

McKenzie Lakes



Happenings

June 2009

Association Involvement

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President, Lisa Kiener-Barnett. Everyone was welcomed back to another year. There were no minutes read from the last meeting. Treasurer Mark Hoffmann presented the treasurer's report.

Old business:

-Swanie Swanson reported that the roadside cleanup went very well. Lipsie and Rooney lakes both participated in the event. Lower McKenzie lake assoc. has indicated an interest in participating next year.

-Sandy Swanson reported that there would not be a membership drive this year as she has done in the past. She encourages everyone to be diligent about getting information to new neighbors and anyone interested in MLA activities. Sandy and Fred Kruger will update the membership book with current information to distribute to members for their books.

-Mark Hoffmann reminded everyone to pay their dues for the current year. He will be sure to include membership expiration dates on the mailing labels of the newsletters. Mark has also been at work developing the MLA web site. The name, McKenzieLakes.com has already been registered and fees have been paid for the next three years. Mark had a sample of the home page, which looks fabulous, to show everyone. It included an updated MLA logo and pictures. There was also discussion about the Clam Lake web site to look at as an example. The web site is not up and running yet. It is still a

work in progress since Mark's schedule allows for only a minimal amount of time to work on it. If anyone is interested in assisting with the web site, please contact Mark Hoffmann.

-Lisa Kiener-Barnett gave an update on the status of the aquatic plant survey. She had contacted Dave Ferris in February via e-mail and he responded that he was no longer in charge of that project. Brad Morris is the new contact person. Lisa spoke with him several weeks ago and he indicated that he was not yet sure of how they were proceeding with this project. Lisa informed him that we had money budgeted for this program and we're still interested in moving forward. Lisa and Brad will be in contact and hopefully there will be more information regarding the survey for the next meeting.

New business:

-Volunteers are needed for the Booya on August 8th. Please contact Lisa.

-The Northwest Lakes Conference is on June 16th at Telemark Resort in Cable. Members were encouraged to attend.

-Fred Kruger gave a report on behalf of the Burnett County Lakes & Rivers Assoc. He reminded the membership of many of the ongoing issues that we have discussed that are currently impacting the lakes such as; milfoil, VHS in fish, phosphorus runoff, shoreline restoration and most importantly the new laws regarding the illegal transport of

aquatic plants attached to boats and trailers that travel from lake to lake. The BCLA is also looking for a liaison from MLA to BCLA. If you are interested, please contact Fred Kruger.

-There have been no sightings of loon nests. Please keep a lookout for those and steer clear if you do see one. (See Do's and Don'ts in this newsletter.)

-Bob Olson gave a secchi disc report for Big McKenzie and the clarity of the lake is within normal ranges for this time of year.

-There was discussion about approaching Lower McKenzie Lakes Association about rejoining MLA. Lisa said that she would contact their current president and see if they are interested.

-There was considerable discussion about the changes in what areas of the lakes have been designated as flood planes. Some felt that it would be worth the effort (and considerable expense) to have a licensed surveyor do an elevation study of your property to determine if it is in a flood plane, and to have it removed if it is not. The insurance costs for flood plane property are quite expensive.

-Rich and LeAnn Borseth had plenty of shirts available for sale.

-Please make plans to attend the MLA annual meeting on Saturday, June 27th.

-Meeting adjourned.

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2009 Calendar

5/23/2009
6/27/2009
7/4/2009

May Meeting
Annual Meeting
(Election of Officers)
Boat Parade

8/1/2009
8/8/2009
9/5/2009

August Meeting
Booya
September Meeting

Membership Form

Please complete the form and return it with a check of \$20.00 payable to "McKenzie Lakes Association". Send form and dues to: Mark Hoffman, 525 Jonquil Lane, Plymouth, MN 55441

Name: _____

Mailing Address:

Street: _____

City, State Zip _____

Lake Address:

Street: _____

Lake Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

Loon Update

I believe that one of the greatest sounds of nature is "The call of the Loon". I can't imagine the void we would all experience if the loons were to disappear from our lakes.

We have adult pairs coming back every year, but their nesting has been limited the last few years.

Too much spring time human activity around the island on Middle McKenzie has hindered the Loon's nesting capabilities. Added development on the south end of Big McKenzie has also eliminated nesting habitat for the Loons.

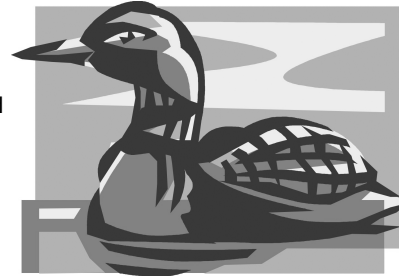
The following piece was taken from the Winter Issue of Wal's Lake Connection.

Let's see what we can do to restore some potential nesting shoreline for our loons.

Stressors that affect loons and loon habitat

A 'no lake use' by loons was evident when shoreline densities exceeded twenty-five buildings/km. While this level of density was on only 5% of lakes surveyed between 2002-2004, current Wisconsin Shoreline Zoning (WDNR NR 115) permits density of up to thirty-three buildings/km of shoreline by allowing one building every one-hundred feet.

On Lakes with at least 10% of shore land in public ownership, despite heavy housing density on other parts of the lake, territorial loon pairs were present.



Mercury Exposure:

Approximately 10% of the loon population within the region assessed exhibit mercury exposure levels that are consistent with toxicity in the laboratory.

Toxicity impacts are most likely to affect chick survival and next success from reduced egg hatchability.

If mercury level concentrations in fish were reduced to a level with no observable adverse effects, allowing chick survival rates to increase by 10%, an estimated annual growth rate in the loon population would increase one and a half percent.

Thanks to loon research studies, in 2008 Governor Doyle signed a new clean air rule that will reduce mercury emissions from Wisconsin coal plants by 90%.

LUNKER'S MCKENZIE FRENZY FISHING CONTEST

When: October 11th, 2009

Lake: Big McKenzie Lake

Time: 9:00AM (Take Off) 3:00PM (Weigh In)

Fish Fry to Follow at Lunker's Lodge

Rules:

- 20 Boat Maximum, 1st Paid 1st In
- 5 fish limit per boat (2 people per boat), 14" minimum. All fish will be checked at weigh-in. Only one dead fish allowed at weigh in.
- \$30.00 per person
- 95% payback (5% goes to meal)
- Prizes and trophies for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in total weight and biggest bass.
- Live wells checked before take off
- Must return to weigh in on time or disqualified
- Use common senses and courtesy towards other boats, 100 ft. rule
- No pre-fishing after 8th.

Send check to Lunkers Lodge, 29770 Long Lake Road, Webb Lake, WI 54830.

Call Steve at 715-733-0350 to sign up or for any questions.

Optional: \$5.00 per person pot for biggest Muskie, honor system with photo and length.

**MCKENZIE LAKES
ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER**

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Email: cconroy@select-sales.com

The Cook's Corner

Drunk Largemouth

- 6 bass fillets. Suggest no more than ¾ inch thick
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper
- Paprika
- ¼ cup finely chopped onion
- ¼ c butter
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 can plus 2 cups of your favorite beer
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 2 cloves, whole
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice

Sprinkle fish fillets with 1 teaspoon salt, the pepper, and some paprika.

In a skillet, cook onion in butter 'till tender.

Stir in flour; cook and stir to a golden brown.

Stir in the 2 cups of beer.

Continue stirring until the mixture just begins to bubble.

Add sugar and clove.

Place the fish fillets in the pan.

Cover the skillet and cook **SLOWLY** for about 12 to 15 minutes on low heat until the fish gets flaky.

While the bass is cooking, drink the can of beer and relax a bit.

Remove the bass and arrange on a large plate.

Into the sauce that remains in the skillet, add the lemon juice.

Stir until mixed well and pour over the bass.

Serve with white rice, if you want. Each bass fillet is a serving.

