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SPRING 2020



*Super Moon Photo courtesy of Serenity Kottke*

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## On the Cover

Super Moon Photo by Serenity Kottke

Left: Serenity taking photos (ice pile up on the shoreline and lots of damage on the side of big lake).



## Stay-At-Home Rules and Outdoor Recreation

Under Governor Walz's Emergency Executive Order 20-48, beginning on Sunday, May 3, 2020 at 11:59 pm through Sunday, May 17, 2020 at 11:59 pm, all persons currently living within the State of Minnesota are ordered to stay at home or in their place of residence except to engage in specific activities. Minnesotans are encouraged to stay close to home and are strongly discouraged from engaging in unnecessary travel.

Individuals must not engage in outdoor recreational activities where they will come into close proximity with others from different households.

**However, individuals may engage in any outdoor activity that is dependent upon or derives its principal benefit from natural surroundings and open space, including but not limited to hunting, fishing, trapping, boating, hiking, biking, golfing, and picnicking for the purposes of pleasure, rest, exercise, or relaxation, provided that the activity can be engaged in accordance with the Outdoor Recreation Guidelines, including maintaining at least six feet of separation between participants from different households. Groups within a single**

**household may engage in outdoor activities or sports that do not allow for social distancing (e.g., soccer or basketball) but should not engage in such activities with members of other households.**

This Executive Order does not authorize outdoor activities where people gather, like tournaments, sporting events, and angling tournaments.

Subject to the requirements for retail businesses, marinas, bait shops, and watercraft sales (by appointment only) are permitted. Lake service providers and garden centers can conduct business with proper precautions. Boats can be delivered. However, this does not include workers engaged in services for hire such as charter boats, launches, or fishing guides

It should be noted that, except as necessary to seek medical care and obtain other necessities of life, people at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 are strongly urged to stay in their home or residence, even when the terms of this Executive Order would allow them to leave their home or residence.



# President's Message | North Long Lake

Bill Schmidt | President

Greetings to the North Long Lake Association Members, Property Owners, and Friends.

Welcome back to those who traveled elsewhere for the winter and welcome to the new property owners. Those of you who stayed over the winter witnessed a challenging time for the lake, basically no ice houses on the lake for the entire winter due to ice conditions.

Speaking of challenges, as we have been fighting the deadly Coronavirus Disease, we have all made changes to our daily routines. And with these changes, we are finding that the simple things in life will help us through this time of uncertainty and bring us closer. In the end we will all look back at this and have different thoughts on what could have been, but one thought that we will all have - we made it through this together.

The Board has been and will continue to make decisions concerning the coming year, which activities will we partake in and which ones will be postponed until a later time. As those decisions are made we will keep you informed through our monthly communications. The Board is also working with the DNR obtaining permits for curly leaf control and AW Research for collecting data to help understand some of the causes for excess vegetation growth and things we as property owners can do to help control the growth. This is discussed in more depth in this issue.

The Board has decided to postpone our annual meeting /picnic until a later time. It was scheduled for July 18, 2020. It takes several months to prepare and schedule the annual meeting/picnic, at this time there is too much uncertainty involving COVID 19 and proper mitigation procedures. Your safety cannot be compromised.

We will be communicating to you via e-mail on a monthly basis, if you are not on the e-mail list and want to be please send Jim Anderson, our treasurer, your e-mail. You will find Jim's e-mail address on the inside front cover of this newsletter. If you do not have an e-mail address please talk to a friend or a neighbor and ask them to give you a copy. The newsletter is also available to download on northlong.org.

Welcome to our new property owners, as you get settle in and have an interest in the association or need any information please contact one of the board members. The association is there for you and as we all work together we can conquer any task we or the lake face.

I know we are in some difficult times, please look out for one another, do what we need to do, and together we will get through this. See you on the lake.

Bill Schmidt, President

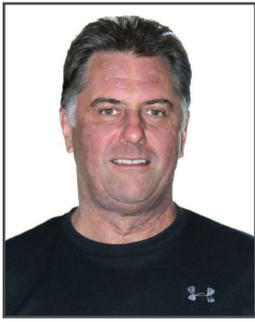


## Minnesota's Stay at Home Order

For some of us, the cabin is a place to unwind, reflect, enjoy nature, and even enjoy a bit of solitude. Perfect for these turbulent, Covid-19 times. And yet, those of us that are not at-the-lake full time need to be mindful of stay at home advice. Our Brainerd-area medical facilities may not be able to cope with increased demands for intensive care beds and equipment.

This is especially difficult as we enter the most glorious of Minnesota's seasons – spring. It will be hard to resist the pull of the lake. Here is what the State of Minnesota, per Governor Walz's Stay at Home order, currently effective through May 18th, says:





# President's Message | Round Lake

Mark Parrish | President

Looking forward to the arrival of the summer season is wrought with uncertainties as we face the reality of the corona virus crisis that has hit the United States. One thing is for certain. The weather will continue to improve, the ice will melt, the loons will soon return.

We will not be having our annual picnic in June, however we will hold an annual meeting remotely to the best of our abilities. There is information regarding the meeting as well as all of the current financial information located towards the back of this newsletter.

As far as Lake District business is concerned, Lakes Restoration will be doing the regular spring assessment to determine if curly leaf pond weed

treatment is necessary this year. Treatment hasn't been necessary the past couple of years due to lack of weed growth. Because of this, the board decided not to assess property owners via their property taxes for the regular \$135 contribution to the round lake improvement district due to a sufficient fund balance (see financial statement in this newsletter).

The board approved an aquatic vegetation point-intercept study of the lake to be completed by RMB Environmental Laboratories of Detroit Lakes, MN in June 2020. They will survey the lake by creating a grid of points at all depths between 0 and 25 feet at 80 meter intervals. Once on site they will use a double sided rake to collect a vegetation sample of one square meter at all of the predetermined points. They will then produce a report that will detail all of the native and non-native species found. The total cost of the survey will be \$4,204 and

be paid out of RLID funds. The report will be valuable to determine if we are covering all bases as far as vegetative invasive species are concerned.

On the lakes association side there should be little activity this year. The dredging of Bishops Creek was the big event last year. This was paid for with your membership dues contributed to the Round Lake Improvement Association. I believe that most agree that it was a great improvement. Now we need to rebuild the fund balance from members' dues to prepare for necessary dredging in future years. A membership renewal form can be found later in this newsletter. Please complete it and return it with your contribution to our lake association.

Please be safe and I'll see you on the lake! - Mark



***Although the executive order doesn't prohibit traveling to or from a cabin, the Governor strongly urges all Minnesotans to stay in their primary residences. Staying home helps protect your neighbors from spreading COVID-19 and also avoids crowding rural medical facilities. Avoiding this kind of travel makes us all safer and healthier.***

For those who are here full time, we can still our order seeds online and plant our garden. We can take a walk (maintaining social distance of course). We can clean the garage and the shed that we've been meaning to do for a while. We can pay more attention to what's in our own back yard.

As Bill noted in his President's Message, the NLLA Annual Meeting and Picnic will be postponed. Even

though it was not scheduled until July 18, the preparation - including meeting with merchants for door prizes - would need to start now. And while we hope to be beyond restrictions by then, it would be inadvisable to have a meeting with a large group.

The in-person Round Lake Annual meeting is also canceled and required activities will take place via email. And we'll all miss the Sale Around Round - which also has been canceled - this year.

This virus and its immediate effects will last for a while. But the memories of how we rose to the occasion and how we helped one another will last far longer.

If you have any questions about what to do and what not to do, the best place to start is at [mn.gov/covid19/](https://mn.gov/covid19/)



# Photos for the Newsletter and Life at the Lake

We love your photos for the newsletter and for our life at the lake photo show. We love them even more when they're reasonably high resolution photos suitable for newsletter and website.

Most phones today are capable of taking very good photos. But when photos are sent via text, they are compressed. They'll look OK on another phone, but not so great on the website and definitely not good enough in print. If emailed from your phone via your cell carrier, they may be compressed as well to conserve data usage. And even some mail systems will compress photos unless told otherwise.

To make things more complex, iPhones will compress photos if sent to non-iPhone devices or if "Low Quality Image Mode" is set, but not if sent to another iPhone via iMessage.

Finally, many "cloud" based photo backups store photos in a compressed format. They may still be usable however. I won't go into all the details about image quality and compression but, as a rule of thumb, a jpeg photo file should be at least 500kb for our purposes. This is roughly the equivalent of a 1 to 2MP camera, so it's probably well within the capability of your phone.

So for the best quality for photos taken on your phone, email

them to [north.long.lake.news@gmail.com](mailto:north.long.lake.news@gmail.com) while connected to the internet at home or a hotspot. If your phone gives you an option to choose resolution when sending, choose "Actual Size" or at least "Large".

And while the best camera is almost invariably the one you have with you, the 6mp point and shoot camera you left in the drawer will probably take better photos than your phone. There's a lot more to photo quality than just the number of megapixels.



*Above: Fritillary Butterfly  
On right: Family on North  
Long ice  
courtesy of Jackie Kottke*



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# Tips for Helping Injured Raptors



1. Please do not attempt to rehabilitate a raptor on your own. Always contact a licensed professional. If you don't know who to notify, you can contact The Raptor Center, or appropriate agencies in your area:

- The Raptor Center: **612-624-4745**
- Your state's Department of Natural Resources or Department of Game, Fish, and Parks
- Your local sheriff's office

2. If you must handle or move a bird, approach from behind and cover the bird with a blanket or towel to reduce its visual stimulation and to restrain it. Protect yourself by wearing heavy gloves and safety glasses. Once covered, gently fold the bird's wings against its body. Then gently, but firmly, place the bird into a container (explained in next step). Remember: Even a seriously injured raptor is potentially dangerous and will not understand you are trying to help. Always know where their beak and talons are, and be aware they may try to defend themselves.

3. Transport a raptor in a plastic dog/cat kennel or a sturdy cardboard box with a closed top, ensuring good ventilation. Avoid bird or wire cages which can cause additional damage. The ideal size is one just slightly larger than the size of the bird – the less room an injured bird has to move around, the less likely it is to cause more injury to itself. But ensure it's not too small that the bird is damaging feathers.

4. Never feed an injured raptor. The dietary needs of raptors are unique and balanced, and feeding one can do more harm than good. Most injured birds suffer from

dehydration which feeding may make worse. Also, if a bird has not eaten for a while their digestive system may shut down and cannot handle food. The Raptor Center provides special fluid therapy to these patients to jump-start their systems before they can digest solid food.

5. Handle the injured bird as little as possible and provide a dark, quiet, and warm environment. Darkness has a calming effect on birds. Do not keep the raptor any longer than necessary to get it to a veterinary professional or rehabilitator.

## Special note for young raptors:

Young raptors often do not have successful first flight attempts and end up on the ground. This is normal and the parents will continue to feed and care for them. If you see a young raptor, do NOT pick up, transport, or feed it. If you think it may be injured or if it is in immediate danger from pets or traffic, call TRC (612-624-4745) or your local DNR for advice. If you can take a picture or video from a safe distance, we can use that to help determine if we need to intervene or not.

## Contact Us:

Staff is available by phone at 612-624-4745, with additional resources on our website: [www.raptor.umn.edu](http://www.raptor.umn.edu)

If you are looking for an update on a raptor brought to our clinic, email: [raptor@umn.edu](mailto:raptor@umn.edu)

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: @TheRaptorCenter

**Thank you for supporting our mission to ensure the health of raptors and the world we share!**





# A Slice of Advice:

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Written by Jodie Tweed and  
photographed by Pete Palony

# Grain Belt Cabin

A Round Lake log cabin, used for a  
Grain Belt Beer advertising campaign  
in the 1960s, leaves the lake

Photo by Pete Palony

WRITTEN BY JODIE TWEED

IT'S A STORY THAT LEGENDS ARE MADE OF,  
A TALE THAT COULD ONLY HAPPEN IN  
BRainerd, MINNESOTA.

And, naturally, this tale involves beer.

Back in 1960, folks from Grain Belt Beer in  
Minneapolis asked Brainerd distributor Willard Faust for  
a favor. According to his son, local historian Carl "Fert"  
Faust, they asked his late father if any local tavern  
owners would like to participate in a one-day photo  
shoot in exchange for one hundred bucks and all the  
Grain Belt beer they could drink. They'd also go fishing  
on the shoot. It was for an advertising campaign for the  
Minnesota-based beer company.

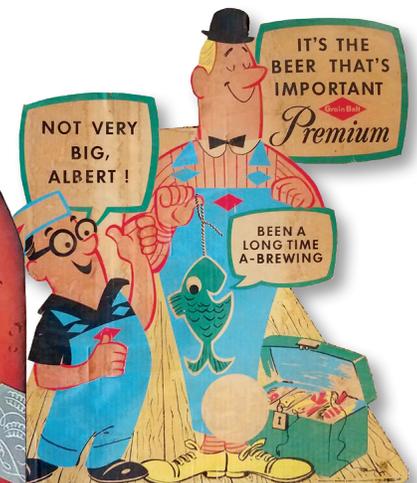
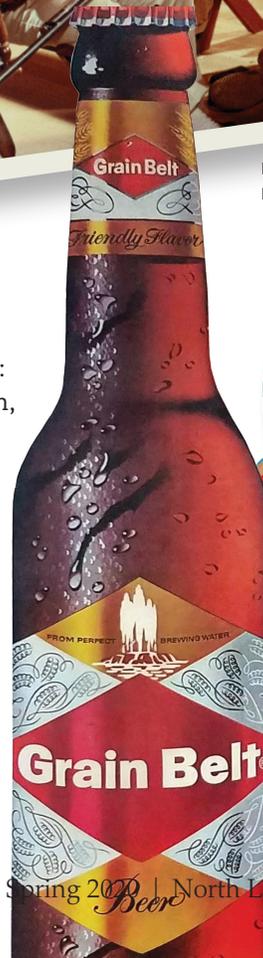
"Well, he did, and they did," Faust explains. "He found three  
quite easily."

The elder Faust strategically chose three of his best customers:  
Red Lord from Red's Tavern in Merrifield; Hubert "Andy" Anderson,  
a bartender from the Happy Hour Bar; and Jerry Larson, manager  
from the Brainerd VFW.

The photo shoot took place at a log cabin on Round Lake,  
north of Brainerd. Faust says the shoot lasted from sunup to  
sundown. There apparently wasn't much fishing going on or the  
fish weren't biting since the fish shown on a string in the photos  
are trout. (Round Lake doesn't have trout.) Faust said they sent  
someone to the fishery in Motley to buy fresh trout to string up  
for the photographs. Other photographs taken during that photo  
shoot show the local men admiring the ducks they shot while  
drinking Grain Belt inside the cabin. Since the photographs were  
taken in the summer, it's unlikely they went duck hunting.



Photo courtesy of Carl Faust and published with  
permission by August Schell Brewing.



Photos courtesy of Carl Faust

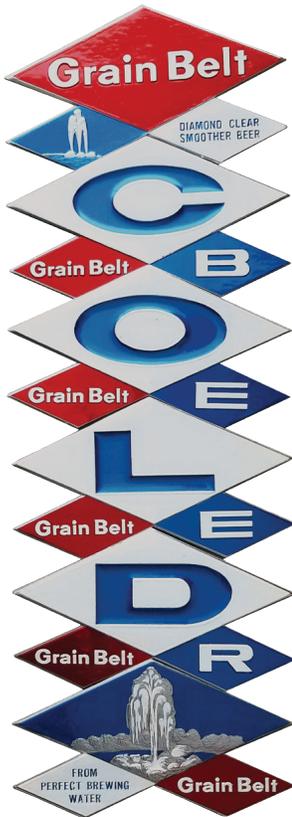


Photo compliments of Carl Faust

Despite these discrepancies, these are Faust's favorite Grain Belt images, capturing quintessential moments of life spent at a Minnesota lake. Faust says the duck hunting scene was likely shot for the 1960 fall hunting season, and the fishing scene was for the following summer's fishing season. Faust, who also worked as a beer distributor, collects and sells Grain Belt Beer breweriana. A few years ago, he was selling old Grain Belt advertising items at a local flea market when a man came up to his booth and said, "Hey, that's my cabin."

As it turns out, Steve and Joanne Carfrae purchased the "Grain Belt" cabin, as it's often called, for \$125,000 in 1992. The cabin was built in 1940 and at the time included a small one-car garage with an attached bunkhouse. The Carfraes are from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and they purchased the cabin sight unseen. The cabin was in terrible shape. The wood floors were covered in green and yellow shag carpeting.

The only bathroom was painted pink with a stone field bathtub. There was also a two-hole outhouse out back.

"I walked through it and I called Joanne and said, 'I think I made a mistake,'" Steve recalls with a laugh.

The authentic Minnesota lake cabin had previously been heated with coal and still contained a coal chute. The large stone fireplace includes a hinged steel door for baking or cooking over an open fire. Despite its rough shape, the Carfraes could see that the log cabin retained some of its charm, though hidden by all that shag. They renovated the cabin and added one more bedroom, a

bathroom, and a large, lakeside deck to accommodate their family. They replaced some logs in 1992 and 1995.

Strange enough, they discovered within the cabin walls during remodeling a pristine 1932 presidential campaign poster for Herbert Hoover, who was born in West Branch, Iowa. They hung it on the walls of their cabin, along with the Grain Belt Beer advertising posters they bought from Faust. Decades later, the cabin looks much the same as the advertising from the 1960s. During the summer storms of 2015 and 2016, the couple lost thirty-five trees on their lake lot. None of them landed on the cabin.

But life goes on, as it does on the lake. After much thought, the Carfraes decided to remove the seasonal cabin and build a larger, year-round lake home. They tried to make the historic cabin work by adding a garage with an upper bunkhouse behind the log cabin along Ojibwa Road, but they often have up to eighteen family members staying with them at a time. They'd outgrown the cabin.

Another consideration was water that filled the basement. Over the years, the water table had changed on Round Lake, and if the sump pump failed, the family would have up to sixteen inches of standing water in the basement. It was a growing problem that they couldn't ignore.



Vintage Grain Belt Beer images courtesy of Carl Faust of Baxter.



Photo by Pete Palony



The Carfraes gave the vintage cabin to Jerry and Linda Campbell of Pequot Lakes, who moved the structure in early August to land they owned west of Pequot Lakes. It was quite the operation, with the home leaving the driveway at 5:30 a.m. The move confirmed that the floor beams and lumber from the cabin originally came from the railroad yard.

There was one beam that had an inspection stamp dated 1929, noting that it had passed inspection.

While the cabin will no longer be on Round Lake, it will always be remembered by the family as the Grain Belt cabin.

“We were very fortunate to have owned this cabin, which was located in a wonderful area of Minnesota,” says Steve Carfrae.

In their new home, which will hopefully be finished in the spring, the Carfraes plan to have two log walls where they will display their framed Grain Belt cabin advertising posters. While they look forward to their new home, they will miss the cabin. Many memories were made there.



Steve and Joanne Carfrae sit in their Round Lake cabin a month before it was moved off the lake to rural Pequot Lakes. The Grain Belt cabin, as it is often referred, was the site of an advertising photo shoot for Grain Belt Beer in 1960. The stone fireplace remained as it had looked nearly sixty years earlier. (Photo by Pete Palony)

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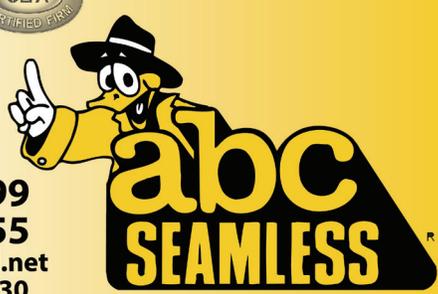
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# The battle over 'wake surfing' has made its way to the Minnesota Legislature

By Walker Orenstein, MinnPost. Reprinted with permission. [www.minnpost.com](http://www.minnpost.com)



Wake Surfing Photo Credit Brandan Lally

As the sport of "wake surfing" has caught on in Minnesota, it has led to fierce local battles over whether the activity should be restricted - or even banned in places - because of damage it can cause to shorelines, property and fish habitat.

Now, debates that began at lake associations and city halls have spilled over into the Legislature, where resort owners, environmentalists, boat dealers and lake-front residents are split over how to regulate a growing sport and its signature powerful wakes.

An environmental committee in the Republican-led Senate approved a bill on Wednesday aimed at keeping wake surfing - in which boats create waves big enough for people to surf without the need of a tow rope - 200 feet from shore, docks, swimmers and other boats. Supporters say the measure, sponsored by Sen. Bill Weber,



State Sen. Bill Weber

R-Luverne, is backed by industry research and boat dealers, and would address problems while keeping lakes open to surfers.

Jeremy Wiczek, an owner of the boat dealership Niss-

wa Marine, told the Senate panel that he tries to advise buyers on best practices for avoiding harm and bothering other lake-goers. But he endorsed a 200-foot restriction as a practical, and perhaps necessary, step.

"While there are disrespectful and uneducated boaters in all categories, the boaters in the wake surf community stand out further because of impact these waves can have on other boaters and properties," Wiczek said. "We do our best to educate all boaters. However we recognize that this may not be enough."

But a contingent of homeowners and environmental advocates have pushed for tougher regulations — or at least more research on wake boats. They view a 200-foot buffer as an ineffective solution that wouldn't prevent disruption and damage.

Concerns about shorelines, lake beds Boats used for wake surfing move relatively slowly, typically between 10 and 12 miles per hour, said Adam Fletcher, a salesman for Minnesota Inboard Water Sports. The boats are designed to make large enough wakes that a person doesn't need a tow rope to ride them, unlike water skiing or wakeboarding.

Fletcher, whose dealership sells four of 10 ski boats powered by inboard motors in

Minnesota, said inboard boats are the only growing segment of the boating industry. And what people want to use them for is wake surfing. "Surfing is a huge percent of what most families are actually doing behind their boats these days," he said.

Yet as boats equipped for surfing have spread, so have complaints about the large, powerful wakes they kick up. Chuck Becker, an anti-surfing activist who lives on Big Sugar Bush Lake north of Detroit Lakes, said boats have chased kayakers and canoers out of the water, sent waves over pontoons and damaged docks.

Donna Burt, who helped found the organization Safe Wakes for Small Lakes, lives on Lotus Lake near Chanhassen. She said wake surfing sends strong waves crashing against the shore of her narrow lake, eroding her shoreline, putting infrastructure at risk and damaging aquatic plants like cattails. Burt said her husband fell off a dock and bruised his ribs last year when a "large artificial wake" hit the shore. "Moments before this, he said 'Donna watch out, here it comes,'" Burt said. "I turned my head and he was in the water. That's how powerful they are."

Becker and others raised concerns about the effect of wakes below the water's surface. Wake-creation systems from the

powerful boats can scour the bottom of lakes, disturb fish habitat, uproot plants and disturb sediment that can release phosphorous and nutrients that cause algal blooms, many contend. And water tanks on the boats may also spread invasive species.

Local debates lead to state battles

Controversy over wake surfing is not unique to Minnesota. Oregon has been pondering new regulations for boaters on the Willamette River, where federal officials say the sport can harm salmon and steelhead trout.

And while Minnesota law generally prohibits boating that harasses others or causes property damage, there are no state regulations specific to wake surfing. People can, however, enact local ordinances to govern what happens on their lakes - as long as they are approved by the state Department of Natural Resources. Some efforts to make local wake boat rules have been hotly contested.

Becker said he hired a hydrology consultant to help research wake boats and their effects, but despite backing from his Lake Association, a push for a local ban has not been universally supported. Other property owners, and the Water Sports Industry Association, an influential trade group, retained a lawyer that threatened litigation against ordinances.

In a letter to the Big Sugar Bush Lake Association, attorney Tami Norgard wrote the lake was classified by the DNR to allow moderate recreation and development. "A wake boat ban would be a poor decision legally, economically and as a matter of public policy for a township within Becker County," she wrote. Becker is still working to get an ordinance before his local township.

Burt and JoAnn Syverson, who also helps run Safe Wakes, have tried and failed to push an ordinance restricting wake surfing on Lotus Lake at the Chanhassen City Council.

Yet as complaints have risen with the state DNR, the boating industry has promoted courteous surfing by recommending a 200-foot buffer from shore and others, avoiding loud music and more.

Now they're pushing the 200-foot regulations at the Legislature. Those restrictions

are based on research commissioned by the WSIA and led by Clifford Goudey, who told the Senate panel last week that energy from surfing waves "start out very high but dissipate rapidly compared to other wakes."

**"While there are disrespectful and uneducated boaters in all categories, the boaters in the wake surf community stand out further because of impact these waves can have on other boaters and properties,"**

"In all the cases that we tested, there is significant wave energy in the first 200 feet of travel," Goudey said. "After that it tends to be less and less. So the most important reductions in wave energy can occur in the first 200 feet."

Those findings have been met with skepticism by opponents and many DFLers. Becker highlighted 2014 research from the University of Quebec in Montreal that says wake energy has "considerable" impact on shorelines from boats passing within 300 feet, but no significant effect on shorelines when boats are nearly 1,000 feet away. A 2015 study from Laval University in Quebec City says wake surfing impacts lake beds and plants - promoting the development of algae - when boats operate in water less than 16 feet deep.

Still, the Republican-led Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance Committee approved the bill on a party-line 7-to-5 vote, and the measure will now head to the Senate floor for consideration. (The measure is not solely supported by the GOP, it does have DFL sponsors in the House and Senate.)

Weber, the Luverne Republican sponsoring the Senate version of the bill, said the measure sets a minimum restriction for wake surfing boats where one doesn't exist today. The issue can be revisited in light of new science, Weber said, and it doesn't stop local governments from setting tougher ordinances. "I think that for bodies of water that are uniquely sensitive to boat wakes, certainly concerned citizens can petition DNR for tighter restrictions as well as other local regulators," he said.

Even if the Senate approves Weber's bill, it's unlikely to gain traction in the DFL-controlled House.

State Rep. John Persell, a Bemidji Democrat who chairs the House Environment and Natural Resources Policy Committee, said he couldn't take the industry study and the 200-foot recommendation "at face value" unless it's published in a peer-reviewed journal.

At first, Persell had considered a bill that would keep wake boats 1,000 feet from shore. But Republicans and boat dealers have protested a 1,000 foot rule because they say it would effectively close off many lakes to the sport.

Ultimately, Persell dropped the idea. He said he didn't want to try to pass a middle-ground, compromise bill that isn't based on research. He also wants to consider restrictions on what depth the wake boats can operate in. A draft of Persell's new measure, expected to be introduced this week, would order the DNR to develop recommendations for a "watercraft



State Rep. John Persell

operator's safety program" for some boats larger than 16 feet that teaches people how to reduce conflicts with other water users, prevent the spread of invasive species and reduce ecological impacts.

The DNR program would specifically require people driving boats with "enhanced wake technology" to complete an additional course based on new research by the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center, as well study of "enhanced" wakes and their impact on lake sediments and plants done by the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory.

By January 2021 the DNR would present its recommendations to the Legislature for lawmakers to consider if the program should be approved. "What I want to do is get more information about the potential impacts as we come to understand those," Persell said.

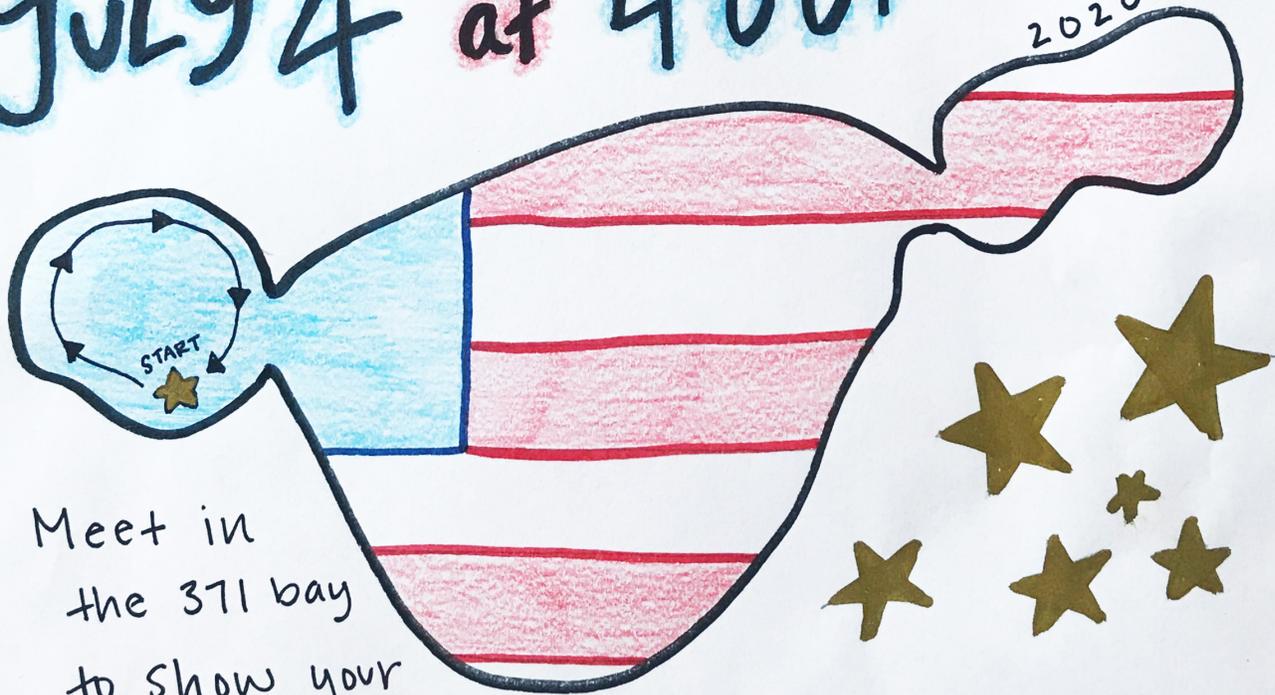
SEE THE VIDEO OF THE 2019 NORTH LONG LAKE BOAT PARADE ON [NORTHLONG.ORG](http://NORTHLONG.ORG)

# 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

## NORTH LONG LAKE BOAT PARADE!

JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> at 4:00 pm

2020

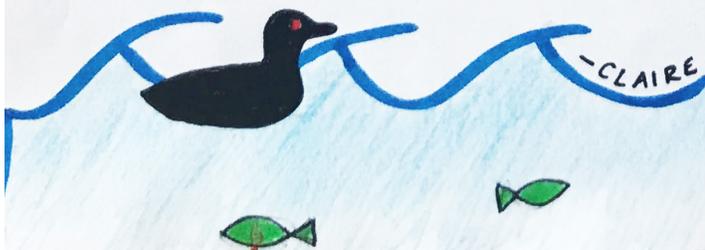


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the 371 bay  
to show your

patriotism and celebrate our heroes!

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PARADE"



## NLLA Covid-19 Response

Covid-19 (the Coronavirus) is affecting all our members. We do hope everyone is practicing social distancing, minimizing contact with others and, to the extent possible, hunkering down at home. There are, of course, impacts to our lake association and our activities. The NLLA Board continues to meet and plan for 2020 and beyond. We want to give you an update, recognizing that everything is quite fluid right now.

In response to the Governor's Stay-at-Home order and the likely future requirements for safe social distancing, we have:

- *Conducted our monthly board meeting via teleconference and will continue to do so until it is safe to meet in person. Our first meeting via teleconference was in early April and went quite well.*
- *Made the difficult decision to postpone the Annual Meeting and Picnic. While it was scheduled for mid-July, we felt it would still be too early to have such a large group. Legionville is closed for the summer, so we would not have the access we normally have. And we would need to start now with meeting with local businesses to acquire door prizes. If safe for our members, we will consider an in-person meeting in August, otherwise we may resort to an online meeting. We know that not all our members may have access to the necessary connectivity for an online meeting, but we may not have a safe alternative.*
- *Begun to investigate alternative approaches to our annual board election process. Because we can't be sure of the ability to have a physical annual meeting, it will likely be via email or online voting. So it's important we have a valid email address for each property. If you know a property owner who is not receiving NLLA emails, please have them send a note to jim.anderson@northlong.org with their name, lake address, mailing address, and email address. It is not enough for them to simply subscribe to our email updates via the link below. Those without an email address may not receive a ballot.*
- *Canceled our Youth Water Safety class in June out of an abundance of caution. We will consider alternatives later in the summer. An online class is available and we wanted you to have time to make alternative plans.*

We still hope to have an online NLLA clothing sale this summer. Mail delivery will be offered and possibly pickup at the vendor's location near BIR. We'll know more when we hear back from GLS, our clothing vendor. Our spring Hwy 371 roadside cleanup is postponed. We do plan to have the fall cleanup as scheduled. These were all difficult decisions and were not taken lightly. We hope you understand.



**Wash your  
hands.**



**Stay home  
when sick.**



**Cover your  
cough.**

# North Long Lake: 2019 Water Testing Summary

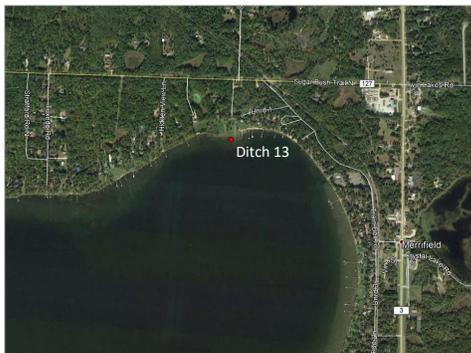
The monitoring data collected over the past five years indicate that North Long Lake has very good water quality overall. Compared to typical water quality conditions of other lakes within the Northern Lakes and Forest Ecoregion (NLF) of Minnesota, North Long Lake is of high quality and ranks among some of the best lakes in the ecoregion for the parameters measured. Table 1 below displays the typical range for lakes within the NLF Ecoregion alongside the average value measured at each site during the 2019 monitoring season.

**Table 1: Ecoregion Comparison**

Parameter	NLF Range	Site 101	Site 210	Site 204
Phosphorus (µg/L)	14-27	12	11	12
Chlorophyll a (µg/L)	< 10	2.75	2.5	4
Secchi Depth (feet)	7.8-15.1	18.9	20.6	14.9

While these monitoring sites in the middle of the lake's bays show high water quality, observations closer to the shoreline are showing some troubling trends. In the Merrifield Bay, extremely high plant growth was observed in 2019 resulting in reduced recreational quality of this part of the lake. There are also concerns by many residents that increased rainfall is bringing more phosphorus into the lake through stream inlets and runoff from lawns. Phosphorus fuels plant growth, so while the center of the lake has not yet been affected, there may be problems beginning to arise along the shoreline with phosphorus levels in North Long Lake.

**Figure 2: Ditch 13 Sample Site**



**Figure 3: Ditch 13 and Surrounding Shoreline**



To begin monitoring one of the suspected problem areas, an additional sampling site was added in August and September of 2019 at the outlet of Ditch 13 (Figure 2). Table 2 below shows the results of

the Ditch 13 samples compared to the samples collected at the deepest spot in Merrifield Bay (Site 101). We can see that in July the phosphorus and chlorophyll a measured was comparable. However, in September, the water near the outlet of Ditch 13 had substantially higher levels of both phosphorus and chlorophyll-a measured. We observed very thick

plant growth consisting mainly of native milfoil and native pondweed species. No invasive plants were observed in July or September.

While the ditch itself very likely does contribute phosphorus

**Table 2: Ditch 13 Sampling Data Compared to Site 101**

Site	7/18/2019		9/4/2019	
	TP (µg/L)	Chl-a (µg/L)	TP (µg/L)	Chl-a (µg/L)
101 (Merrifield Bay)	13	5	14	1
Ditch 13	16	7	53	20

loading to the lake from upstream, the high plant growth in this area is likely fueled by runoff from the surrounding properties which have little to no shoreline buffer to prevent runoff from entering the lake, as shown in Figure 3. Especially with the large amounts of rainfall this summer (2019 was one of the wettest years on record in Minnesota) we would expect plant growth to increase in areas with these shoreline practices.

**For many years, we've had an ongoing program to test the water in the main lake and both bays. In partnership with AW Research Labs, we test water clarity and phosphorous with Expanded Water Testing**

With increasing concerns about weed growth and the overall, long-term health of the lake, we will gather more information this year. We plan to gather more information about where phosphorus is entering the lake by monitoring several inlets and some areas where shoreline property runoff may be elevated due to poor shoreline conditions. In particular, we want to monitor Ditch 13 not only where it enters Merrifield Bay, but also upstream. There is also an inlet near BIR that warrants monitoring.

We also plan to conduct a baseline survey of aquatic vegetation at heavily vegetated portions of the lake. The surveys will be completed in late June or early July when Curly Leaf pondweed is still growing but other vegetation is also growing. This baseline survey involves collecting general information about the plant community present at each area of interest. The following information will be collected:

- Number and types of species present
- Relative abundance of each species
- Site depth
- Bottom substrate
- Approximate size of area

A sampling rake will be used to estimate abundance and to collect vegetation samples to confirm species identification.

In addition to giving us information on current conditions, the baseline will help us identify trends, both positive and negative.

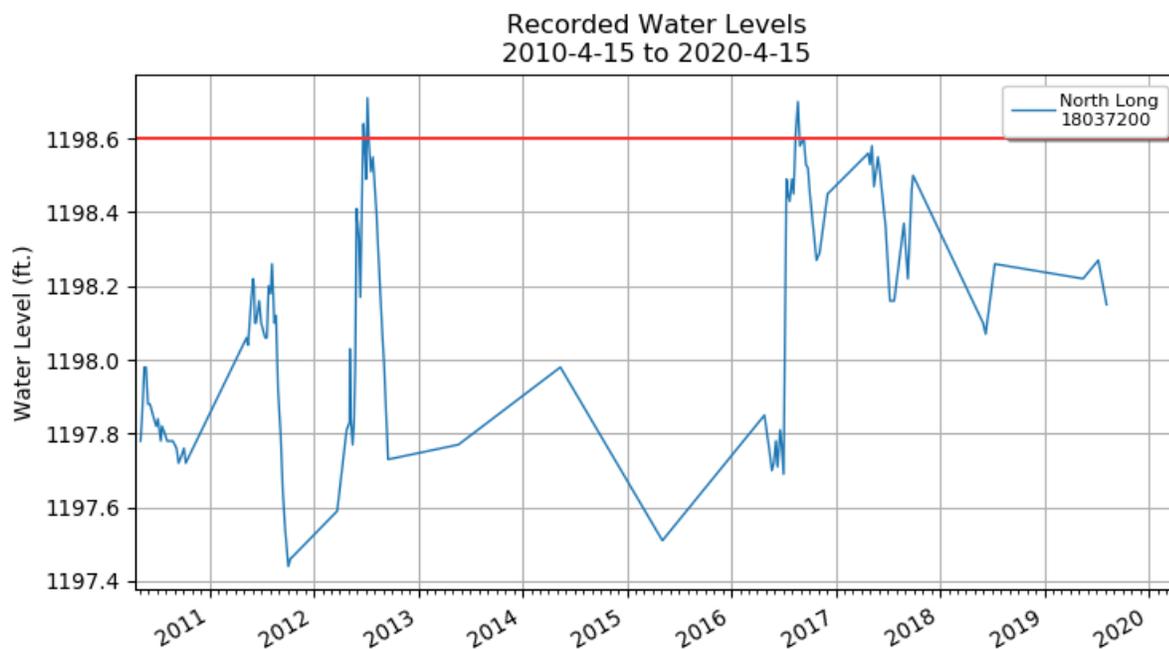
## Lake Level – North Long

As you can see, the lake level in North Long Lake remains relatively high by historical standards. The water level shown is in feet above sea level. Keep in mind that the chart can be a bit deceiving as the range from low to high isn't very much in absolute levels.

The last reading of 1198.15 ft was in August of 2019 and we gained a bit in the fall. But we also lost during the winter as Gull Lake was lowered. When Gull is lowered it affects Round Lake. That, in turn, can increase or decrease the flow out of North Long through Sugar Bush Creek between North Long and Round.

In case you're wondering, the ordinary high water level is "an elevation delineating the highest water level that has been maintained for a sufficient period of time to leave evidence upon the landscape, commonly the point where the natural vegetation changes from predominantly aquatic to predominantly terrestrial".

Want to know more? Go to the MN DNR page at [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us), search for "lake finder", then search for North Long Lake (or any other Minnesota lake).



Unfortunately, the DNR website does not have water level data for Round Lake, though it probably mirrors Gull, which has an Ordinary High Water Level of 1194 ft and was at 1193.96 ft in August 2019.

## Lakeshore Living Webinars Hosted by Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates

Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates is hosting a series of webinars and online book club events that are targeted to those who want to understand our lake ecology, life on our lakes and rivers, and protecting the health of our lakes and rivers. There are online book club events, presentations, and informational discussions. More information can be found at the MLR website: [mnlakesandrivers.org/mlr-webinar-series](http://mnlakesandrivers.org/mlr-webinar-series).

# NLLA 2019 Annual Meeting Door Prize Donors

**Many local businesses have been generous in providing door prizes for our annual meeting and picnic. These businesses supported us in 2019, we hope you'll support them as we recover from this challenging time.**

Affordable Auto Repair  
Andy's Merrifield  
Black Bear Lodge  
Blakeman Pumping Service  
Boulder Tap House  
Buffalo Wild Wings  
Chameleon Cafe  
Crow Wing Power  
DH Docks  
Fishing to End Hunger  
Gander Outdoors  
Grand View Lodge

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Nisswa Family Fun Waterpark  
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Northern Cowboy  
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Precision Propeller Works  
Roundhouse brewery  
RW Jewelers  
Salon 77 Pam Wachholz  
Steve Peterson  
The Old Open Window  
The Woodland Meadow  
Wild Bird Store

## NLLA Board Update

Josh Duerr | Due to family and other commitments, Josh has decided not to seek reelection to the NLLA board. He has been a valued member of the board for three years and his contributions will be missed. We wish all the best for Josh and his family.



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- Nitrate**  
(Every other year)
- Arsenic**  
(At least once)
- Lead**  
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- Manganese**  
(Before a baby drinks the water)

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Graphic created by MN Dept. of Health

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# NLLA Board Vacancies and Election

We will have a number of vacancies on our association board of directors when we conduct elections this summer. But our association is only as strong as the members who volunteer their time and expertise to serve on the board. The actions of the board not only effect the association; they affect the long term health and viability of our lake.

We will, in the near future, initiate a formal nominating process. But if you have any questions about serving on the board, or you know someone who might be interested, please

send a note to [bill.schmidt@northlong.org](mailto:bill.schmidt@northlong.org) with your name and phone number.

And we would like to have more diversity on our board, so any and all members with an interest in serving is encouraged put their name up for consideration.

Our board election this year will likely be held electronically; possibly with a mail option. As always, only members can vote and there is only one vote per property. If we can't contact you, we can't send you a ballot. So please make sure you're mailing address and email is up-to-date. If you didn't receive the dues notice in January, we don't have a valid mailing address for you.

## Annual Dues Letter has Been Mailed

NLLA Membership continues to be on a calendar year basis – January through December.

Our dues letter was mailed in late January, along with a stamped, self-addressed return envelope. If you didn't receive yours, please email Jim Anderson at [jim.anderson@northlong.org](mailto:jim.anderson@northlong.org).

With the changes we've had to make due to the Covid-19 virus, you won't have the opportunity to renew at the picnic. As always, only members will be eligible to vote in July. So if you do not renew by mail prior to that, you won't be able to vote.



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## North Long Lake MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Jim Anderson, Treasurer

As of April 29, 2020 we have 347 paid memberships.  
212 members also contributed to the AIS fund.

### DONOR MEMBERS

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Yeager, Tom & Lora

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Zander, John & Sandra  
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Zuroski, Leo

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Larson, Vicki  
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Weber, Michael and Debra  
Lee  
Weiland, John & Judy  
Welty, Bruce & Judy  
Wilt, David

# North Long Lake Association

## Statement of Financial Income and Expense | January through March 2020

	AIS Fund	General Fund	TOTAL
<b>Income</b>			
AIS 2020	8,390.00	0.00	8,390.00
Interest Income	0.00	2.33	2.33
Membership 2020	0.00	11,270.00	11,270.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>8,390.00</b>	<b>11,272.33</b>	<b>19,662.33</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>8,390.00</b>	<b>11,272.33</b>	<b>19,662.33</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
Insurance	0.00	550.00	550.00
Membership Drive Printing & Postage	0.00	1,112.45	1,112.45
Water Testing	0.00	255.00	255.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,917.45</b>	<b>1,917.45</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>8,390.00</b>	<b>9,354.88</b>	<b>17,744.88</b>

## Balance Sheet By Class | as of September 2019

	AIS Fund	Emergency Response Fund	General Fund	Unclassified	TOTAL
<b>Assets</b>					
Current Assets					
Checking/Savings					
NLLA Checking	11,177.85	50,000.00	42,474.47	0.00	103,652.32
Total Checking/Savings	11,177.85	50,000.00	42,474.47	0.00	103,652.32
Total Current Assets	11,177.85	50,000.00	42,474.47	0.00	103,652.32
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>11,177.85</b>	<b>50,000.00</b>	<b>42,474.47</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>103,652.32</b>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>					
Equity					
32000 · Retained Earnings	2,787.85	0.00	83,119.59	0.00	85,907.44
Net Income	8,390.00	0.00	9,354.88	0.00	17,744.88
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>11,177.85</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>92,474.47</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>103,652.32</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	<b>11,177.85</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>92,474.47</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>103,652.32</b>
<b>Unbalanced Classes</b>	<b>-0.00</b>	<b>50,000.00</b>	<b>-50,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-0.00</b>

## Membership Renewal

Memberships are on a calendar year basis. 2020 membership statements were mailed to your home address on file in January. If you did not receive, or need a copy, please contact Jim Anderson, NLLA Treasurer, at [jim.anderson@gmail.com](mailto:jim.anderson@gmail.com).

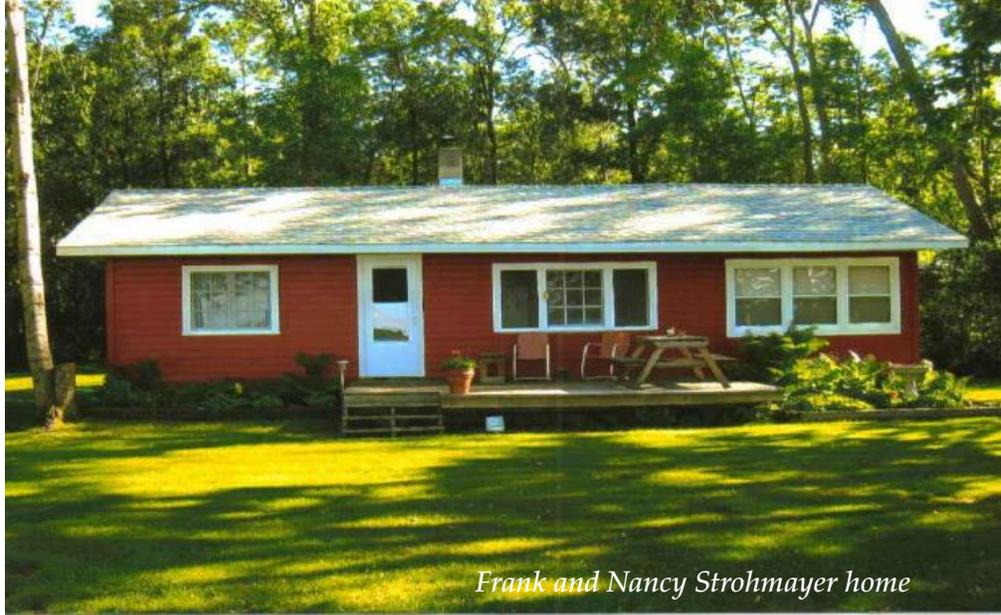
## North Long Lake History | 4840 Bon Arbor Lane, Brainerd | Frank and Nancy Strohmayer

We purchased the cabin in 1974 from my mother, Marie Strohmayer, after my father, Frank Sr., passed away.

Scotty Gilmer owned "Bon Arbor Resort". He also worked for the Brainerd water department and got some pressure because he lived in what was then considered "out of town".

My family stayed at the resort often in the early 1950's. In 1956 he divided the resort and sold cabins furnished with a boat and dock at a very reasonable cost. He also owned some land east of the resort.

My parents bought the second lot from the resort that year. Over the next several years we cleared the land with hand saws.



*Frank and Nancy Strohmayer home*

The spring of 1961 we started building and stayed at a very rustic cabin for the first time during the week of July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1961. My wife Nancy and I with our two sons bought the cabin in 1974. Many changes have been made since and great times have been had.



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**BAXTER SALES & SERVICE CENTER / 15779 EDGEWOOD DRIVE BAXTER, MN 56425**



**Sale Around Round  
CANCELED**

**Due to the COVID 19  
problem, we will not be  
having our annual sale  
around round this year.**

**ROUND LAKE ASSOCIATION**



**ORDER DEADLINE: JUNE 15TH, 2020**

**ORDER HERE**  
[moveu.us/stores/roundlake](http://moveu.us/stores/roundlake)



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LUMBER  
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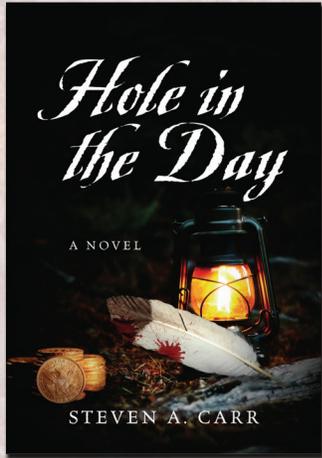
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**From local author  
Steven A. Carr**

The quest for the Ojibwa treasure

Available from:  
Amazon, Outskirts Press, and  
The Madden Store.

# Round Lake Annual Meeting and Picnic

Round Lake Improvement Association and  
Round Lake Improvement District

Due to the COVID 19 problem, we will not have an in person annual meeting and picnic. However, according to our By-Laws we must have a meeting. We have decided to do this via email. We will be sending out an agenda and various supporting documents via email. This will include financial statements, meeting minutes, and a ballot for election of directors. You can email your vote back to us.

Therefore, it is essential that we have email addresses from our lake residents and members. The last 2 emails from our association were: Wakeboard found on Round Lake (9/16/19) and Round Lake Store is open (10/24/19).

If you received these emails, you are on our mailing list. If you did not, either we do not have your email or we have an incorrect one. If we do not have your email address, please send an email to roundojibwa@gmail.com.

If you have any questions about this, please contact Mark Parrish or Linda Esser.



## ROUND LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Membership Levels | Contributions Received 10/13/19 to 4/2/20

### OWL (\$25 to \$49.99)

Balzer, Chuck  
Baxter, Tim & Nancy  
Brouwers, Rodney & Janice  
Cooney, Dick & Gayle  
Gatz, Dale  
Graphenteen, Marian  
Houle, Bob and Pam  
Hukriede, Jamie & Toni  
Juhlke, Cliff & Meme  
Liudahl, Nan  
Ludenia, Bill & Kathy  
Meyer, David & Becky  
Nygren, Greg & Bonnie  
Olson, Suzie  
Olson, DeLos & Karen  
Pappenfus, Gary & Rebecca  
Paulson, Kathy  
Sauro, Mike  
Woessner, Don & Mary Kay

### HAWK \$50 - \$74.99

Club, Cinosam  
Devlin, Jack & Suzi  
Dillon, Mike & Kim

Eckroad, Richard  
Frazer, Deb  
Friesen, Bruce & Carol  
Golde, Jason & Jamie  
Grossman, Josh & Ellen  
Gruber, Jason & Debra  
Hastings, Tim & Darlene  
Hennes, David & Kathy  
Jarvie/Walker, Craig & Joey  
Langham, Jim & Anita  
Larson, Wayne & Yvonne  
Lee, Dan & Jennifer  
Meyer, James  
Milless, Tom & Kerri  
Niebur, Michael & Susan  
Paycer, Al & Laura  
Peterson, Craig & Karen  
Plutowski, Dale & Judy  
Schmitt, Scott & Stacey  
Smith, Ron & Carol  
Swanson, John & Vivian  
Ubl/Norlander, Dave & Susan  
Walton, Gary & Verena

### OSPREY \$75 - \$99.99

Danielson, Keith & Karen  
Gegner, Cal & Marty  
Harstad, Glen & Kirsten  
Phillips, Kathie

### EAGLE \$100 OR MORE

Bahr, Dan & Christi  
Baker, Bill & Diane  
Bickel, Lois  
Bosacker, Pat  
Carpenter, Michael  
Carpenter, Tina  
Clough, Steve & Cindy  
Engelman, Paul & Wendy  
Erhard, Lee & Irene  
Flaherty, Scott & Anne  
Haug, Brian & Randa  
Jarabek, Dennis & Janelle  
Lahl, Andy & Rebecca  
Larson, Steve & LuJean  
Lofgren, Laurie  
Ludtke, Craig & Brenda  
Maki, James & Diane  
Mickelson, Keith & LuAnn

Moen, Rolf & Diane  
Moore, Tom & Kitty  
Moore, John & Lourdes  
Musielewicz, Bob & Pam  
Oscarson, Dennis & Mary  
Piepho, Chad  
Quist, John/Marilyn & David/  
Donna  
Resort, Sebago  
Retka, John & Denise  
Richter, Ray & Janice  
Ruedisili, Todd & Deb  
Soma, Barbara  
Springer, Shirley  
Swan, Chad & Lisa  
Sykes, Dave & Kim  
Uppgren, Stephen & Kathie  
VanderAarde, Luke & Lanette  
Veldman, Jake & Sarah  
Waldron, Jerry & Nikki  
Wickham, Corey & Laura  
Wiegand, Tom & Amy  
Wilcox, Charles & Virginia  
Yaeger, Gary & Mary K



# Membership Renewal

Round Lake Improvement Association 2020-2021

Membership runs from 7/1/20 to 6/30/21

It is that time of the year to renew your membership in our association. Since our fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30, membership will be for the same time period. In the past, some members have renewed on a calendar year basis. For the sake of simplifying our record keeping, we are asking all members to renew at this time of the year. We will no longer have a membership renewal article in our fall newsletter.

Our membership categories are as follows:

Owl \$25-\$49.00 | Hawk \$50-\$74.99

Osprey \$75 - \$99.99 | Eagle \$100 or more

All contributions will be acknowledged in our newsletter.

If you have a question regarding your membership payment, please contact Linda Esser, 963-2752 or [essersplace@charter.net](mailto:essersplace@charter.net)

RLIA - WORKING FOR YOU - FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT  
MEMBERSHIP RUNS FROM 7/1/20 TO 6/30/21

Please make checks payable to:

Round Lake Improvement Association, PO Box 378, Nisswa, MN 56468

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Address \_\_\_\_\_

Other Address \_\_\_\_\_ City / State/ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Lake Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

# ROUND LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

For the Period of 1/1/2019 - 12/31/2019

		DESCRIPTION	DATE
Cash Balance as of 1/1/2019	\$131,672.17		
Revenues:	\$744.46	Jan 2019 settlement	1/23/2019
	\$20,516.19	July settlement	7/5/2019
	\$70.87	July settlement	7/5/2019
	\$149.00	MCIT Dividend	11/18/2019
	\$14,746.45	December settlement	12/3/2019
Total Revenues	\$36,226.97		
Expenditures:	\$250.00	2019 LID Annual Admin Fee	1/2/2019
	\$1,596.00	Insurance	1/8/2019
	\$215.00	Summer TSI analysis AWR	5/21/2019
	\$800.00	Survey Curly Leaf Pondweed	7/23/2019
Total Expenditures:	\$2,861.00		
Cash Balance as of 12/31/2019	\$165,038.14		

Round Lake Improvement Association, Inc.  
Banking Summary  
7/1/2019 through 4/7/2020

<b>INCOME</b>	
Interest Inc .....	254.89
Meat from Picnic.....	21.00
Membership Dues .....	8,850.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME .....</b>	<b>9,125.89</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Mailbox Fee .....	56.00
Mailings.....	446.08
Misc.....	25.00
Picnic .....	300.00
Postage (Stamps,etc) .....	7.15
Professional Fees .....	250.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES .....</b>	<b>1,084.23</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL .....</b>	<b>8,041.66</b>

Round Lake Improvement Association, Inc.  
Net Worth - As of 4/7/2020

Account	6/30/2019 Balance	4/7/2020 Balance
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and Bank Accounts:		
CD BlackRidge 403596	15,678.66	15,930.94
Checking	2,901.76	2,690.62
Savings	270.89	8,271.41
<b>TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts</b>	<b>18,851.31</b>	<b>26,892.97</b>
<b>TOTAL Other Assets</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>18,851.31</b>	<b>26,892.97</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>18,851.31</b>	<b>26,892.97</b>

Mink Baby  
courtesy of Jackie Kottke





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Photo courtesy of Deb Johnson