



Cedar Lake News

Summer/2004

Volume 5, Issue 2

ANNANDALE - MAPLE LAKE MN

Letter from the President

Hi Neighbors!

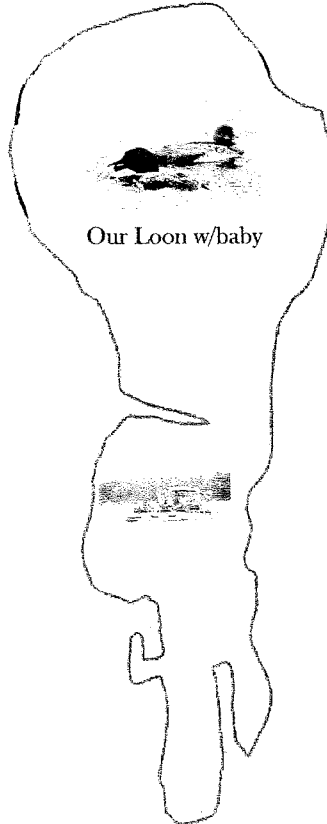
Summer has raced by this year, or maybe it just seems that way because spring was so wet and cool.

The spring dinner was enjoyable and well attended. However, over the years a number of people who are here only on weekends have complained that they cannot leave work on Friday afternoon and make it to this event, which has traditionally been held on the Friday evening of Memorial Weekend. They have asked if the potluck dinner could be changed to Saturday. Others prefer Friday because they have company on that weekend. Next year we will have it on the Saturday, May 28, and see how that goes. Perhaps we can alternate Fridays and Saturdays in effort to keep everyone happy.

The boat parade was held on the 3rd of July because of conflict with the parade in Annandale. Vern Harper led the parade, and it was much more orderly than the previous year. The decorations were superb. The boat parade will return to the 4th next year.

The annual dinner is on Saturday, August 14, at the Maple Lake VFW. This year Merle Anderson from the Clearwater River Watershed District will be our guest speaker. He will address the causes of Cedar Lake's poor water quality, the results of the water quality-monitoring program and short and long-term solutions. You won't want to miss this.

We have a serious water quality problem with our lake, and we would like to have all the property owners on the lake involved. If you have new neighbors, encourage them to become members and attend the annual meeting. Let Bill Pallies know who and where they are because he is working on a new lake directory.



Our Loon w/baby

*From Your President—
continued*

EURASIAN MILFOIL

On July 10, 2004 a search for Eurasian Milfoil was done on Cedar Lake. Thank you to those who volunteered their time to search for milfoil: Jerry Altman, Dean Custer, Earl Duffy, Don Enger, Vern Harper, Dave Levi, Don Linn, Holly Linn and Larry Tysk. The good news is that none was discovered. The bad news is that Cedar Lake has Curly Leaf Pondweed and Clasp Leaf Pondweed, both of which can become a problem

Attend The Annual Dinner

set for Saturday Aug. 14th

A reasonably priced delicious dinner, great socializing with neighbors, and the chance to win BIG prizes come together at the annual dinner set for 5:00 pm (social hour with cash bar followed by dinner at 6:00) on Saturday August 14th at the Maple Lake VFW on Hwy. 55. Bring the whole family out for this big event of the summer where you will learn new things about happenings on the lake and meet new people.

CEDAR LAKE SWEATSHIRTS, in adult sizes, will be sold before the dinner for \$25.00 each. They've always seemed to be very well received. It's fun to wear them—especially on trips.

From Your President—continued

of the magnitude of Eurasian Milfoil. The green scum on the lake appears to be a product of Curly Leaf Pondweed. It has been successfully treated on other lakes when treatment was done early and the whole lake was treated. Clasp Leaf Pondweed treatment has only yielded a 60% success rate, according to Lake Restoration.

NEWSLETTER—We are looking for a volunteer to edit/publish our newsletter. Please let me or another of the Board Members know if you would be interested. Kale will stay on until a new editor can be found.

Thank you.

Leslie Kreutter

ARE YOU CONSIDERING RIPRAPPING YOUR LAKESHORE?

By Leslie Kreutter

The practice called riprap involves "protecting" lakeshore by lining the shoreline with 6-12" diameter rocks, to a height of up to 5 feet above the ordinary high water mark. It has become extremely popular among lakeshore owners with limited environmental perspective, who believe that man's ingenuity and know-how are superior to that of nature.

The damage done to riprapped shores has been well documented. This past winter and spring there was far more damage to riprapped shores than any other type of shoreline. Second on the list were non-riprapped shores where all vegetation had been removed, except for the environmentally damaging turf-grass lawns.

The least impacted shorelines were those with natural vegetation covering the ground down to the shoreline. Natural vegetation is still the best protection of lakeshore from both wave erosion and ice heaves.

Ice, as it contracts and expands, can exert from 8,000 to 30,000 pounds of pressure per square inch to lakeshores. Moving ice can push the riprap in, through, under and over the shoreline, leaving a huge mound of dirt and rock that costs thousands of dollars to repair. More importantly, the repair of the shoreline causes natural soil to be pushed or poured into the lakes, adding nutrients and sediment to already stressed lakes.

The damage caused by riprap does not only occur in the winter. In summer the hot sun heats the rocks. When it rains, the water that runs off the rocks becomes heated and raises the temperature of the lake. Higher water temperatures lower dissolved oxygen content and cause aquatic organisms to increase their respiration rates and consume oxygen faster. It also increases their susceptibility to disease, parasites, and toxic chemicals. Discharge of heated water into shallow water near the shore of a lake may disrupt spawning and kill young fish.

Fish and other organisms can also be killed from thermal shock (sudden change in water temperature). Some organisms, such as algae, may flourish in the warmer temperatures created by the riprap.

If you are considering riprapping your shoreline, please contact an organization knowledgeable about lake ecology to ask about alternative methods of shoreline preservation or to determine if riprap is really the best thing you can do for your shoreline. If yours is a situation where you believe riprap is a usable tool that can be beneficial, please have the job previewed and designed by a qualified engineer.

Note: The information on riprap is from an article titled "The Negative Effects of Riprap on Lakeshore" by Scott Lucas, a technician with the Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District. The impact of heated water is explained in an article titled "Thermal Pollution" by Rute Neves and Silvia Lourenco.

Curly—Leaf Pondweed

Hello all, I recently saw an article on Curly Leaf Pondweed in the Plymouth Community newsletter. The article described its effect on Medicine Lake and what Plymouth is doing to deal with it. The effects seemed very similar to what is happening on Cedar Lake. I mentioned this article to my neighbor, Dave Levi and he has since found 2 more articles.

The Plymouth article mentioned a treatment that was being tried experimentally, but did not say what that treatment was. In a conversation that Dave and I had with Lake Restoration, they mentioned that they were treating Medicine Lake. Basically, it sounded like chemical treatment, but it was early and included all the shoreline. Lake Restoration went on to say that we (Dave and I) are dealing with something called "Clasping Leaf Pondweed" and their chemical treatment on that weed is 60% effective at best.

I'm not sure if we have a curly leaf or clasping leaf problem in Cedar Lake, or both. It does seem that the problems we have seen the last 2 years are similar to the problems mentioned in these articles.

Bill Westhoff (West side north of sandbar.)

Curly-Leaf Pondweed Turning Lakes Green

The head of the Minnesota Lakes Association says curly-leaf pondweed has become one of the state's most invasive water plants, causing heavy mats of weeds on lake surfaces and green scum.

Like Eurasian milfoil, curly-leaf pondweed can be transported from lake to lake by boaters who don't clean weeds off their motors. Once it's in a lake, it spreads quickly and is costly to control.

The nuisance plant is causing headaches for the state Department of Natural Resources, lake associations and concerned lakeshore owners. Curly-leaf pondweed has spread to more than 500 lakes in Minnesota, and officials say there is no cheap or easy way to control the plant.

SWEATSHIRTS

The new Cedar Lake sweatshirts would make a wonderful gift. We still have a good supply of them. The shirts have Cedar Lake and a bass jumping out of the lake done in thread on the left side. They are available in adult sizes L, XL and XXL in yellow, forest green and navy blue. Purchase yours at the Annual Dinner or call Don or Fran Badger at 320-274-5823.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE ON YOUR BOARD?

If you would like to serve on the Board of Directors for your lake, please contact one of the Board Members by Aug. 6th or send a note expressing your desire to: C.L.C.C., P.O. Box 192, Annandale, MN 55302.

WATER QUALITY—A Vitally Important Topic

Reported by: Dave Larsen

On Saturday, June 19, certain members of the CLCC Board of Directors met with Merle Anderson, Marv Brunsell, and Mark Kampa of the Clearwater River Watershed District ("CRWD"). The purpose of the meeting was to express our concern about the evident deterioration of the Cedar Lake water quality, and to develop a joint plan of action with respect to improving the water quality of our lake. In addition to the recreational and aesthetic appeal of clean water, water quality has a significant impact on the value of lakeshore property. The CRWD is a governmental unit that was formed in 1975 for the purpose of protecting and improving the water quality of the lakes within the CRWD boundaries, which includes all of the Annandale area lakes (for more information on the CRWD, feel free to visit their web-site at www.crw.org). Merle Anderson will be speaking at our upcoming annual meeting.

The meeting opened with a discussion of the underlying causes of poor water quality, and where Cedar Lake currently stands in relation to the other lakes within the CRWD's boundaries. In general, poor water quality in lakes is caused by excessive algae growth which, in turn, is a function of high levels of the chemical phosphorous in the lake water. Phosphorous is an ingredient in many types of fertilizers, so the primary cause of high levels of phosphorous in lakes is the run-off of fertilizer into the lakes. As a result, the phosphorous level is a key measure used by the CRWD in monitoring the water quality of the lakes within the CRWD's boundaries. At the current time, only a handful of other lakes within the CRWD's boundaries have lower phosphorous levels than Cedar Lake. Unfortunately, the CRWD's ongoing monitoring program also indicates that the phosphorous level in Cedar Lake has increased over time, and continues to increase. This is no surprise to those of us who have witnessed the deterioration in the water quality of Cedar Lake over the years.

The discussion then focused on the sources of the phosphorous in Cedar Lake. The primary source is the water flow into Cedar Lake from Albion and Swartzwatts Lakes, which are just across Highway 55 from the south end of Cedar Lake. The CRWD area is divided into a series of sub-shed districts based on the natural flow of water. Cedar Lake is at the north end of a long, fairly narrow sub-shed district, with Albion and Swartzwatts Lakes at the south end. The water flow in Cedar Lake's sub-shed district flows from south to north, so our lake is the natural recipient of water flow from Albion and Swartzwatts Lakes. These two lakes have extremely high phosphorous levels, which means that the water flowing into Cedar Lake contains an extremely high level of phosphorous. The reason that Albion and Swartzwatts Lakes have such a high level of phosphorous is that these two lakes are bordered by farms, and the run-off of the fertilizer from these farms is the cause of the extremely high levels of phosphorous in

these two lakes. It should also be noted that the "flash flood" rains that Wright County experienced in June 2002 has accelerated the rate of water flow into Cedar Lake from Albion and Swartzwatts Lakes and thus, accelerated the trend of increasing phosphorous levels in Cedar Lake.

While the preceding paragraph describes what is believed to be the primary cause of the deteriorating water quality in Cedar Lake, it is important to be aware that it is not the only cause. Cedar Lake property owners applying fertilizer containing phosphorous to their lawns and gardens without establishing any buffer zone relative to the lakeshore is also a contributor to the increasing phosphorous levels in the water, as are construction projects where the contractor and/or property owner is not using the proper containment system to minimize or prevent run-off into the lake. Finally, septic systems that have not been installed properly or are not functioning properly is also contributing to the water quality problem in Cedar Lake.

The final portion of the meeting consisted of a discussion of an action plan, involving both the CRWD and CLCC, designed to halt the deterioration of and improve the water quality in Cedar Lake.

With respect to the water flow into Cedar Lake from Albion and Swartzwatts Lakes, the CRWD has already stepped up its ongoing water quality monitoring program for Cedar Lake. The purpose of this is to provide the CRWD with the basis for making the final determination that corrective action is required. Once this determination has been made, the CRWD would then proceed with developing a plan for corrective action which could involve some sort of water diversion project to prevent or substantially reduce the flow of water from Albion and Swartzwatts Lakes into Cedar Lake. At this stage of the process, the issue of funding the corrective action plan would need to be addressed. A very likely source of funding would be a special real estate tax levy on the affected property owners. Before such a levy would be assessed, the CRWD would hold one or more public hearings to gauge whether the affected property owners are in favor of the corrective action plan and related levy and, if so, what is the most equitable means of allocating the tax levy among the affected property owners.

In addition to the foregoing, which, given all that is involved, is a longer term process, there are other action plans that can be put into place in the shorter term. The CRWD has agreed to set up and facilitate a meeting between the CLCC Board and the owners of the farms that surround Albion and Swartzwatts Lakes to make sure that they are aware of the situation and to understand what they can do to help. Merle Anderson of the CRWD indicated that farm owners in the area have historically been very willing to listen to such concerns, and also have

WATER QUALITY—continued on page 4

WATER QUALITY—*continued*

been willing to cooperate with the CRWD in its efforts to improve water quality in the area lakes. For example, in the Clearwater River/Lake clean-up project, Merle said that a number of the farm owners voluntarily established buffer zones (no fertilizing) along the boundaries of their properties where run-off into the river and lake occurs. It is anticipated that the meeting between the CLCC Board and farm owners will take place no later than next spring.

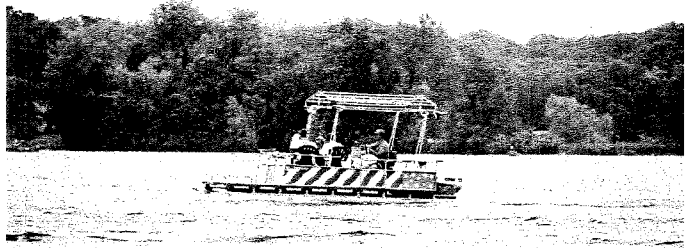
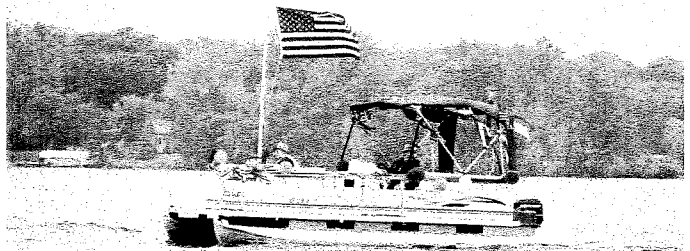
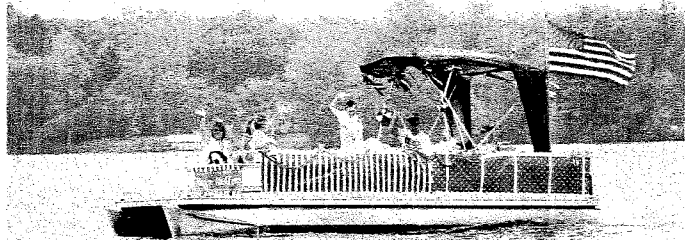
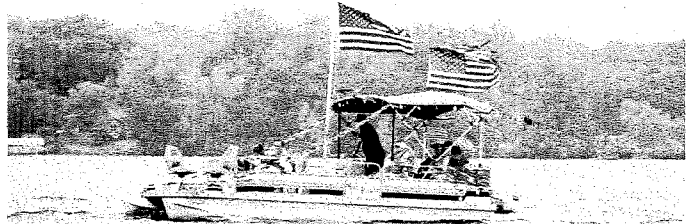
There are also a number of short-term action plans that each CLCC member can undertake to help improve the water quality of our lake. One such plan is for each of us to establish a buffer zone along the lakeshore to make sure that we are not fertilizing too close to the lake, and to strictly obey the recently-passed Wright County law prohibiting the use of fertilizers containing phosphorous on residential properties. Another such plan is to make sure that our septic systems have been installed properly, and are functioning properly. At the meeting, Merle stressed that, just because a septic system appears to be working properly (i.e., no problems with respect to toilets backing up), it doesn't mean that it is. He indicated that all systems should be inspected and pumped out at least every two years. With respect to construction projects, we need to make sure that contractors are using the proper containment systems to prevent run-off into the lake. Finally, we can make sure that our neighbors on Cedar Lake, who may not be members of the CLCC, are aware of the water quality issues we are facing, and what they can do to help the cause.

In closing, I would just like to say that I have had the good fortune and pleasure of spending summers at Cedar Lake my entire life. Unfortunately, this also means that the deterioration in the quality of the water in Cedar Lake over the years is very evident to me. However, with the CRWD and CLCC working together, I am extremely optimistic that, one day, the water quality will be restored to what I remember it being as a youth.

GIRLS FUN ADVENTURES

Returning from vacation on, Sunday, July 25th, your editor and wife stopped at a cheese house in Wisconsin on highway 8. There we ran into a whole busload of only women (except the driver whom they nicknamed "Lucky"). They were on what looked like a very fun trip for girls only. The lady who started this runs about 20 some mystery trips a year at a cost of from \$130 to \$170 each. When they plan a trip they get the word out that they're going on a bus trip but no one (except the planners and the driver) knows where they are going. They just go and from listening to them—they have a ball. Just thought I'd mention it because it really sounds like fun and a great get-away for the ladies. They have a website where you can get information. It is www.girls-fun-adventures.com/

Pictures of a few decorated boats chosen at random



A LONG TIME AGO ON CEDAR LAKE

by Arlene Gonnella

One day in 1937 my grandpa, Joe Vosika, the policeman, purchased a cottage on Cedar Lake. This led to many, many happy days there. The cottage had a hand pump in the kitchen with a big 4 burner kerosene stove, an outhouse on the back of the lot and we used kerosene lamps. The kitchen had a large kerosene lamp and in the evening we all would gather and play games or read. The other rooms had smaller lamps but they did not give enough light to read by unless you sat right next to them.

At that time we had about 20 feet of sand beach where my cousin Donna and I used to play. I had no sisters or brothers but Donna was just like one as we were together much of the summer. We used to play on the beach with our pails and shovels making castles and ponds and walkways for our tiny porcelain dolls. We used to feed the ducks that came swimming by. We also laid on the dock and the sunfish came to take bread out of our fingers. When our grandparents and my parents were napping we would each sit at one end of the hammock and read books and eat rhubarb dipped in sugar. It was a wonderful quiet, peaceful time.

We did a lot of swimming and the lake bottom was so clear through the water we could see tiny sunfish swimming around our toes. There was not one weed or rocks big or small to be seen, just nice sand. My grandpa would swim a long way out beyond where he could not touch bottom. All he could see was clear water, sand, and usually a few sunfish. It is too bad the lake has so many weeds all over now. There was no drop off anywhere in front of the cottage. At that time we did not have all the fancy water toys that are made now, but did have a blow up horse that we all were on at one time or another, even my grandmother.

My grandpa would stay at the lake from early Spring to late Fall. My grandmother would come and go with us, my dad driving. In fact when gas rationing came and my dad had to use all his gas to get to work (at Texaco in St. Paul but he got no extra gas just because he worked there.) my grandfather bought what we called "The Lake Car" so we would be able to have gas for the drive to Cedar Lake which was in the allowed limits of gas rationing. My Dad would switch cars at grandpa's house, pick up grandma, then mother, dad, grandma, myself and sometimes my aunt or my cousin would all go to Cedar Lake..

I never knew too many of the people on the lake. At that time children should not bother the weekend people because they came to fish and rest. I did know Shirley Cook as her father lived all summer at the cottage just next to us on the North. I had also heard from my grandpa about the Lankinen girls who swam across the lake and back without stopping. I really did not know them at that time. My grandpa was great friends with Joe Lankinen and they played a lot of cribbage. Joe Urich who owned the resort on the Southeast side of the lake would also play. The

three were very good friends. I loved going to the resort to get ice for our icebox. Grandpa and my Dad would let me ride in the wheelbarrow when we got ice. Grandpa would always buy me a soft drink while he and my Dad had a beer and gabbed with Joe Urich. The icehouse was always so nice and cool. In the winter Joe and some helpers would cut ice from the lake into blocks and stack it in the icehouse with lots of sawdust to help keep it from melting. On the way home the ice got to ride and I had to walk. Maybe not really walking because at that time I loved to skip. Do kids do things like this anymore?

We used to go fishing a lot. Grandpa would go during the week so that Mom, Dad, Grandma and I could all go together. We had an old (even then) wooden boat with a small 3 horse motor. Dad would take us all over our end of the lake to fish and he had found all the best places. One was right out in front where we used to get big sunnies.

As I got older I was able to row the boat around our end of the lake. When I was about 15 I had a friend from school who week-ended at the North end and I was allowed to use the motor instead of rowing to visit my friend. It was really fun but it took a long time with a 3 horse motor. Picture that if you will!!

In September of 1942, during the week after Labor Day we had a tornado. I remember looking out the kitchen windows from the safety (?) of the living room and seeing Joe Urich's boats flying over his big building that housed his store/dance hall. The wind, rain and noise were terrible, trees were going down, waves were going up. Our fish box with fish and pump for watering disappeared. My grandmother went around the house sprinkling holy water and as water drops touched her, my mother cried out "Oh my God, it's raining in!" This is funny now but not so at that time. We had no place under the house to go like we did when we had a tornado in the 90's. It did not last long so when things quieted down we took a camera and went around to see what happened. There were lots of trees down all over, some on cabins. When we went up the hill to see Joe Urich's resort there was a cabin that was just kindling. Some people were renting it and when the storm got so bad they managed to push out the door and hid behind a huge tree. It was a good thing this did not happen over Labor Day as all of Joe's cabins had been occupied then. My mother and dad invited them to the cabin and gave them dry, clean clothes to wear. I still have all the pictures but even without seeing them for years the time is very vivid in my mind. I sat in the big leather rocker praying it would end soon.

It also seemed that at the end of each month we would have a very bad storm, lots of wind, rain, thunder and lightening. We have had other tornados and straight line winds that did a lot of damage since then. I think our pontoon has had a new top 3 times. One time not too long ago we were without power for about 5 days. This hap-

pened just before the 4* of July and celebrations had to be canceled. We had family members (5) from AZ staying with us, without electricity we had no water, lights or cold refrigerators. The stove had an electric starter so we could not cook. We went to St. Cloud and bought lots of flashlights and had dinner there. Other days we went to Buffalo to see a movie and use the real restrooms. The boys carried water from the lake and our daughter heated it up on the gas stove, got in the shower, soaped and then poured the water over her for a shower. The rest just washed in the lake. Trees were down on homes, boathouses and across roads taking down power lines and blocking traffic. This was the time the wind picked up our boat and lift and tossed it over the dock, knocking the pontoon on the other side of the dock out of place with boat, pontoon and 2 lifts all settled in one big pile of twisted metal. This last time on July 3, 2003 the wind moved the boat and pontoon over to the South a foot and a half crumbling the dock in between. Our fishing dock was all over our two neighbors yards. Lots of people had to go looking for boats and pieces of dock. As you know, all is not always peaceful and fun. There always is a lot of work to do.

We all had a lot of fun with all our family and friends for these many years. Those of you who live near us remember when I walked our Samoyed, Maui, especially the time he chased Melanie's cat up the tree. Maui only wanted to play as he was very used to cats and had fun with those in our family. I loved those walks with Maui. One time it was quite warm and after walking in the cool shade of the road going North, we walked up the gravel road past the landing almost to the "Y" up the hill. Maui all of a sudden sat down and I told him only 2 more poles to go. (I counted the electric poles.) He got up, went a couple of steps, sat down and wouldn't move until 1 indicated we were going back to the landing. He went into the lake and drank and drank. He really loved the walks too, the leash would appear and he would get all excited and come to get it put on. I still miss him.

The cottage has been in our family 67 years, my grandfather, father and mother owning it, then Donald and I, and now our children and grandchildren. We all have very fond memories of the good times - and the not so good. I would like to think that they all will have new memories of all the fun our family and friends have on Cedar Lake. We will miss all our friends very much.

Kale, In the picture that was in the last newsletter, my mother and father, Loretta and Andy Ayt, are in the center of the picture. Mother is in a print dress, holding a small black purse and Dad is standing right behind her. They were charter members of the Cedar Lake Conservation Club.

I hope the story is what you wanted for the paper. I do not yet have much time to write or do anything extra as Donald is still in a nursing home here in Tucson and I go almost every day to see him. The shoulder that I broke in Sept. is finally getting better with therapy still 3 times a week. It looks like we can no longer come back for the summers as Donald would not be able to make the trip.

Our daughter Margaret and husband Scott Mullen are the ones who will take care of the cabin, along with other family and friends to help them. We have not been able to do much work for several years. We will miss the parties and the boat parades even though we only watched for a number of years now. We hope everyone on Cedar Lake takes care of it, has many fun times, and catch nice sized fish. Donald always took a ruler and if the sunfish or crappies did not measure more than 6 to 8 inches they would go back in the lake to grow more. They kept only enough for a meal. He and his fishing friends caught and released the bass. They were great bass fishermen and they kept only 1 or 2 for meals.

Kids say the darndest things.....

A mother was telling her little girl what her own childhood was like:

"We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tire; it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"

A nursery school teacher was delivering a station wagon full of kids home one day when a fire truck zoomed past. Sitting in the front seat of the fire truck was a Dalmatian dog. The children started discussing the dog's duties. "They use him to keep crowds back," said one youngster. "No," said another, "he's just for good luck." A third child brought the argument to a close. "They use the dogs", she said firmly, "to find the fire hydrant."

A grandmother was surprised by her 7 year old grandson one morning. He had made her coffee. She drank what was the worst cup of coffee in her life. When she got to the bottom, there were three of those little green army men in the cup. She said, "Honey, what are these army men doing in my coffee?" Her grandson said, "Grandma, it says on TV - "The best part of waking up is soldiers in your cup!"

Subject: Children's Logic:

Give me a sentence about a public servant," said a teacher. The small boy wrote: "The fireman came down the ladder pregnant." The teacher took the lad aside to correct him. "Don't you know what pregnant means?" she asked. "Sure," said the young boy confidently. "It means carrying a child."

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Curly-leaf pondweed turning lakes green

July 13, 2004

Rice, Minn. – Little Rock Lake is no longer the Mecca of fishing and water sports that Jeff Soderholm remembers.

For the past two years, heavy mats of weeds have floated along the surface of the lake in June. By midsummer, the plants died off and were replaced by a scum of green algae on the water's surface.

"By the Fourth of July, it was like pea soup," Soderholm said.

The culprit is curly-leaf pondweed.

"It's becoming probably one of the most invasive aquatic species we have in Minnesota right now," said Paula West, executive director of the Minnesota Lakes Association.

Like Eurasian milfoil, curly-leaf pondweed can be transported from lake to lake by boaters who don't clean weeds off their motors. Once it's in a lake, it spreads quickly and is costly to control.

The nuisance plant is causing headaches for the state Department of Natural Resources, lake associations and concerned lakeshore owners like Soderholm.

Soderholm helped create the Little Rock Lake Clean Water Committee, which he hopes will find a solution. If nothing is done, Soderholm fears the lake's quality will continue to deteriorate.

Curly-leaf pondweed has spread to

more than 500 lakes in Minnesota.

"It's in almost every county in the state," said Neil Vanderbosch, DNR aquatic plant management specialist.

Curly-leaf's unusual life cycle gives it a competitive edge over other aquatic plants. It sprouts from seed-like pods in the fall and continues to grow under the ice during the winter. Typically it's the first plant to bloom in the spring and dies off by late June or early July.

While in bloom, curly-leaf pondweed grows quickly and can create a mat of vegetation near the surface. It clogs up boat motors and makes the lake unappealing for swimming and other water sports.

"It's a problem that is getting really bad," said Don Zieglmeier, president of the Little Rock Lake Association.

"People are getting really uptight. It's so bad now, in some places you can't go 40 feet without cleaning off your (propeller)."

Recent winters marked by late freezes, minimal snow cover and early melts have been ideal for curly-leaf, said Steve McComas of Blue Water Science, a St. Paul-based consulting firm that helps lakes battle the plant.

"The last few years have been perfect growing years, so that's why it's become more noticeable," McComas said.

Officials say there is no cheap or easy way to control curly-leaf pond-

weed. In Sauk Lake near Sauk Centre, a weed harvester has been battling the plants for nearly 15 years, but "that's more like mowing the lawn than actually taking care of the problem," said Julie Klocker, administrator of the Sauk River Watershed District.

Officials are looking into other potential solutions, such as drawing down a lake's water level in the winter or chemically treating the plants with an herbicide.

The DNR strictly regulates who can apply such chemicals and in what amounts, typically limiting application to small areas. And such chemical treatments are costly - as much as \$300 an acre, West said. And because curly-leaf pondweed can keep coming back, several years of treatment are needed.

For a lake such as Little Rock, which spans 1,270 acres, that's a hefty price tag. And while the DNR offers some funding for treating lakes with Eurasian milfoil, there is no money available for controlling curly-leaf pondweed.

"In our opinion, the DNR needs to take a more aggressive approach to curly-leaf management," West said.

Info from: St. Cloud Times,
<http://www.sctimes.com>

DUES WERE DUE BY JUNE 1st - Please!

Annual Membership dues for our Cedar Lake Conservation Club are now due (by June 1st please). The dues are \$15.00 per family of which \$8.00 goes into the General Fund and \$7.00 into a special fund

to help finance controlling milfoil growth should we be so unfortunate to have it spread to our lake. The Milfoil fund is set up in a special account for Cedar Lake use only.

If you are not presently a member

of the Conservation Club, please take this opportunity to join because your support and input is needed.

Thanks - very much for your support.

Name: _____ Amount Included: \$ _____

Address: _____ Is this an address change? _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Please make check out to Cedar Lake Conservation Club and mail to: CLCC, P.O. Box 192, Annandale, MN 55302

CEDAR LAKE NEWS
P.O. BOX 192
ANNANDALE, MN 55302



Cedar Lake News

ANNUAL DINNER SAT. AUG. 14th, 2004
AT MAPLE LAKE VFW CLUB

SOCIAL HOUR: 5:00 PM	COST: \$7.00 Adults	Reservations are due by Tuesday, Aug. 10, 2004. Please send check to Cedar Lake Conservation Club, P.O. Box 192, Annandale, MN 55302
DINNER: 6:00 PM	\$5.00**—12 & under	

Adults attending: _____ Children 12 and under: _____ Total Amt included: \$ _____

Menu: Turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, coleslaw, veggie, rolls and fruit plus coffee and milk

Name: _____ **Amount Included:** \$ _____

Address: _____ **Is this a change of address?** _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Thank you very much for supporting your Lake Assn.

**All checks should be made out to Cedar Lake Conservation Club or C L C C and mail to:
 CLCC, P.O. Box 192, Annandale, MN 55302**

If your Association dues have not been paid, please use form on opposite side for those.