Moose Lake News by Jim Onarheim

Hats off to all the folks that helped with the annual removal and cleaning of our 20 Moose Lake buoys. Joel Miller, owner of Mystic Moose Resort with his huge flat- bottomed Jon boat was the key element in the removal effort. Helping were volunteers Cary McDonald, Ron Kvamme, and Doc Grayson. The buoys were all removed on Saturday October 12th. These buoys were replaced with a small floatation device that is attached to the 80 lb. anchor so we can find the exact location next spring when the buoys are put back in the lake.

Many thanks to our scrub crew and to Danny McCormick who hosted and helped scrub on Thursday, October 17. The crew included MLIA board members Fred Haak, Joe Dwyer, Dave Wiltrout. and Cary McDoanld along with Sharon Haak, Jan Stapleton, Paul and Bonnie Miller, and Lou and Doc Grayson. They finished in record time and got to enjoy home baked goodies made by Paul before heading home.

Moose Lake in on the way down. As of Monday morning, October 21st the lake was down approximately 14 inches. Frank our Dam Keeper is hoping that by the middle or 3rd week in November the lake should be at its normal winter draw - down level. This is about 5 feet lower than the summer level.

Last Friday evening October 18th, I had the opportunity to help Jack Brown out at Louie's Landing. I assisted in the kitchen which I have done before. This was because Jack was on vacation, Elk hunting in Colorado. They were a little short- handed, so I offered to help- out for that evening. Jack thought it would be a little slow so it should be an easy night he said. Well that was the wrong answer. We were very busy and all three of us were running around like crazy trying to keep up with everything. I was glad to see 9 o'clock show up. That is the time the kitchen closed. It was fun seeing all the area people and visiting when I had time.

The last couple of weeks I have talked about Fire Prevention items in the Moose Lake News because this is National Fire Prevention Month. Fire Prevention week is October 6th - 12th. One thing I had not mentioned in the couple of weeks was the importance of having Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detectors in your home. This is a state law in Wisconsin that every residential home must have a CO detector in or near the bedrooms.

I have always said that a CO detector like a smoke detector, they should be close to your bedroom so you can hear it at 2 AM when your sleeping. I always ask people where do you put your alarm clock? Close to your bed so you can hear it when it goes off at 6 AM. The CO detector & smoke detector should be in the same location. Always follow the manufacturers recommendations as far as the location or placement of the CO detectors

CO gas does not have a smell to it and is not visible. It is often called the invisible killer. Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas that is created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. CO does not rise to the ceiling like smoke. It can be at the ceiling or at the floor level. A CO detector can be plugged in an electrical receptacle near our bed. A CO detector does not have to be mounted on the ceiling. Carbon Monoxide is a deadly gas that can kill you. It may not give you a second chance. Always follow the manufacturers recommendation when placing CO detectors.

Although the popularity of carbon monoxide (CO) alarms has been growing in recent years, it cannot be assumed that everyone is familiar with the hazards of carbon monoxide poisoning. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel are potential sources of carbon monoxide. Vehicles or generators running in an attached garage can also produce dangerous levels of carbon monoxide.

The dangers of CO exposure depend on several variables, including the victim's health and activity level. Infants, pregnant women, and people with physical conditions that limit their body's ability to use oxygen (i.e. emphysema, asthma, heart disease) can be more severely affected by lower concentrations of CO than healthy adults would be.

A person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time.

In 2010, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 80,100 non-fire CO incidents in which carbon monoxide was found, or an average of nine such calls per hour. The number of incidents increased 96 % from 40,900 incidents reported in 2003. This increase is most likely due to the increased use of CO detectors, which alert people to the presence of CO. Many states have made it mandatory to have at least one CO detector in each home or apartment.

Safety tips:

CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home and in other locations where required by applicable laws, codes or standards. For the best protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.

Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height.

Choose a CO alarm that has the label of a recognized testing laboratory.

Call your local fire department's non-emergency number to find out what number to call if the CO alarm sounds.

Test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions.

If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries. If the battery is low, replace it. If it still sounds, call the fire department.

If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel arrive. If you call the fire department, do not try to ventilate your home first, just get outside.

If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not covered with snow.

During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace are clear of snow build-up.

A generator should be used in a well-ventilated location outdoors away from windows, doors and vent openings.

Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO — only use outside.

The source of some of this information comes from National Fire Protection Association (NFPA's) "Non-Fire Carbon Monoxide Incidents" report. NFPA's Fire Protection Handbook 20th edition.

Well that is all for this week. Enjoy our fall weather and stay dry and stay safe!

Birthday greetings this week go out to Patti Stuettgen on the 24th, Mark Snyder, Ryan Turner, Rebekah Taylor & Pat Cease all on the 30th of this month. There I sonly one anniversary this week. David and Betty Greene on the 25th.