

# Cross Lake Association

PO Box 325 Pine City, MN 55063  
 CrossLakeAssociation@gmail.com  
 www.MinnesotaWaters.org/CrossLakeofPineCounty

**Volume 32, Number 3**

**August 2018**

## President's Message

by Dan Reuter

Greetings to All!

It's hard to believe we are already at the end of July! Summer is the season for basking in the warm sun and rejoicing in the freedom of summer vacation. Thank goodness the summer season is far from over!

We've been having an interesting July. This week we have experienced heavy rains and high waters. So far the lake has risen 5 feet, according to Al Johnson of Pokegama, and as of this writing it's still going up! With unexpected high water I want to just mention things to watch out for.

- Floating docks and debris
- Bogs and logs
- Boats and water craft that may have broken free
- Be considerate of no wake zones

We should beware of what goes on – know your neighbors!

I hope everyone is having a great summer so far! I apologize for not having a message in our last Crossings. My wife Mary had an emergency appendectomy at the end of May just before the June Crossing went out and life just got a bit crazy for us. We are good now and she's recovered and healthy.

Our annual Spring meeting in May had a great turnout with 3 good speakers. Rich Rezanka, Invasive Species Specialist with the MN DNR and spoke about invasive plant management in Cross Lake and the Snake River and the consequences of how they affect our ecology, recreation and economy. Rich will be an annual speaker so if you missed him this time be sure to attend next May when he returns. We also had an update on the North end project completion.

Thanks to the Freedom Fest Committee on a job well done. They had a great turnout with new members getting a chance to dig in and help.

This was our first year of participating in the boat parade. It was an exciting time decorating. Five of our grandchildren helped decorate the boat. Thank you, Frank, for setting this event up. It looked like we had a

## Inside this issue:

FREEDOM FEST	2
MEMBERSHIP REPORT	2
AIS DETECTORS	2
WHAT'S COOKING?	3
WENCK PARTNERSHIP	4
DINNER DANCE	5
ORDER WEED RAKES	6
WEED SPRAYING	6
STARRY TREK	7
ZEBRA MUSSELS	7

*(Continued on page 7)*

## 2018 Cross Lake Association Calendar

County Fair Booth	August 1—5	Pine Co. Fairgrounds
Fall Membership Meeting	Sat. September 15 9 am	American Legion Hall
Dinner Dance	Sat. September 29 5:30 pm	American Legion Hall

## Board Members

President	Dan Reuter
Vice-President	Rusty Phillips
Secretary	Barb Videen
Treasurer	Nancy Hoff
Director	Jim Bartol (Newsletter)
Director	Shanie Berry (Website)
Director	Mary Reuter (Water Quality)
Director	Barb Videen (Membership)
Director	Bruce Andersen
Director	Bill Casby
Director	Ron Levin
Director	Scott Olson
Director	Dave Videen

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING TO RECEIVE YOUR ISSUES OF CROSSINGS BY EMAIL. IT SAVES US MONEY, AND IS ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY.

# The Crossings

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## Freedom Fest by Barb Videen

Thanks to all of the great CLA volunteers who helped make our Freedom Fest booth a big success. We weren't sure what to expect with all the predicted rain and more food vendors. Along with our sirloin steak burgers, and hot dogs, available with chili and/or cheese, we offered water and this year added chips. We sold out of everything by the end. Our profits nearly doubled from last year. The money goes to help pay for the Crossings newsletter.

Thanks to all who helped!

## AIS Detectors by Mary Reuter

CLA Board members Mary Reuter and Barb Videen attended the AIS Detectors Workshop in Duluth on June 1<sup>st</sup> at the Great Lake Aquarium. Here is a picture of some of the students. Yep the majority of us are over 20 yrs. old.



This in-person workshop was offered as part of the AIS Detectors course. At the workshop, we got the chance to meet other AIS Detectors, learn from University of Minnesota experts, and practice identifying AIS and their native look-alikes.

The full day (8 hours) workshop included lessons from AIS Detectors staff, hands-on time with specimens and models, and opportunities to ask questions and network. Certification requires completing approximately 16 hours of training, both online and in-person!

To be an AIS Detector, you have to complete an online course and attend the workshop. After a full day of learning you are tested on your knowledge of invasive

## Membership by Barb Videen

Membership forms continue to come in. Along with renewals we are seeing a big increase in new members, thanks to the efforts of the Brautigans who hand delivered membership information to every home on the lake. Some said they didn't know there was a lake association! Many members are opting to receive the Crossings via email which is great for the environment and helps our budget.

PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND OUR FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 9 AM SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 15 AT THE AMERICAN LEGION.

species. Passing the test is required to become a certified AIS Detector. Continuing education and hours are required to maintain your certification. Once certified, Detectors must complete 25 hours of volunteer service and 8 hours of advanced or refresher training each year to maintain their active status.

Who can become an AIS Detector? Any motivated adult over the age of 18 can become an AIS Detector! It's ideal for lake association members, recreational lake users, Master Naturalists, conservationists, young professionals seeking resume-building opportunities, local AIS task force members, and any member of the public who has a desire to learn more about and get involved in the fight against AIS. More information on the AIS Detectors program can be found at [www.aisdetectors.org](http://www.aisdetectors.org)

**CLA is in need of more trained volunteers eager to make a difference.** Registration is currently closed for the season, but stay tuned! We will be announcing workshop dates and locations in January and opening registration in early 2019. The fee for the program is \$195. Your registration fee covers unlimited access to the online course, a printed companion for the online training, the full-day in-person workshop. Scholarships are available.

## *What's Cooking?*

By Barb Videen



If you have a favorite recipe you would like to share, please email it to [crosslakeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:crosslakeassociation@gmail.com) or mail it to me at, Barb Videen, C/O CLA, PO Box 325, Pine City, MN 55063

### Cauliflower "Potato" Salad

This is one of my husband's favorite summertime salads. It is based on my mom's recipe, but you can substitute the cauliflower in your favorite potato salad recipe. I don't follow a recipe so these are guesstimates. Be sure to add a little dressing at a time and taste as you go.

- 1 head of cauliflower cut into small florets (size of what you cut your potato into - Size of cauliflower makes a diff. in # of servings and amount of dressing needed.)
- 1 cup celery, diced
- 1/2 cup onion, chopped
- 6 eggs, hardboiled (5 chopped and 1 sliced for garnish)
- 1/2 cup diced radishes plus sliced for garnish
- 1 cup Miracle Whip ( may need more )
- 3 Tbsp yellow mustard - or to taste -(I add some, mix, taste)
- 1 Tbsp salt
- 1 tsp black pepper
- 1/4 tsp paprika for garnish

Bring a pot of water to boil. Add cauliflower and cook only until tender crisp. Don't overcook. Drain and immediately place in a bowl of ice water to stop cooking. When cool, drain really well, even pat dry so salad won't be watery. Mix Miracle Whip, mustard, salt and pepper - tasting as you go to get the flavor you like. Place cooled, drained cauliflower, celery, onion, radishes and eggs in a bowl. Gently fold in dressing. Taste and adjust. Pour into serving bowl and garnish with sliced eggs, radishes and paprika.

### Cowboy Butter

This received good reviews at a recent Farmers' market Tasting. Melted you can use it to dip chicken or spread on corn. Chilled a bit and put a pat on steak, or spread on corn bread. Intense flavor so use sparingly. Make a roll in wax paper, freeze and slice off what you need. Versatile.

- 1 c. butter, melted
- Juice of 1/2 a lemon
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 small shallot, minced.
- 2 tbsp. Dijon mustard
- 1 Tbsp. prepared horseradish
- Pinch of cayenne pepper
- 1/4 tsp. paprika
- 2 Tbsp. Freshly Chopped Parsley
- 1 Tbsp. freshly chopped chives
- 2 tsp. minced thyme
- kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- (Opt. hot sauce)

In a small bowl, combine butter, lemon juice, garlic, shallot, mustard, horseradish, cayenne, and paprika. Whisk to combine. Stir in parsley, chives and thyme and season with salt and pepper. Serve with grilled meats, like steak or chicken, for dipping. It also tastes great on cornbread!

### Blueberry-Peach Mason Jar Lid Pies

So cute and only 2 Tbsp. of sugar. Store crusts makes them easy. Of course you could make your own pie crust. These were hit at the Farmers' Market. Looks like you worked hard - but pretty easy.

- Cooking spray, for spraying the lids
- 2 medium peaches, peeled and diced 2 cups)
- 1 cup blueberries
- 2 to 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 2 teaspoons cornstarch
- 1/8 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg
- Kosher salt
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- One 14-oz box refrigerated pie crusts (2 crusts) Betty Crocker in original recipe - but any will do.
- All-purpose flour, for rolling
- 1 large egg, beaten
- 1 tablespoon cold unsalted butter, cut into bits
- Demerara sugar, for sprinkling
- 6 wide-mouth (3 1/2-inch diameter) mason jar lids
- 4 1/4-inch round cutter, optional (I use a knife)

Preheat oven to 375°. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Put the rubber seals of lids are face down in rims then spray insides of lids lightly with cooking spray.

Toss together the peaches, blueberries, sugar, cornstarch, nutmeg and a pinch salt in a medium bowl. Drizzle with the lemon juice and toss again. Set aside while you roll the crusts.

Roll out 1 crust on a lightly floured surface (roll large enough to fit 6 crusts).. Cut out 6 bottom crusts with a 4 1/4-inch round cutter (or just cut slightly larger than the lids).

Fit the crusts into the prepared lids and press up the sides so crusts slightly overhang the edges - not very much.

Roll out the second crust and cut out 6 top crusts. Cut 3 small slits in each top crust for steam vents. Divide the filling among crusts and lightly brush the edges with the beaten egg. Dot with butter,

Top with the vented crusts & crimp with fork to seal. Brush tops lightly with beaten egg and sprinkle with demerara sugar.

Bake on the prepared baking sheet until the crusts are golden brown and the filling is bubbly, about 30 minutes.

Let cool at least 20 minutes before serving. To serve, press the bottom of each lid up and pop the pie out. Remove the lid.

Serve with ice cream or whipping cream.

## Partnership with Wenck

by Mary Reuter

A meeting was held with [Wenck Associates](#) on June 23<sup>rd</sup> to continue the discussion of Cross Lake's aquatic vegetation management plan and issues of phosphorus loading. Wenck is the organization Pine County has chosen to partner with in managing water quality issues in county lakes. As reported last year, Cross Lake continues to have a high phosphorous level. This is a very significant issue for our lake. Cross Lake contains one of the highest sedimentary phosphate loads that Wenck has ever measured! Cross' phosphate problem comes from mostly internal loads, as opposed to from our lake's watershed. It is presumed that the high phosphate level could possibly come from a former sewage treatment plant and industrial activities that ceased over a quarter century ago but have left residual pollution. A treatment that has a very promising effect on the phosphorous is the use of alum on the contaminated sediment. Alum treatments prevent the release of phosphorus that already exists in the lakebed. Unfortunately, Alum treatment is extremely expensive. The Water Quality Committee will continue to monitor the lake for phosphorous and AIS and seek guidance for potential solutions. The County is helping to find grants to help defray the cost as well as inform policy makers of the need to rid our lakes of this problem.

### **In the meantime, things we CAN all do to help keep our lake and river clean and free of pollution:**

- Be mindful of how we dispose of potential contaminants – e.g. Bug sprays, cleaning solutions, soaps, oils, etc.
- Do not dump unwanted debris into the lake or river.
- Be mindful of how we apply chemicals to our lawns and gardens – is it necessary to use roundup for weeds or a phosphorous containing fertilizer to have the greenest shoreline or is there a natural solution?
- Reassess your shorelines – get ideas from the Master Gardner's in Pine City, find out ways to plant more native barriers instead of mowing to the shore line.

Go back to the more native look.

- Use less riprap and install more natural shorelines barriers. Some shorelines don't have issues with erosion and riprap is not always necessary – planting a natural barrier not only improves your view but improves the filtration of the pollutants into the lake from run off.
- Consider eliminating old construction that may contribute in contaminating the lakes like such things as old boat houses or cement drives leading to the lake that became a direct source of runoff contamination.
- Still have your septic? It needs to go!
- Don't throw garbage into the lake – if you see it pick it out and throw it away. Don't let it sink to the bottom of the lake.
- Ice fishing – don't leave garbage and human waste (yes this is left in bags on the ice) after ice house of removal take your garbage with you and bring a porta potty if necessary!

**REMEMBER YOU ARE A BIG PART OF THE SOLUTION!** Our primary mission for Cross Lake and the Snake River is to continue to improve our beautiful Lake and River for the years to come and to obtain the highest water quality we can for us, our children and grandchildren and future generations to come. In our mission we promise to keep you informed on endeavors positive or negative. We are only a small few – that's why we need your involvement! Only with an informed and engaged membership can we develop the consensus necessary to implement solid doable solutions to continue to move forward.

One more thing – Dan met with the DNR near the Pine City boat landing on June 23. The DNR recently received permission from the Pine County Attorney to set up an AIS check point in Pine City. This will be a regular event to be checking boats for invasive species. There is no set date but will occur at least 3 times a season.

## Electronic Delivery

We currently have almost 100 people who have elected to receive their copy of Crossings by email. In making this choice, these members reduce their environmental footprint, and save the CLA time and money, by not printing and mailing paper copies. The electronic edition is published in full color, and contains web links and additional information not available to paper subscribers. You can convert to electronic delivery by sending an email request to us at [CrossLakeAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:CrossLakeAssociation@gmail.com). Thank you for considering this option!

# A Night of Glitter, Glam & Glitz

Come walk the red carpet Hollywood style to celebrate  
Cross Lake/ Snake River Association Party



**When:** Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Where:** American Legion, Pine City

**Time:** 5:30 – 6:30pm Social Hour

6:30 – 7:30pm Dinner

7:30 – 9:30pm Music/Dancing



**Tickets** Members: \$18.00

**Price:** Non-Members: \$20.00

Senior 65+: \$15.00

Other activities you can look  
forward to:

Wine Pull

50/50

Bake Goods Auction



Red Carpet Attire Encouraged

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## Reservations due by September 22nd

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Checks to: Cross Lake Association – Dinner Dance  
P.O. Box 325  
Pine City, MN 55063

Questions, Please Contact:  
Margo Rothenbacher  
651-278-5034

## Update on Weed Spraying

by Mary Reuter

As many of you remember earlier this year you were asked to sign a permission-to-spray



form so that the DNR could check for Eurasian Milfoil and Curly-Leaf Pondweed. If one of those two were found the DNR would issue a permit on behalf of CLA and the authorized agent, [Lake Management](#), would spray the areas identified by the DNR. The money to spray comes from a grant from Pine County.

This year was very unusual year for weeds – in fact our lake front has virtually none! Very little Eurasian Milfoil was found so the decision by the DNR was to not treat for Eurasian Milfoil but only for the curly-leaf pondweed. A permit was issued for up to 6 acres.

Treatments are done when the water temperatures are above 50 degrees but not more than 60 degrees. This is



Curly-Leaf Pondweed

why it is very important to have your signed "Permission to Spray" before the ice out.

One treatment was applied using Aquathol K (Endothal) by Lake

Management who is a licensed commercial applicator and all areas were then marked that were treated. 5.71 acres were sprayed. Please note that if you see either of these invasive weeds growing anywhere on the lake please contact me, Barb or email us at [CrossLakeAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:CrossLakeAssociation@gmail.com) Subject: Water Quality Committee. We will need the location and approximate size of the area. We will send someone out to inspect and report to the DNR. The DNR will officially inspect and determine if spraying is needed.

**Permission to Spray Forms.** This year I am attempting to streamline the process for sending out and returning the forms. I will be providing the forms on-line in several locations: Our [CLA Facebook](#) page, our [CLA Website](#), and The Crossings Newsletter (September issue). Once you fill it out and date it, send it back to me. I will accept the document as a text (photo), email, or by US Mail. Which ever is most convenient to you. I will follow up with those I haven't heard from sometime in February. I emphasize that the DNR does verify every form with the Pine County Tax Assessor's Office prior to approval of the permit so please have the legal property owner sign the document.



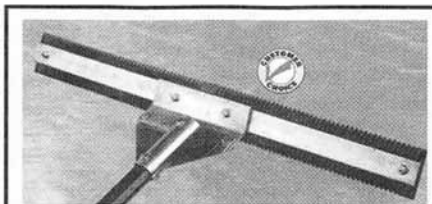
Eurasian Water Milfoil

## Aquatic Weed Rakes

by Dave Videen

Cross Lake Association is again selling weed rakes this year to help remove Curly Leaf Pondweed from your shoreline. The MN DNR allows you to remove aquatic weeds under certain conditions ([www.dnr.state.mn.us/shorelandmgmt/apg/regulations.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/shorelandmgmt/apg/regulations.html)). Contact Dave Videen for further information on obtaining weed rakes.

### Aquatic Weed Eradicator



No need for dangerous chemicals. The AWE is excellent for controlling lake weeds. With a reinforced 28" serrated cutting blade, you don't have to worry about the blades bending under a heavy load of weeds. The AWE has grown in popularity every year we've offered it! Comes with a two-piece eleven-foot rust-proof powder-coated aluminum handle.

## Lake Weed Maintenance

The Cross Lake Association has made arrangements directly with the manufacturer of this tool to help you reduce Curlyleaf Pondweed along your shoreline.

To purchase a Weedcutter, fill in the order form below and enclose a check for \$99 payable to Cross Lake Association. Contact Dave Videen, 612-219-8875 if you have any questions.

CUT

**PURCHASE REQUEST FOR AQUATIC WEED ERADICATOR**

Print your name: (first & last) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail this form with a check for \$99.00 to:**

**Cross Lake Association**  
Box 325  
Pine City, MN. 55063  
Attn: Dave Videen

(Continued from page 1)

great turn out and it was a lot of fun. We are also thankful that the parade went around the entire lake this year. I was pleased to see how many spectators there were waiting for all the boats to pass by.

The year is only half way through and we have the Pine County Fair coming up August 1—5. The CLA will be in the

parade again this year giving out candy. We will also have a booth again at the Fair. As fall rolls around we will be hosting our annual Fall meeting on September 15th, and our last even of the year the annual dinner dance on September 29 at the Pine City Legion Hall.

Have a great rest of the summer!

Best Regards, Dan Reuter, President CLA

## **Starry Trek - August 18** by Mary Reuter

[Join us for a day](#) (August 18 @ 8:30 a.m.) to begin searching for one of Minnesota's newest aquatic invasive species, starry stonewort (and other invaders). Starry stonewort is an invasive algae that was first found in Lake Koronis in 2015 and has since spread to 11 Minnesota lakes ([learn more about starry stonewort and our research here](#)). Now we are asking for your help in searching other lakes to better understand its distribution in Minnesota. [Registration](#) is now open! (click on the hyperlinks to learn more and register) **You can sign up on [Facebook](#)!**

Where: The Pine City rendezvous site is located at the VFW, 600 1st Ave NW, Pine City, MN 55063

Please contact me ([maryreuter@gmail.com](mailto:maryreuter@gmail.com) or 612-209-6886) or Angelique Dahlberg, Invasive Species Program Coordinator with the St Croix River Association ([angeliqued@scramail.com](mailto:angeliqued@scramail.com) 612-802-7760) for more details.



## **Zebra Mussel Monitoring** by Barb Videen

After completing the AIS Detectors (Aquatic Invasive Species) course through the University of Minnesota, I was inspired to do something for the lake. I asked Rich Rezanka, our DNR rep, what is the next threat to our lake. He said zebra mussels for sure. Thus my husband Dave and I have begun planning a Zebra Mussel Monitoring program which we hope to have in place for next spring.

**Step 1:** will be to get as many people around the lake to sign up to allow us to hang a monitoring device under the end of their dock. Rich says, "The more, the better". That is all homeowners have to do. We will take it from there. Stop by the fair booth to see a sample of the monitoring device. You can sign up at the fair booth or on our CLA email [crosslakeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:crosslakeassociation@gmail.com)

**Step 2:** Once we know how many homeowners have signed on, we will spend the winter building the devices

**Step 3:** Hanging the devices in early Spring

**Step 4:** CLA will check the devices on a monthly basis. Homeowners are asked to NOT lift is out of the water as this may affect the outcome.

**Step 5:** We will remove the devices in the Fall for cleaning and storage.

Rich says this is a wonderful way members can help and be more aware of our precious waters. If you have any questions, contact our CLA email or stop by our CLA booth at the County Fair.

THANK YOU PAT HAMANN AND FRIEND WHO WERE SPOTTED PICKING UP TRASH AT THE LANDING NEAR THE DAM. EVERY BIT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

Cross Lake Association  
P.O. Box 325  
Pine City, MN  
55063



**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
**The Cross Lake Association of Pine County**

Member Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Pine City Address (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

My information has changed       Email newsletter and all correspondence

**I would be willing to help with the following (circle all that apply).**

Governing Board   Membership   Newsletter   Boat Parade   Senior Outing  
Freedom Fest Booth   County Fair Booth   Fair Parade   Dinner Dance

**Membership Categories: (check one)**

Regular adult couples/\$15       Contributing \$20-30       Associate \$35-45  
 Sustaining \$50-75       Sponsor \$100       Lifetime \$500       Benefactor \$800

Mail to: **The Cross Lake Association, P.O.Box 325, Pine City, MN 55063**