

# MOOSE LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Spring 2016 *Since 1970*



## LETTER FROM THE MLIA PRESIDENT

### MOOSE LAKE SPRINGTIME

It is always a source of joy for Moose Lakers when spring creeps across the landscape. The first harbingers are the swans which spend time on the open water below the dam on their migration north. Their arrival heralds the parade of events leading up to a busy season of warm weather activities.

We had a terrific winter. The most significant event was the completion of the Moose Lake dam replacement project. The final steps were finished mid-January so we now have a three gated dam capable of withstanding a 1000-year flood. There remain a few

details on the dam and the roadway to finalize all of which will be done this spring. The really good news for us is that this summer we will be at normal lake levels! My most sincere thanks go to all residents for their forbearance during the 2015 boating season. 2016 promises to be full of pontoon rides, fishing, waterskiing, and other water fun without the dangers brought about by three-foot-lower-than normal water levels.

The Moose Lake snowmobile trails enjoy the reputation of being the best around thanks to the hard work of Jack Brown and his volunteer



PHOTO BY DAVE WILTROUT

Joe Dwyer and Mike Feldner ice fishing on the lake

groomer operators. Ice fishing and cross country skiing are other ways that winter beauty is enjoyed. The very other Tuesday potlucks at Louie's are without a doubt the most popular indoor activity. There is always a large turnout, warm fellowship, and a dazzling array of entrees to enjoy. Every winter the Thursday evening pool league gets together at Louie's for friendly competition. Dean Broberg's consistent performance resulted in him winning this year's trophy.

Spring brings welcome warm weather and a season of busy activities for your organization. The chains which secure the navigational hazard markers had deteriorated to the point of breaking. In November, we started the replacement of the rusted chain with heavy duty galvanized chain, finishing the project in April, thus aiding boater safety for many years to come. Our old water quality monitoring instrument had stopped

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PHOTO BY DAVE WILTROUT

Mike Feldner and Sharon Bratrud at Pot Luck

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

In the second week of April, I stood on the Pine Point Bridge and watched the walleyes spawn in the West Fork of the Chippewa River. There were some very nice size walleyes mixed in with many small ones. After watching them for forty-five minutes or so, I became totally convinced that there are some very nice size fish in this water system. Sometimes people say that they can't figure out why it is so hard, at times, to catch fish in Moose Lake.

Over the weekend of the Wisconsin fishing opener, I had a very good friend of mine (Mike Henry) stay with us for two nights. Mike has a fly-in business in N.W. Ontario. I consider Mike to be one of the best fishermen I have ever fished with. Over the years, prior to Barb and I moving to Moose Lake, I spent many years helping Mike build his business to what it is today. He taught me many things about the resort business. One of the reasons he came to Hayward was to fish the opener with me on Moose Lake. We had not fished together for many years so it was a lot of fun for both of us.

One thing Mike commented on was the amount of structure that we have in Moose Lake. He said his fly-in lakes do not have anywhere close to the amount of structure as we have. They have a lot of rock but not the stumps and wood on the bottoms like we have in Moose Lake. Obviously, his fly-in lakes are much larger than Moose Lake. Mike said that he has never seen so much structure in a lake

the size of ours. Canada has very few flowages so people from there don't see many bodies of water that have both wood and rock. I did tell him that we have a very limited amount of weed growth.

Mike asked me if our fish were for the most part scattered all over. He said, "Your walleyes don't have to go very far to find cover." He also said that it must be real tough trying to find them sometimes. I told him it can be a challenge. Mike also advised us to not spend a lot of time in one spot. If there are no active fish where you are fishing, move on.

Mike and I caught about 15 walleyes and 10 crappies on Saturday, May 7th. For the most part, it was one here and one there. They were very active but scattered. Mike also said we can be very happy to be on a good body of water with a lot of moving water. He said some of the best lakes in Canada always have plenty of moving water like we have in Moose Lake. He was very impressed with our little piece of wilderness, which he said looks a lot like Canada.

One good story that a friend of mine told me was that he and his son were fishing on the south end of Moose Lake on Saturday, May 7th, and started drifting toward another boat. They got into a conversation with the elderly gentleman who was in the boat. They found out that this man was 98 years old. The man told them he caught and released a 44 inch

## Elk Sightings!



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JAN STAPLETON



PHOTOS BY FRED AND JOAN TAYLOR

musky earlier on Saturday. The best thing about this story was he caught it on a number #6 hook while fishing for pan fish. He was using just a garden worm. I do believe him, because I have done the same thing myself several times. My largest fish was just under 40 inches and I was using a small piece of a night-crawler and not garden worm. Congratulations to this well experienced angler!

The Wisconsin DNR will try to do some netting on Moose Lake to gauge if the bluegill stocking from last spring has done some good. They will be looking at the number of bluegills and the size of the fish. This project is subject to the amount of money available to fund the netting. We will keep you posted in the Moose Lake News.

**BOATING REGULATION REMINDER:** Please remind all family members that jet skis must not create a wake

when they are within 200 feet of shore or 100 feet of another boat. All boats must not create a wake when they are within 100 feet of a dock or a buoyed area. This means that when you approach a no-wake buoyed restricted area you must slow down to a no-wake speed 100 feet before you reach the marker. The area that is marked as a no-wake zone is at the entrance to the West Fork of the Chippewa River. On another note, wardens will again be watching for the use of running lights on your boats or pontoons this summer. You must have your lights turned on at sunset. The sunset table can be found in the Wisconsin Boating Regulations Hand Book.

**OUTSIDE BURNING:** With spring comes the danger of grass and forest fires. As the snow cover leaves, the brown, dead grass and vegetation appears. During the spring

the humidity levels are very low which helps push the fire danger very high. Even though we get significant rain it only takes a few hours of sunshine, low humidity, and a little wind to turn some innocent outside burning into a raging forest fire. If you need to burn you must remember the following: you have to acquire a permit; don't burn on windy days; have fire-fighting tools, such as water and a shovel handy; never leave a fire unattended; and, be certain your fire is dead out before you leave it. Most important of all, remember that you are responsible for all suppression costs and damages incurred from a wildfire caused by your negligence!!!! For more information, you can go the DNR website ([www.dnr.wi.gov](http://www.dnr.wi.gov)).

Have a wonderful summer and stay safe.

*Jim Onarheim*  
Vice President of MLIA!

## 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.



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JAN STAPLETON

Don Cole and Jim Hagen at their new warming shelter.

## Recycling Center Improvement

When the Rolling Stones released "Gimme Shelter" in 1969, they were asking for shelter from the storm of war. When Jim Hagen and Don Cole, who staff our Town of Round Lake Recycling Center, sang their version of "Gimme Shelter" for the Town Board, they were requesting shelter from the storm of winter. Their wish was granted, and a rather charming 8x8' red cottage was delivered a couple weeks just before the full force of winter arrived. Don and Jim are very thankful to the board, especially Sandy Schara, for giving them a warm place out of the elements. And to Brenda Leonard for new carpeting, Ron Weberg for a first aid cabinet, and Joe Lewandowski for a propane tank for the heater. No longer will Jim's truck be running all Saturday morning during the cold winter months to keep the guys warm. Ask for their 5-cent tour of the new warming shelter when you're next at the center.

Submitted by Jan Stapleton



PHOTOS BY DAVE WILTROUT

Dean Broberg shooting pool at the Thursday Night Pool League and Jim and Judy Tomasik with Jim Hagen and Faye Winters at Potluck.

President's letter, cont. from page 1

functioning last fall. After researching the matter it has been replaced with a state-of-the-art, user friendly device which will be put into service by the water quality monitoring committee this spring.

Your organization's backbone is the cadre of dedicated volunteers who willingly lend a hand when asked. From roadside cleanup, aquatic invasive species monitoring, membership solicitation, navigational buoys, newsletter publication, and many others, your

neighbors give of their time to make the lake we all love a better place. I encourage you to consider volunteering. There is no better way to get to know your neighbors and feel part of the community. You will discover that there really are a bunch of interesting friendly people that spend time here.

I hope that everyone has a great summer on the lake we all love!  
 Dave WiltROUT  
 MLIA Board President

## TOWN OF ROUND LAKE NEWS

Spring has arrived after a reasonably mild winter. The ice has gone out early and the fish have spawned. Everyone enjoyed opening day.

The biggest news in the Town is the completion of the new dam on Moose Lake. The dam project is complete and operating. The new dam is capable of discharging twice the amount of water than the old dam. Hopefully this will alleviate any flooding problems in the future. The bridge and road work has begun now that the road bans have been removed. If everything goes as planned, all will be back to normal by Memorial Day weekend. The new bridge will be a full two-lane bridge with new blacktop approaches and new safety guard rails.

Our town roads came through the winter in good shape. Our 2016 road maintenance bids have been

advertised and will be awarded at our May meeting. The county will begin working on County Road S in August. They are going to start near Sally Myers' house and, according to Gary Gedart, Sawyer County Highway Supervisor, will go as far north as they can until the money runs out, hopefully, a ways beyond Pine Point Road. The plan is to take up the existing blacktop, chop it up, and relay it until they get beyond the Teal River Bridge at which point the roadbed will be rebuilt and new blacktop applied.

The other major concern of the town is the broadband service and cell phone service especially on the eastern end of the town. Please be aware the town board is working very hard to rectify this situation. The Town Board is lobbying local legislators and service

providers. If everyone would call their local legislators and service providers this may speed up the process. Let's hope the squeaky wheel gets some attention.

Don't forget starting after Memorial Day the recycling centers hours will be 8am to noon on Saturdays and Wednesdays. These hours will hold until Labor Day and then revert to 8am to noon on Saturdays only.

Finally, as the Town Chairman, I want all to know that your Town Board works very hard for you, and their employees do a very good job. You should be proud to have them serve you. If you see any supervisors, road crew or recycle attendants give them a thumbs-up. A little appreciation goes a long way.

Dave Sanders  
 Chairman, Town of Round Lake



Mid-January



Almost ready for traffic



Spring roadwork



PHOTO BY JAN STAPLETON



PHOTOS BY DAVE WILTROUT

Here, we all thought we were FINALLY getting fiber optics to increase our internet speeds, but we were fooled! The fiber optic cable went only to the switch box on the corner of Chippewa River Road and Moose Lake Road. It didn't go to anyone's house (so the board was told by the bigwigs at CenturyLink.) We were told some people near the switch box MIGHT see some improvements. This update will allow for more lines to be available (100, so they say) but they won't be available for another year. So, we will just have to go on living with slow internet speed.

## AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE

Eurasian Milfoil and Curley Leaf Pondweed continue to be the two plants of greatest concern for Moose Lake residents. I am happy to report that in spite of both of these lake environment degrading pests being found in other Sawyer County lakes, none were found by your organization's Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) monitoring committee during their monthly surveys last summer.

The AIS monitoring committee conducts a monthly survey during June, July, and August looking for these and other invasive plants. Early detection is the key to keeping this problem from becoming an issue on Moose Lake. Once these plants get a foothold it is both difficult and extremely expensive to eradicate them.

I encourage all of you to survey your individual waterfront, looking for problem vegetation. If you have the least suspicion that there might be a problem, contact me or one of my committee to properly harvest a sample for confirmatory identification by the county's AIS specialist.

Since there is always some turnover on this eleven-member committee new volunteers are needed. If you would like to be part of this worthwhile effort please contact me for the details.

*David Wiltout  
AIS Committee Chairman!*



PHOTO BY DAVE WILTROUT

## SPRING ROAD CLEANUP

The 2016 MLIA Spring Road Cleanup was held on Saturday, May 23, concentrating on County Road S and Moose Lake Road to County Road A. We had a light turnout, but got the litter cleaned up before the Sunday rain and rapid plant growth on roadsides. Gold stars for the following volunteers: Mary Ann Churchill, Joe Dwyer, Fred and Sharon Haak, Ernie Henkel, Dave and Snook Sanders, and me. Thanks also go to Ken Woodie for some

pre-cleanup work on County Road S and Moose Lake Road.

Special thanks also go to Charlie Oldenburg for hosting the event at Charlie's and for baking up a really tasty coffee cake for us. I'd also like to thank all the people around Moose Lake who clean litter from the roads around the Lake throughout the year. Kudos, it makes a difference!

*Don Rossiter  
Roadside Cleanup Chair*



PHOTO BY JAN STAPLETON

*Two trumpeter swans on the East Fork of the Chippewa River near the new bridge. They hung around for over 2 weeks.*

## The Moose Lake BUOY BOYS! THE BUOY REPORT

On a beautiful spring morning, Friday, April 29, eight MLIA volunteers assembled in three boats for the annual ritual of buoy put in. Many thanks to: Tom Koehler, Joe Dwyer, Mike Feldner, Dave Wiltout, Jack Brown, Dave Sanders, Jim Onarheim, Doc Grayson.

The MLIA spent just under \$500.00 this past fall purchasing new hardware for all the buoys as the lake currents and corrosion had drastically weakened the existing seven year old original components. Due to diligent research by Dave Wiltout, a marine grade of chain was discovered that the US Coast Guard claims will

last twice as long as ours did. Mike Feldner, through his many sources, then located this more expensive grade of chain at a surprisingly reasonable cost. Jim Onarheim and Dr. Dave did a super job installing the new components, and now our buoys are secured with new strength and longevity.

Many thanks and appreciation to Dan and Marge McCormick, and to Mary Ann Churchill for the use of their lake front properties for winter buoy storage. *Sincerely, Buoy Chair  
Doc Grayson*



ABOVE: Buoy Boys line up at the McCormick's outhouse after a job well done.

BOTTOM LEFT: Doc removing the warning sign at the boat landings. Yeah! The Mighty Moose is at full pool and all the buoys are in place.

TOP RIGHT: Doc Grayson and Tom Koehler towing out the two fat buoys in tandem for the first time from Mary Ann Churchill's.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Joe Dwyer and Mike Feldner load 3 of the 18 lake hazard buoys at the buoy put in

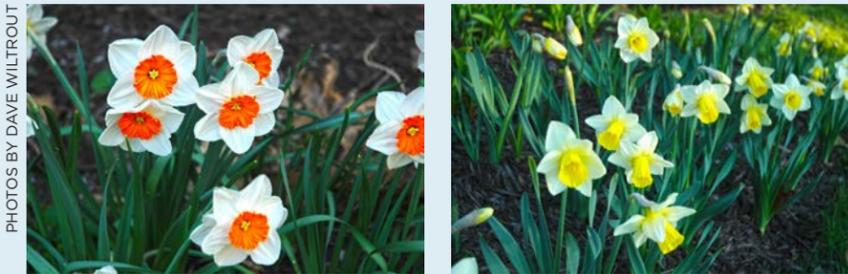


PHOTOS BY DAVE WILTROUT





Elk visit the garden at Pine Point Garden



Spring arrives at Moose Lake

## GARDEN COMMITTEE REPORT

The two gardens maintained by your organizations are thriving. The established perennials are starting to peek through the ground, promising to put on an even more colorful display than they did last summer. Each spring, Don Rossiter and I plant some supplemental annuals after the threat of frost is past. The Wells family does an outstanding job of keeping the lawn around each mowed and attractive.

This summer the garden at the junction of Pine Point road and Highway S is probably going to have to be moved as part of the Highway S improvement project. After the road construction is done a determination will be made about what an appropriate replacement would be.

I would like to thank Don Rossiter and the Wells family for all their efforts in maintaining the attractive entries to our community. If there are other gardeners that would like to get involved with this project contact me.

David Wiltrout  
Garden Committee Chairman

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

**An Invitation:** The Annual MLIA meeting, which will be held on **July 2nd at 10:00 am, will be on the LAWN AT LOUIE'S**, the most beautiful venue in Sawyer County. A huge tent will be set up; chairs will be provided, but feel free to bring blankets or your own lawn chair for comfort. Following the meeting, there will be a picnic lunch of brats, beer, hot dogs and ice cream. There will be a 50/50 raffle, and more!

Please attend and enjoy the food and camaraderie. Family and lake guests are more than welcome.

## 2016 Northwest Wisconsin Lakes Conference

Friday, June 24, 2016 from 9:00am to 3:30 pm. For more information click here for a pdf of the brochure and registration form.



## Moose Lake Fishing Regulations for 2016

**Walleye:** 3 and only 1 over 14"

**Musky:** 1, minimum size 40"

**Small mouth bass:** 5, minimum size 14". Season starts third weekend of June.

**Panfish:** 10

## Williams' Sugar Bush

One of the many signs that spring is on its way is the appearance of pails on maple trees to gather the first of the spring sap to make the sweet goodness that is maple syrup. The trees on the Mike Williams property on the east shore of the lake across from Louie's have been doing so since the early 1980's when Mike's Dad, John, started the tradition. John, along with Harold Nicosen, Chet Ridgely, and a couple of other retired gents, made a fun competition of it for the most volume boiled.

A 1/2 inch hole about 3 inches deep

is bored into each tree into which a metal spout is installed. It is said that the south side of the tree is the best location but according to Mike there are exceptions to that. Up to four holes can be made in a tree. The run may start in late February and can continue into March.

The perfect weather is when the nights are below freezing and the days are sunny and up into the forties.

The sap is collected and filtered in preparation for boiling over a wood fire in a shallow stainless steel pan to concentrate it into syrup. It usually

takes 40 gallons of sap to produce one gallon of syrup. However, there can be some variation. Mike reports that this spring it took 50 gallons of sap for a gallon. With the help of Anne Fleagle, Mike produced 3 1/2 gallons from 160 gallons of sap. Dave Maina has a larger volume operation on his property west of the lake where he usually gathers 600-700 gallons of sap each spring.

According to Mike it is best when served over vanilla ice cream.

Submitted by Dave Wiltrout



PHOTOS BY DAVE WILTROUT



PHOTO BY MIKE WILLIAMS

ABOVE LEFT: Maple Sugar Buckets

RIGHT: Mike Williams putting in metal spouts

LEFT: Anne Fleagle and "Chase" filtering and boiling maple syrup

# TOWN OF ROUND LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND AUXILIARY

The Town of Round Lake Volunteer Fire Department is very thankful for your support throughout the years. You truly have helped make your fire department one of the best trained, best equipped departments in the area, and have helped to make Moose Lake a very special community.

The Fire Department goals for this year are growth, in terms of volunteers, and continuing the efforts to see that all of the fire department personnel receive the tools necessary to do their valuable jobs.

The Fire Department's long term goal is to purchase a new fire engine for Station 2 at the Town Hall and then move the old engine to Station 1 at Moose Lake. This will require building an addition to Station 1. The funds the Auxiliary raises with your help will be used to help outfit the new fire engine and station addition. This will take several years to accomplish and we won't be able to accomplish it with you.

We are fortunate to have an active and effective group of volunteer firefighters at Moose Lake, which is why it makes sense to have a larger capacity engine, or what is now called a pumper, located at Station 1 on Pine Point Road. This would give our department the capacity to be fully equipped and ready to attack any major event that occurs. Right now, if there was a major event in Moose Lake, we would have to wait for the engine from Station 2 on County Road A because we do not, at this time, have a pumper capable of pushing enough water. Remember, our Fire Department responds to calls not only in Moose Lake and Round Lake, but also calls from the US Forest Service and

Wisconsin DNR, as well as mutual aid calls in Sawyer County. We want our firefighters at Moose Lake ready to go whenever, wherever, they are needed. Another reason for having a second large capacity engine is for backup. If there was a major event somewhere outside of our area, outside of our town, such as the big forest fire in Barnes two years ago, we would be able to keep one engine "home" for backup, in case, God forbid, another event should occur here.

We raise money in several ways. One is the RLFD Sweepstakes which you may have already received. Another way is the Moose Lake Festival. This year's Festival is Saturday, August 6. And, of course, donations are always welcome. The Fire Department can't find the words to express how grateful they are for the generosity shown by their neighbors.

Attending the Festival and purchasing sweepstake chances are terrific ways for you to show your support of the Firefighters, EMTs, and First Responders who serve our community. But we would like to remind you that the Auxiliary is about more than raising money. Not everyone can fight fires or be an EMT or First Responder. **But everyone (men and women) can help out our fire department by becoming active members of the Auxiliary.** We assist our Fire Department personnel when they are fighting a fire or handling a medical emergency by providing them with food, water, or other services they might require. We also help the victims of tragic events such as fires and people in the community with special needs. If

you would like more information about the Auxiliary, please contact Marilyn Karns, Lou Grayson, Pat Feldner, Doc Grayson, any member of the Fire Department, or member of the Auxiliary.

Once again, thank you all for the marvelous support. The Town of Round Lake Volunteer Fire Department Personnel really appreciates your efforts.

## REMINDERS FROM THE TOWN OF ROUND LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The department continues to actively recruit more members. For information on types of positions available and joining the department as a volunteer, please call Fire Chief Mike Schmidt.

Currently, both of our Fire Halls and Town Hall have backup emergency power and will be open during a major disaster to anyone who needs help. There are websites that you can access to help you prepare for a disaster. These local websites will provide more information during an emergency:

- The Town of Round Lake website ([www.townofroundlakewi.org](http://www.townofroundlakewi.org))
- The Sawyer County Government website ([www.sawyercountygov.org](http://www.sawyercountygov.org)). Please remember that prior to conducting any outdoor burning, call or check online at the DNR website ([www.dnr.wi.gov](http://www.dnr.wi.gov)). Click on "Burn permits" for today's burning restrictions, current fire danger, or to obtain a burning permit. You can also call 1-888-WIS-BURN (1-888-947-2876).

Hope to see you at the Moose Lake Festival on August 6!

Marilyn Karns  
Auxiliary President

## Save the Dates!

JUNE 8 – JULY 30TH:

### White Elephant Collection

Donations for the White Elephant/Rummage Sale may be dropped off at the Recycling Center on County Road A on Wednesdays and Saturdays between the hours of 8:00 AM and Noon, *beginning June 8 and ending July 30*. Please do not leave items when the facility is closed.

We will *not* accept stoves, refrigerators, freezers, washers, dryers, or other large appliances, clothing, old luggage, televisions, computers or electronic equipment, upholstered furniture, mattresses, tires, cribs, strollers, car seats, or any electrical equipment unless it is in working condition. *Please – no junk, broken, or dirty items!* If you have any questions, please contact Lou Grayson at 715-462-9538.

AUGUST 6:

### Moose Lake Fest!

SET UP BEGINS WEDNESDAY August 3  
SET UP CONTINUES THURSDAY August 4  
WHITE ELEPHANT MOVING IS FRIDAY August 5  
CLEAN UP SUNDAY August 7

WE NEED ALL THE HELP FROM OUR TOWN AND BEYOND TO BE AVAILABLE THOSE DAYS, NOT JUST THE FEST ITSELF. Sign-up sheets will be posted in area restaurants for volunteers to help on all four of these days.

The Festival begins at noon with improved parking and plenty of tent cover in case of rain or hot sun. The festival ends at 6:00 (food served until 5:00). There will be opportunities to win over 200 door prizes and other special raffle items and, of course, the legendary Pie Auction. Everyone is invited to bake their favorite pie or special cake and bring it to the Festival to be auctioned off. Cookies, brownies, etc., are also welcome, as we will be having a bake sale. If you want to donate a pie, but can't make it to the Moose Lake Festival, contact Snook Sanders at 715-462-3917.

For more information, or to volunteer for the Moose Lake Festival, please contact Lou Grayson (715-462-9538)

# SAWYER COUNTY LAKES FORUM

One of the results of the 2015 – 2017 State Budget known as Act 55 was a weakening of shoreland zoning ordinances. State wide baseline shoreland requirements were established back in 1965. As the state population grew, there was a ground swell of citizen efforts all over the state to strengthen these ordinances in order to protect lakes, water quality, and the surrounding habitat. After the results of Act 55 were known last summer, a new citizen's effort was begun to try to mitigate some of the effects of the weakened ordinances. One movement, called the Wisconsin Shoreland Initiative was begun in Northwest Wisconsin. It had the backing of over 50 individual and countywide lake associations. The Sawyer County Lakes Forum was one of these groups. The Northwest Area Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association representing land and water departments from 11 counties also joined this effort. A bill was presented to the governor last fall.

During the last week of April, the governor signed the bill, which mitigates some of the most egregious changes but does not repeal all of them.

The **SCLF Annual Meeting** will be on Saturday, June 11, 2016, at the Comfort Suites on Highway "B" in Hayward from 9 to 11 A.M. Coffee and registration begin at 8:30 A.M. All are welcomed to attend. The focus topic will be the effects that the predicted traumatic storms and change in weather patterns will have on Sawyer County. Everyone is welcomed to attend.

The **2016 Northwest Wisconsin Lakes Conference** will be held in Spooner, WI, on Friday, June 24 from 9 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. One of the topics will be "Shoreland Zoning Update: Impact of New State Statute on Northwest Wisconsin's Lakes."

For more information go to [northland.edu/sustain/soei/lakesconference](http://northland.edu/sustain/soei/lakesconference)

Submitted by, Mary Ann Churchill 462- 9140  
[machu@centurytel.net](mailto:machu@centurytel.net)

# TOWN OF ROUND LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

As we have done in past years, the Round Lake Fire Department rescue Kubota volunteered for the Birkie by being in town all day Birkie Friday (it also served all day race day at the Gravel Pit Road medic station), and started the morning on Lake Hayward for the Junior Birkie Race. In transit from the lake ice to Main Street, the Kubota drew smiles from the McDonald's workers as hot coffee was procured on the way to our next station in front of Riverbrook Bike at the bottom of the International Bridge. We provided coverage for all the Barnebirkie Skiers [and, as it turned out, for the accompanying parents skiing (falling) as well] who were challenged by the steep down slope of the bridge. Thrown in at the end of the kids' race, the heavy sit-ski sleds came through the bedlam of youngsters and parents which very luckily did not end in serious injury as the volunteer crew clearing the carnage at the bottom of the hill worked with a frenzy.

Next year, the race is rumored to be changed, but the Kubota and Round Lake Fire Department will be there, if needed!

## REQUEST FOR SUPPORT

The president of our Auxiliary has detailed our needs very nicely, but some of the firefighters would like to elaborate. Even if the funds cannot be created for the much needed expensive pumper at our Station #1 in Moose Lake, we very much need an addition to our antiquated fire barn. The reasons are many, some of which follow.

Built in 1980 by volunteer help, the structure is totally inadequate:

1. The cement apron to both stalls is heaved, cracked, and warped. The big stall doors no longer seal which creates

huge gaps that in the winter allow tremendous heat loss at needless expense. In the summer, insects, rodents, and reptiles can access the structure.

We had a professional mason give us a cost estimate of approximately \$2,000.00 to attempt to correct. New garage doors would only temporarily lessen the gap for big dollars. For the emergency trucks to be on call, only one side at a time could be done, and even then we would be one vehicle short, as they cannot be left outside, and there is no room at Station 2.

2. The stalls that house the Tanker and Brush Truck are adequate for the vehicles, but the one wall, which has all the firefighters' turnout gear hanging on it, does not allow any space for our firefighters to put the ponderous equipment on. There is no room for even a folding chair to sit on to change into heavy boots, turnout bibs, etc., or our wildfire certified boots, and total garb. In addition, a number of firefighters are also EMTs and their ponderous medical bags need room for them serving double duty.

3. Storage--our Round Lake Fire Department Auxiliary has to pay monthly rental fees to store all of its equipment for Moose Fest as it is our main source of dollars that keeps us on the leading edge of volunteer fire departments. If the much needed addition became a reality, another storage fee would be eliminated.

4. Drain--there are 2 small drains in the 2 stalls in the 36 year old structure, but neither can handle more than

a gallon of water at a time without backing up. In winter when both vehicles are on fire department calls, they come back coated with road salt and cannot be washed either inside or outside. A new addition would allow firefighters to keep our investments rust free.

5. Additional space would allow our station to house either temporarily or permanently some of the equipment that normally is at our other station that we need here--i.e. the Kubota that answers many snowmobile calls in this area, where response time would be quicker.

6. As noted by President Karns, the fire station in Moose Lake presently has more firefighters responding than our other station. When a call comes in, with all our equipment, only two firefighters fit per bench seat per vehicle. That makes only 4 for our station. The rest must use their private vehicles, which is not really condoned officially [insurance, liability, etc].

Please, call, email, or talk to your Town of Round Lake Chairman and Supervisors imploring them to allow our much needed addition. Check the Town of Round Lake Website, <http://www.townofroundlakewi.org/>, for their names and contact information.

Thank you so much,  
*Doc Grayson*



*Kubota and crew taking a coffee break at McDonald's*

# ADVENTURES IN SNOWMOBILING



PHOTOS BY DAVE WILTROUT

TOP: Amy and Mike Sherberg, neighbors of Louies Landing, getting ready for a ride

ABOVE LEFT AND RIGHT: Doc and Lou Grayson, decked out in tropical gear, volunteering at the Boedecker Food Station at the Birkie

BELOW RIGHT: Dean Broberg getting the groomer ready to go clean the trails



While this year's snowmobile season was on the short-side, it was met with great joy by those who traveled the Moose Lake Area trails. The snow never came in huge volume, but was just enough to keep the snowmobilers happy. The groomers of Musky-Sno, our areas snowmobile club, were continuously cited by visitors and locals alike as maintaining the best trails in the area. Even though our equipment needed lots of repairs during the season, the volunteer crew kept up with scheduled grooming. The good news is that our equipment is slated to be next on the list to be retired and replaced by a brand new groomer next season. We're keeping our fingers crossed, as these are very expensive investments by the Sawyer County Snowmobile Alliance.

We had lots of snowmobilers from surrounding states, as well as friends that travel our trails year after year. They took full advantage of the area warming-up spots in the Moose Lake area - Louie's Landing, Charlie's Fine Foods, Snyder's Y-Pine, and Virgin Timbers.

Two of the groomers from Musky-Sno were cited for their excellent contributions at the April Sawyer County Alliance banquet: Jack Brown was honored with the President's Award and Dean Broberg received the Rookie Groomer Award. We are looking forward to a great year of both four-wheelers and snowmobilers this year and next.

*Submitted by Pam and Jack Brown*



# CHEQUAMEGON LIONS CONTINUE TO SERVE

The Chequamegon Lions Club is made up of 60 service-minded women and men, most of whom reside in the townships of Round Lake, Spider Lake, and Hunter. Since the club's founding almost 20 years ago, it has donated over a quarter of a million dollars and thousands of hours of service to the local community. A few new members were added this year. The club was deeply saddened to lose two members. Mark Frisch, who lived on Pine Point Road, was a long-time member, as was Don Lessard who lived on the flowage. They were memorialized at the Lions annual district convention in April.

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Club members recently elected officers for the 2016-17 fiscal year which begins in July. They are Kay Huckler, President; Nancy Schryer, 1st VP; Diane Sosnowski, 2nd VP; Jo Mazik, Recording Secretary; Katie George, Data Secretary; Mary Braddish, Treasurer; Sally Myers, Membership Chair; Jim Schryer, Tail Twister; George Duerwerth, Lion Tamer; and Steve George, Past President.

The club's fundraising and service projects run throughout the year. After ringing the Salvation Army bells over the holiday season, dozens of members volunteered for the annual Birkebeiner event (see photo). They played a key role in checking in and registering Birkie skiers this year, and also packaged the registration bags, served food at the food stations and tents, and passed out awards. Lion Bob Kondrasuk skied the event in memory of recently departed Lion Don Lessard.

The Chequamegon Lions love to serve the local lakes environment. For the fourth year, the club will be hosting a one-day-long Water Habitat Study Day for over 150 Hayward area third graders. The learning program takes place at The Landing and CC Campgrounds on the Chippewa Flowage. Small

PHOTO BY JAN STAPLETON



*Marilyn Karns and Dave Sanders receive the highest award, the Melvin Jones, that a Lion member can receive. Pictured here with club president Steve George at the May meeting.*

PHOTO BY JAN STAPLETON



*Lions helping with Birkie registration*

groups of students move between a number of outdoor education stations throughout the day, where they have the opportunity to learn about fish identification, fish anatomy, water clarity and quality, invasive species, and lakeshore management. The learning stations are staffed by local DNR representatives, county environmental staff, and volunteer teachers, many of them members of the Lions Club. Northern Waters Environmental School students spend the day as teaching assistants. A healthy lunch with locally harvested foods is served to the students, accompanied by stories and songs of the lakes.

Two \$1000 scholarships will be awarded to deserving high school seniors this year to help them to fund college studies. Join the club in supporting these scholarships by stopping by MarketPlace Foods on Friday, June 24 and Saturday, June 25 and purchasing some tasty grilled items from under the grill trailer in

the parking lot. Lions club members will be stoking the fires to raise scholarship funds, and can tell you more about the club and the Moose Lake Fest on August 6.

The club's biggest fundraiser of the year is the Moose Lake Festival at Louie's Landing on Moose Lake, when it partners with the Town of Round Lake Fire Department Auxiliary to raise money for the local fire department and many other projects. One hundred percent of the money raised by the club is returned to the community.

Local nonprofits that received funding from the Chequamegon Lions this year include the Hayward Food Shelf's Food 4 Kids program, Fishing Has No Boundaries, Ventures Unlimited, Hayward Library, Regional Hospice, Northwest Humane Society, Christmas 4 Kidz, Leader Dogs, Can Do Canines, the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, and the Lions Wisconsin Camp for youngsters with disabilities. Funds

raised by the club also support the local community senior meals program and the Senior Center Respite Program. In addition, an emergency community assistance fund is kept ready to be made available to individuals and groups in emergency or crisis situations.

Each spring and fall, club members also offer their time and energy to keep a section of Highway 77 clean through the Adopt a Highway program. You will also see them cleaning the pontoons used in the Fishing Has No Boundaries event, and spending long hours at the Hayward Community Food Shelf.

All are welcome to join our fun, friendly, and service minded club! Please attend one of our club meetings held the first Wednesday evening of each month at the Round Lake Town Hall. For more information, contact membership chair Sally Myers at 715-462-3027.

*Submitted by Jan Stapleton  
Club President and Publicity Committee Chair  
Chequamegon Lions Club*