. The town website has posted additional storm resource information at townofroundlakewi.org.

Moose Lake area residents are thankful for the road crews, fire department, utility companies, forest service, friends, and neighbors for their efforts after the storm. We'll be talking about this Super Storm of September 4, 2014, and seeing its long lasting effects, for many years to come.

NEWS FROM THE MLIA VICE PRESIDENT

When you read this, the water levels on Moose Lake will be receding to their winter level of approximately 5 feet below full pool. The 18 Hazard Buoys have been removed and the chains and hardware that hold them in place have been inspected.

The Greatest Show on Earth just took place September 18th - 21st on Moose Lake. The 2014 Youth Musky Hunt concluded Saturday evening September 20th with awards being presented at Louie's Landing. Muskies Inc. and the Youth Conservation Alliance sponsored the event. The event was headed up by Kevin Bushnick, Vice President of Youth Activities for Muskies Inc. Kevin is also the Founder & Chairman of the Youth Conservation Alliance, a charity whose purpose is to teach youth environmental sciences through fishing and hunter safety programs.

The 43 kids who participated in the event were from all over the North Central US. Many Hayward area kids also participated. This is a 100% family oriented program. In the years ahead, Muskies Inc. (www.muskiesinc.org) and the Youth Conservation Alliance (www.theyca.org) will be placing a major emphasis on teaching children about the environment through the sport of Musky fishing. They are doing this not only to ensure the future of the Musky fishery, but also to provide youth with a tremendous opportunity for environmental education outside of the classroom. To accomplish the mission on the education front, school teachers, college professors, and school principals joined the event to teach the kids about the environment. Everyone was also honored to be joined by Johanna White, CEO of Summit School in Illinois, which is a school

solely dedicated to children with Autism. They have found over many years that children with Autism respond extremely well to outdoor programs and especially to fishing.

Kids who attended the event were challenged not only with fishing, but ecosystem study and water quality testing. The kids also learned how to read lake maps and learned about boating safety. The Youth Conservation Alliance also uses high-power biology microscopes as they begin to deploy sophisticated tools to examine the environment while "keeping it simple" through the sport of fishing. This is way-cool stuff on the educational front and represents a "practical application" which keeps the kids highly interested in what they are learning.

Nine year old Matthew Rytina went home with the first place trophy this year. He caught 5 muskies. The total number of fish that were caught in the two and a half days was a record: 57 muskies with several being over 40 inches. Michelle Grove, biology professor from Illinois, worked with the kids at many different times throughout the weekend. She also explained to the kids the life cycle of the fish. The sponsors and volunteers wanted to make this an educational event, as well as having fun.

Many professional guides were on-site to support the kids during this time. The "Guide-Masters" included fishing legends Larry Ramsell (Author & Musky Historian) and John Myhre (Professional Guide & Radio Show Host), Daryl Neibauer, guide and owner of Bitten Tackle and Moose Lake resident, and bait manufacturer of Cat-Tails Lures, Roger Williamson. All of the Musky fishing programs encourage CATCH & RELEASE

which helps sustain the Musky population and gives other kids a chance to catch "the big one."

Many local Hayward area businesses supported the event including Famous Dave's, Wildwoods Furniture, Fox River Lures & Rods, the Mystic Moose Resort, Louie's Landing, and Charlie's Fine Foods. Mystic Moose again hosted the youth event now in its fifth year. I managed accommodations for everyone and set up our resort as the base-camp and command center. I would like to thank all who assisted us with lodging this year: Picchietti's Northern Exposure, Charlie's Fine Foods, Timber Trail Lodge, Sportsman Lodge, and Treeland Resort.

For documentary and educational purposes, the entire event was filmed by 4-time Emmy award winning NBC field cameraman Bill Nuyttens. Footage from this event is used throughout the year in schools and colleges to educate as many youth as possible about the great outdoors. Next year's event will be September 17-20 at the same location.

For several weeks during the months of September and October, the US Forest Service helped the Sawyer County ATV and Snowmobile Alliance with trail cleanup. We would like to send out a big thank you to the Forest Service for all of their hard work and assistance in helping with the trail clean up after our September 4th storm. There are many hours of work still to be completed on these trails before they are passable. If anyone would like to volunteer with this cleanup project, please talk with Jack Brown at Louie's Landing.

At the October 4th MLIA board meeting, the board of directors talked about exploring two projects (Fish Sticks & Tree Drops) that should help the fishery on Moose Lake. Frank Pratt, retired DNR

Fishery Biologist, was in attendance at the meeting, speaking in favor of adding more wood to Moose Lake. He said either the Fish Sticks program or the individual Tree Drop program should help Moose Lake. Frank said he is a strong proponent of wood in a lake, especially a lake like Moose that does not have the weed growth. Frank brought up the Tree Drop program because of the discussion on the large amount of downed trees that are lying on islands and along the shore line after the September 4th storm. These downed trees could be put to good use by putting them in the lake. Many of these are in the lake now but may need securing to the shoreline.

Frank also said over the years he has seen a large decrease in wood on Moose Lake. Wood is not by any means the total answer for improving the fish population or size in Moose Lake. There are many things that contribute to this. Wood is only one thing but does give many benefits to the lake. The MLIA will discuss this issue again next month at the November meeting. I will be doing an inventory of how many downed trees we have on Moose Lake that perhaps could be utilized for the Tree Drop program. It is important to know that if you have any downed trees lying in the water, please leave them there. They will help the lake.

With fall here be sure to test your smoke detectors at your home or at your cabin. When you change your clock please change your smoke detector batteries. Remember you also must have at least one carbon monoxide detector in your residence. Well, that is it for now. Stay safe this fall with all of your outside activities.

Jim Onarheim
MLIA Vice President



Moose Lake DAM NEWS

Submitted by Jim Onarheim

I recently spoke with a past business acquaintance of mine, Rob Olson of Xcel Energy (representing Chippewa-Flambeau Improvement Company), about the Moose Lake dam construction project that will happen next summer. Rob wants to make sure that everyone in the Moose Lake area is kept informed on this very large project that is set to start during the summer of 2015. Here is the latest information that I have to this date. The tentative plans are to replace the two existing 9-foot gates with three 12-foot gates. The project is necessary to increase the capacity of the spillway to pass a 1,000-year flood. During construction, the two existing gates will remain operable during the first stage of construction. This is to allow for construction of part of the new spillway. During the second stage, flow will pass through one of the new gates to allow for removal of the current spillway and construction of the rest of the new gate(s).

To accommodate construction and to help maintain the Moose Lake water level after a heavy rain, it may be necessary to utilize a modest drawdown from normal summer levels during the construction period. The need for, and the extent of, the drawdown is still being evaluated. A drawdown would allow for a buffer in the lake should we get a heavy rain during the time when only one gate is operable. The lower level will act like a cushion for the possible one to two inches of rain that we could get during the summer. If you think of what happened this past summer with all of the rain that we received, you know exactly what I mean.

Because of the spring rains that we normally get in May and into June, the construction project is anticipated to start sometime in June after our normal spring rains diminish and inflows into the reservoir decrease to normal summer levels. Rob said forecasting the weather for next summer is impossible this far in advance so a decision will be made at that time on the construction start date.

The dam construction project will take all summer and run into October before it is completed. A new two lane bridge over the dam is also part of the project and that will be constructed after the dam construction is complete. The new two lane bridge should be able to handle all weight limits of normal traffic.

Xcel Energy will be communicating information on the project start time, any modified lake level from normal levels, as well as the status of the construction project periodically to keep the public informed.

Because of the possible lower water levels next summer, the new hazard areas on our lake that might develop as a result were discussed at the MLIA October board meeting. It was decided that boaters should use extra caution when boating on Moose Lake next summer, should the water levels be down below normal.

(Editor's note: There will be public hearings held this winter to which everyone is encouraged to attend. Notices will be published in the newspapers and on the town's website — www.townofrondakewi.org.)

NOTES FROM THE TOWN CHAIR

YOUR TOWN BOARD HAS BEEN EXTRA BUSY THIS YEAR.

This year the town has been dealing with Xcel Energy and Ayres Engineering designing and preparing for the new dam at Moose Lake and the new bridge over the top of the dam on Louie's Landing Road. Construction is planned for the summer of 2015.

We negotiated an agreement with Norvado to construct a new cell phone tower on Lowry Road. At this moment, the tower is up and we are all patiently waiting for services to hook up to the tower which will increase our cell phone coverage toward the east end of the town.

Most of our road maintenance had been completed and WAS ready for winter, but then the Storm came!

I'm sure everyone has heard about the great storm of September 4th of this year. It is certainly the topic of conversation around the lake. The devastation left our road system a complete mess. Some of our neighbors were out of power for 8 days because of the power lines down. Our town employees have worked diligently trying to get our roads passable and cleared of any brush and debris left from the storm. As this letter is being written the town roads are back to normal.

We are also busy working with the Wisconsin Disaster Fund personnel hoping to obtain some reimbursement for all of our unexpected expenses.

We hope everyone has a safe and warm winter without storms.

*Dave Sanders
Town of Round Lake Chairman*

Aquatic Invasive Species Monitoring Committee Report

I am happy to report that no growth of aquatic invasive plants on our watch list were reported in Moose Lake this year. The dedicated committee surveys the aquatic vegetation in the lake during the months of June, July, and August. The primary species watched for are Eurasian Milfoil, Curly-leaf Pondweed, and Purple Loosestrife. As I am sure you know if any one of these gets established in our lake, they can rapidly degrade the habitat, overwhelming the native aquatic plants.

Not only does the committee do their monthly surveys, some members attend the monthly informational sessions sponsored by Kristi Maki, Sawyer County AIS specialist, to keep informed about what is happening in our area. We are indeed fortunate that we do not have a problem on Moose Lake. A significant number of lakes in Sawyer County do. Once these aquatic invasive plants get established, they are very expensive and difficult to eradicate.

I encourage all Moose Lakers to be watchful for stray vegetation when launching and recovering their watercraft and to monitor their own shoreline for suspicious aquatic plants. If you should see any water plants that you have concerns about, please contact me. A good defensive posture by all residents on this issue is the best way to prevent it from becoming a big problem.

David Wiltrout, MLIA AIS Monitoring Committee Chair

LOONS ON THE MOOSE

Another poor year for loons on Moose Lake. Not much to report.

Rapidly fluctuating water levels and late ice out probably contributed to causing loons to find another place to nest.

The first loon sighting report was made by Dave and Sandy Neuswanger on April 19 on the West Fork between the dam and Moose Lake Road Bridge, and the lake was in full ice. Thanks for the report!

On April 23, Anita Zalewski reported "Lonesome George" on the West Fork above Pine Point Bridge – thank you.

On April 26, there were five areas free of ice. I checked all boat landings for Loon Alert and Get the Lead Out signs. Replaced two, one missing.

May through July – Eight full lake surveys were conducted. Saw a few "floaters" – no nests. "Floaters" are loons that don't establish a territory and nest. They move from lake to lake as they wish.

We did have a couple of floaters that spent nights on Moose Lake during May and June. Heard them often, but you had to get up early if you wanted to see them. They were gone by 8 to 9 a.m.

The botulism loon die-off at the southern end of Lake Michigan two years ago involved our area (Northwest Wisconsin) population, so better nesting sites on other lakes are plentiful. Hopefully as the population rebounds, we will get territorial nesters back.

I'm missing loon music.

Bill Czeskleba, Moose Lake Loon Ranger, Project LoonWatch

A TIME OF THANKSGIVING

Notes from the MLIA fall buoy take out on Sunday morning, October 12

The Buoy Boys & Girls removed the 18 Moose Lake adopted buoys, scrubbed them, and replaced them with their corresponding PVC floats all in a few short hours.

New this year, Ronnie Ross joined our crew scrubbing buoys on shore at the McCormick's. Other new faces included Snook Sanders, and Paul and Bonnie Miller.

Many thanks to Danny and Marge for sharing their landmark 100+year old cabin with the entire crew. Coffee and refreshments were served after a job well done, and thanks to Jan Stapleton for sharing her delicious traditional pumpkin bread.

The scrub technique invented years ago by Don Rossiter and Jim Onarheim is very effective on a very stubborn, evil deposit. It is always an eye opener to the buoy crew how many layers of slime and micro-critters build up all summer long on the smooth surfaces—and the Moose is so esthetically pleasing with its stained, but seemingly “clear” water!

Thanks to the three boat owners who, again, allowed for a super quick extraction process: Dave Sanders with his pontoon, the S.S. Minnow, Fred Duray for his old fireboat, Jim Onarheim with one of his fishing boats.

Fred's jon boat is a perfect design for buoy removal, and it has excellent stability in wind and waves. Our crew has transported up to 6 buoys at a time in it, and, needless to say, substantially faster than the Minnow.

In the future, should anyone know anybody with an old aluminum jon boat who would be willing to donate it to a worthy cause, please let us know. Finally, it is so great that so many other lakeshore owners feel as Lou and I do that we are very lucky to live here. Obviously, lake shore property is a very limited resource. Living on water is a privilege, and with that privilege comes a responsibility to be good stewards of the lake.

Thank you all so much for “giving back.”

Doc Grayson



UPPER LEFT: “Buoy Boys” hard at work.

ABOVE: “Buoy Girls” looking good!

LEFT: The crew: (left to right) Bonnie Miller, Snook Sanders, Marilyn Karns, Paul Miller, Ron Ross, Joe Dwyer, Mary Ann Churchill, Dave Sanders, Ken Loeffler, Mike Feldner, Jim Onarheim, Doc Grayson (not pictured: Jan Stapleton, Dan & Margie McCormick, and Jack Brown)

TOWN OF ROUND LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND AUXILIARY

Thank you all for your continued support of the Cash Sweepstakes and Moose Lake Festival. It is truly appreciated and really makes a difference. However, your support goes beyond helping to raise the money needed to purchase Fire Department and EMS equipment. The residents of Moose Lake support every aspect of the fire department, whether it is by words of appreciation, donations, or by volunteering. Your fire department is the envy of all other departments in the county, mostly because they are all aware of how much support the Round Lake Fire Department gets from the community.

Money raised this year will be used to purchase a snowmobile as an add-on to our UTV Search and Rescue Vehicle. The snowmobile has been ordered, the trailer has been modified to hold it as well as the rescue unit, and all will be ready for any winter rescues that it is called upon to handle. Of course, we all hope that everyone has a safe winter and there are no calls for its use.

The profits of our fundraising events will also go toward the long term projects of adding onto Fire Station 1 on Pine Point Road and purchasing a new engine (which used to be called a pumper) for Station 2 on County Road A. The engine that is currently at Station 2 will be moved to Station 1, which does not presently have an engine with the capacity needed for large events.

Our 2015 fundraising events will be the Cash Sweepstakes, which will be mailed next spring, the Moose Lake Festival (August 1), and Moose Lake clothing, available now at Louie's Landing. We hope everyone will mark their calendars for

next year's Fest, which will be on August 1, 2015. We are still looking for new, young(er) volunteers for the Fest. Those of us who have been volunteering for the past number of years are getting a little long in the tooth. If you are interested, please contact Lou Grayson, chairperson of the Fest.

It is important for everyone to be reminded that that the Auxiliary is about more than raising money. One of the functions of the Auxiliary has always been to provide support for our firemen when they are at a fire scene for a long time. We support them by taking food (e.g. sandwiches), water, soda, and coffee to them while they are fighting the fire or at an accident scene for a long time. Another mission of the Auxiliary is to help residents who have been victims of fire or other disasters. If you would like to help out in these areas, or in our fundraising activities, please contact Marilyn Karns at 715-462-9445 or karnsmg@centurytel.net. We need new members. Members can be full-time or part-time residents and, just so everyone is clear, the Auxiliary does not discriminate in any way! In other words, ANY ONE can join! There are no fees and we only have 2 meetings a year. One is to plan the activities and one is to get the cash sweepstakes tickets put together. Your community needs you. Please volunteer. Remember that all Firefighters, EMTs, and First Responders are volunteers serving our community. If you can't be a Firefighter, EMT, or First Responder, joining the Auxiliary is a great

way to help support their efforts.

The fire department is very glad to have several new firefighters and EMTs who joined this year, but they still need more members. If anyone is interested in becoming a member of the Town of Round Lake Fire Department, please call Chief Mike Schmidt at 715-462-3691.

Our firefighters were out in full force helping to clear roads and private driveways after the storm of September 4th. They were joined by just about every member of the community, the Town Road Crew, Spider Lake Fire Department, Winter Fire Department, and many others in the efforts to deal with the horrendous aftermath of the storm. It was such a devastating storm but it was absolutely stunning how the community of Moose Lake pulled together. Moose Lake really is a special place to live!

The Round Lake Fire Department is very grateful for your continued support.

Marilyn Karns, Auxiliary President

2015

Mark your calendar

*MLIA Board Meetings:
Check the Website (7/5/14 Minutes)*

*MLIA Annual Meeting:
Saturday, July 4*

*Moose Lake Festival:
Saturday, August 1 at Louie's*



ABOVE: The Hoss family and friends having a good time! RIGHT: Lori Goode helping to hawk the pies.



ABOVE: The MLIA provides the materials and volunteers to help kids make Birdhouses every year at the Moose Lake Festival. Pictured here is Ivan Geidel showing off the one he made.

PHOTOS BY JAN STAPLETON

MOOSE LAKE FEST 2014

Submitted by Jan Stapleton

They came, they ate, they bought, they bid, they won, and most of all, they had fun! The 2014 Moose Lake Fest was amazing in every way this year. "The weather was perfect, the crowd was big and happy, the offerings at the festival were the best ever, and we broke a new record for funds raised," reports festival chair Lou Grayson.

The site at Louie's Lake Landing was buzzing at noon when the fest officially opened, but volunteers had been working hard for weeks. The White Elephant Sale set a new record for sales as throngs of shoppers grabbed the great deals as soon as the fest opened at noon.

The food was delicious, especially the popular broasted chicken from the special chicken wagon. The food lines were long at times, but well worth the wait. The new Bloody Mary and Iced Tea Tent was very well received, as were the new Moose Lake logoed thermal cups. Newly designed Moose Lake t-shirts and hoodies were grabbed up by the dozens, but there's still time to purchase some for holiday gifts at our local establishments!

Pie Auctioneer Dave Sanders sold almost 100 pies in four hours, thanks to donations by generous pie chefs. As

usual, Dave did a fabulous job of keeping the bidding going despite the long auctioneering timeframe. The top dollar amount spent to purchase a pie was \$95 for a pecan jewel baked by Sue Erickson, local "Moose Lake Club" family member, and an Executive Chef with Lunds & Byerly's in the Twin Cities. The pecans for the pie were provided by Nancy Stoffer from Nancy's pecan farm in Florida.

Sarah Bower claimed the first 50/50 prize drawing, and with her winnings of \$185 she purchased the big, metal paddleboat at the White Elephant Sale. She and her companion were soon seen paddling down the lake, with Sarah remarking that "it's a lot harder than I thought it would be!"

The Round Lake Volunteer Firemen and EMTs showed up in full force, all wearing their bright, new, red t-shirts. They worked tirelessly from early Saturday morning until everything was cleaned up. They also helped with setup for three days and with the takedown on Sunday. Their assistance was greatly appreciated. In turn, they would like everyone to know how much they value the support from all of the communities, especially the people in the Town of Round Lake.

Chequamegon Lions 2014 scholarship winner, Emily Anderson, delighted the kids with intricate, full face paintings. Zippy the Clown even applied a white star around search-and-rescue bloodhound Star's eye, although much of her energy was spent crafting balloon animals and balloon hats. The Learn the Lake sessions on the pontoon were filled, and dozens of personally decorated birdhouses and pennants went home with the kids.

"The cleanup after the event on Sunday went amazingly well," says Lou, and everyone who helped was treated to a picnic lunch of chicken, salads, and other refreshments.

Lou Grayson, as a third-year chair of the event, did an outstanding job of coordinating all aspects of the fest, and possibly doing a little dance to keep the rain away! Kudos to Lou and all of the committee chairs and volunteers who made the event work so well. Lou would like to thank all of the volunteers, donators, and fest goers for making this year's festival THE BEST EVER IN ALL TIME REVENUE!! The Town of Round Lake Fire Department and Chequamegon Lions will use the funds raised to benefit the local community in so many ways.

CHEQUAMEGON LIONS HAD ANOTHER GRRREEEAATTT YEAR!

The Chequamegon Lions had another great year, with a number of enthusiastic new members making significant contributions. This spring, the club awarded two \$1000 scholarships to local high school graduates, Noel Weber and Emily Anderson. Scholarship raffle tickets to support next year's recipients will be on sale soon, so please purchase some of those raffle tickets to help provide scholarships to two worthy, local students next year!

In May, the club hosted its third annual water habitat study project on the Chippewa Flowage for more than 150 Hayward-area third graders. The students had the opportunity to learn about fish identification, fish anatomy, water quality, soil erosion, little water critters that live in our lakes, and invasive species. This service event has been widely recognized in the Lions organization at the state level, and the club has been told that it will be recognized at the international level in 2015.

The club's biggest fundraiser of the

year is the Moose Lake Festival, when it partners with the Town of Round Lake Fire Department Auxiliary to raise money for the local fire department and many other projects. Funds brought in this year were the best in the club's history, so more resources can be returned to the community!

This year's annual Free Health Clinic was held on Friday, October 10, at the Spider Lake Town Hall. Each year, a variety of free screening tests are offered, including cholesterol, diabetes, hearing, skin screening, and oral cancer. Flu and pneumonia shots are also provided. Many educational opportunities were very well received this fall, including those about benefits, aging and disability, medications, nutrition, flexibility and mobility, and defibrillator training.

Each spring and fall, club members offer their energy to keep a section of Highway 77 clean through the Adopt-a-Highway program. You will also see the Lions cleaning the pontoons used

in the Fishing Has No Boundaries event in May, assisting in packing lunches for the Food 4 Kids program, and ringing bells for the Salvation Army.

One hundred percent of the money raised by the Chequamegon Lions Club is returned to the community. Funds raised support scholarships, the annual Free Health Clinic, the Water Habitat Study Day, the Senior Center and its community meals, and the Hayward Community Food Shelf. Additional nonprofits that receive funding include Ventures Unlimited, Northwoods Humane Society, Weiss Memorial Library, Regional Hospice, Fishing Has No Boundaries, Leader Dogs, Christmas 4 Kids, American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, Can Do Canines, and the Lions Wisconsin Camp for Kids with Disabilities.

The Chequamegon Lions Club is comprised of service minded individuals, most of whom reside in the townships of Round Lake, Spider Lake, and Hunter. The club's current board officers are Dave Sanders, President; Steve George, Vice President; Kay Hucker, 2nd VP; Katie George, 3rd VP; Sally Myers, Secretary; Mary Braddish, Treasurer; Jim Nickel, Tail Twister; Nancy McDowell, Membership Chair; George Duerwerth, Lion Tamer; and Jan Stapleton, Past President.

The Chequamegon Lions is an inclusive group of area residents who truly enjoy each other's company and supporting community needs. You are invited to attend one of the club meetings held the first Wednesday evening of each month at the Round Lake Town Hall. For more information, contact Nancy McDowell at 715-266-2407, or Jan Stapleton at 715-462-3979.



PHOTOS BY JAN STAPLETON

Lions at the July meeting. Many of the members and leaders of the Club are Moose Lake residents, including officers, committee chairs, and Charter Members.

Submitted by Jan Stapleton
Chequamegon Lions Club



*Migrating swans.
The male is called a cob,
the female a pen, and
the young are cygnets.
Swans mate for life.*

Summary of the 2014 Sawyer County Lakes Forum Annual Meeting

Submitted by Mary Ann Churchill

The main thrust of the 2014 Sawyer County Lakes Forum Annual Meeting was discussion of Aquatic Invasive Species – how to prevent the spread of them, how to manage them once they have taken hold in a lake, and how to educate homeowners on each of these issues.

An impressive amount of money has been given to lake associations in Sawyer County in the form of grants from the WDNR. Lakes who received them are Whitefish Lake, Nelson Lake, Sand Lake, Chippewa Flowage, Windigo Lake, and COLA. These grants varied in amounts from \$4,000.00 for one year to \$20,000.00 for three years. All were for AIS control or the program of Clean Boats Clean Waters.

Alex Smith, WDNR Lake Biologist, Bureau of Water Quality for Sawyer, Barron Rusk and Polk counties, spoke about how lake associations cope with having these invasive plants. Two of the different ways of treatment are spreading an herbicide in the whole lake and hoping it will stay long enough to act on the plants. The other is treating isolated parts of the lake.

Sometimes this includes having divers go down to pull individual plants or using herbicides in just one area.

The issue of invasive plants has become widespread in Sawyer County and lake associations have had to spend much time and effort in applying for grants and then asking members to donate time and money to try to keep ahead of the growth of these plants. The good news is that people can still enjoy their lakes if they follow a careful plant management

plan. The best news would be if vigilant lake associations could keep the plants out altogether.

Jay Kozlowski, Sawyer County Zoning and Sanitation Technician, told about changes made in county zoning regulations in order to conform to the revised state regulations, NR 115. His handout explained the changes for Nonconforming Structures and New Dwelling Setbacks. Copies of these handouts are available in the county zoning office.

Potluck Dinners for 2015

Those of you who have participated in previous potluck dinners at Louie's Landing during the long, hard winter know that each one is a social event that includes home cooked dishes that just keep getting better and better. Everyone is welcomed, whether you are a full time resident or just happen to be at Moose Lake for a few days. Just bring a dish to pass. Everything from appetizers through desserts, including salad, vegetables, casseroles, meat dishes, special breads, and any creative dish you might want to bring would be perfect. It is your choice what to bring.

We look forward to seeing you at Louie's Landing where appetizers are served at 6:00 P.M. and the dinner buffet is set out at 6:30 P.M.

*Please mark the second and fourth Tuesday dates on your calendar for 2015:
January 13 & 27, February 10 & 24,
March 10 & 24 and April 14 & 28*



PHOTO BY JAN STAPLETON

Family of bears that visited Joe Dwyer and Jan Stapleton for a while this summer