

Sentinel Fall/Winter 2005

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Merilee Meyers

As I sit down to write this letter, two days before the first day of fall, the sun is shining, the roses are still in bloom and the temperature is heading into the mid seventies. Although it appears our glorious summer shall continue for awhile longer, the leaves are turning and falling, squirrels and chipmunks are busy with their winter provisioning and the geese are gathering for their southward flight. Hummers and goldfinch have already left; the loons shall grace us with their presence for another month before they too, head south.

Many of our summer residents have already left; others are packing, cleaning and putting away the toys of summer. Docks and boats are now pulled in and covered, awaiting the summer of 2006.

It has been a busy summer here. The Welcome Back Wine and Cheese party at the home of Pat Riley and Natalie Roholt in June was well attended. The weather cooperated, the mosquitoes did not. The boat parade on the Fourth of July was also well attended. The mosquitoes cooperated, the weather did not. Grey skies and wind.

The annual meeting was held at the home of Jay and Jane Johnson on August 10. Rather than have a speaker on shoreline restoration, as promised, we discussed the offer by the Mihal family to donate the island to the lake association. No vote was taken at this meeting; a special meeting was called to be held at the annual cook-out on September 10 at John and Maggie Schwegman's.

A report on the donation, discussion and result of the voting follows on page three of this newsletter.

This past Sunday Wendy Larson and I completed the water sampling for the 2005 season. For the first time during the last five months, the weather was beautiful and the lake dead calm! Every other month we have had to contend with wind and considerable wave action. Wendy has learned to drive a boat as most months the wind was so strong, we simply dragged the anchor. In July the waves and cat's paws were such that we got a Secchi reading of 21'11". Incredible and wonderful.

There have occurred some shoreland ordinance violations on the lake this summer. Thanks to the keen eye of neighbors and their willingness to call Bill Patnaude's office or myself, these violations have been kept relatively minor. To quote from an article entitled "By Lakes, Rules Making the Waves" published

on August 18, 2005 in the Star Tribune...'violations are getting noticed more often partly because lake associations with political clout are on the lookout for them.' Thank you for generating that clout.

Please plan to attend our Holiday Kick-Off dinner buffet at Squirrel's 71 Bar on December 3 at 5:30 pm. Please call me at 586-3259 or email me with your reservation by November 23, 2005. There will be a cash bar; the cost of the dinner will be \$16.95 per person, payable that evening.

LESSONS FROM GEESE

by Milton Olsen, a naturalist

It's about the greater collective and how we learn from each other.

1. As each bird flaps it's wings, it creates an uplift for the bird following. Flying in a 'V' formation, the whole flock adds 71% greater flying range than if the bird flew along.

Lesson: People who share a common direction and sense of community, can get where they're going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

2. Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front.

Lesson: If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed where we want to go, and will be willing to accept their help as well as give ours to the others.

3. When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into formation and another goose flies at the point position.

Lesson: It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing the leadership. With people, as with geese, we are inter-dependent on each other.

4. The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

Lesson: We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging.

5. When a goose gets sick or wounded, or is shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay with it until it is able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out on their own with another formation or they catch up with the flock.

Lesson: If we have as much sense as geese, we too will stand by each other in difficult times, as well as when we are strong.

TID-BITS FROM SANDY

Boy, has this summer gone fast. We had lots of company (as I'm sure you all did too), two weddings of grandchildren and a "friends" reunion in Branson. Wonder how we ever found the time to work!!! We extend our sincere sympathy to the family of Genevieve Ozland Genevieve enjoyed many wonderful years at her cabin on Marcella Drive. Chris Rodgers was in town. She and Don (now deceased) build their dream home on Esther Lane. Chris is now residing near a son in Williamsburg, Virginia and loves it. Mark Rodgers is another son. Georgine Casement received the "You're Someone Special" award from her volunteer work with Hospice. And, I was surprised with a Lifetime Achievement Award for over 4000 hours of volunteerism. Volunteering is an OPPORTUNITY you can't afford to miss! Ferdigs, at the north end of the lake, are building "up" on their cabin. Lots of building going on around our beautiful lake. I overheard talk between Fred Ettl, Itzie Chakov and Ken Awsumb about who was the oldest one on the lake. I think Ken won by a slight margin. Chuck and Mariam Flann's daughter was in New Orleans with the Red Cross to help with the hurricane victims while Flann's babysat the grandchildren in Jamestown. Again, aren't we fortunate to live in northern Minnesota. I'll take a blizzard any day!! Get well wishes go out to Sherry (Braaten) Haugen who is recovering from heart surgery done at Mayo Clinic this fall. The daughter of George and Diane Winter, Nicole, is teaching 5th and 6th graders in Guatemala this year. Sara Breeze, Long Lake resident and Schoolcraft Learning Community teacher, traveled in mid-August to Jarabacoa, Dominican Republic, to share the concept of expeditionary learning with about 14 grade school teachers. 'They got right on it. I was just excited for them,' said Sara.

HAVE A WONDERFUL WINTER AND WE'LL SEE YOU IN THE SPRING.

THE ISLAND

Merilee Meyers

In July, The Executive Committee was made aware of the Mihal family offer to donate the island to the Long Lake Association. An island committee was formed to gather as much information as possible to present at the annual meeting. A handout was prepared, providing lake residents with information about the island and issues relating to the Association owning the island. This handout addressed guidelines for use of the island, legalities/liability/insurance, financial issues and was disseminated and discussed at the annual meeting.

A letter was sent out to all property owners on Long Lake. This letter explained the possible donation and what it could mean to the lake and Association. Recipients were asked to mark the attached ballot, indicating whether or not they supported the acceptance of the donation of the island to the Association. The results of the vote were reported at the special meeting after the cook-out at Schwegman's.

The vote was in favor of the Association accepting the offer by the Mihal family of their donation of the island.

It may be a year before all the details of the island covenants, usage, title transfer, etc. are worked out with the Mihal family. A volunteer island management committee has been formed; Jay Johnson is chair of this committee. Anyone interested in serving on this committee and/or participating in the island maintenance and upkeep, please contact Jay at 586-2605.

Although the vote to accept the island was greater than 2:1, it is recognized that many property owners, for a variety of reasons, are not in favor of the Association accepting the island. I do hope, however, that those persons who voted against the donation will continue to be active members of the Association. It is important to remember that the purpose of the Association is "to protect the environment and welfare of Long Lake...by providing assistance to the lake residents in maintaining the pristine quality, clarity and natural beauty of the area and cultivation of mutual fellowship between its members as stated in the by-laws of the Association. This is why we have an Association and why we belong.

At this time, a possible increase in Association dues is unknown. It is likely they will rise as the Association takes over the taxes on the island and pays liability insurance to protect the Association. The amount will not be known for several months and will be discussed and voted on at the annual meeting in 2006. A special fund shall be set up for island expenses-donations are welcome.

Exciting and challenging times are ahead for our lake Association. There is much to do and much to learn in the upcoming months. I look forward to the continued growth of our Association and good times on our glorious lake.

LONG LAKE ASSOCIATION 2005 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

The Long Lake Association Annual Meeting on August 12, 2005 was held at the home of Jay and Jane Johnson. Fifty-five people were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by President Merilee Meyers.

The minutes were read and approved.

The treasurer's report was as follows and approved:

\$1,425 receipts

-1,140 disbursements

\$284 balance + interest \$7 + last closing balance 1,695 =

\$1,987 balanced in savings

Two outstanding bills were discussed: update of directory (\$501) and legal fees for island (\$525+)

Due to Association By-Lays any expense over \$200 must be approved by members-at-large. It was moved and seconded that these expenses be paid.

Membership: A membership committee is needed. Committee members will be drawn for the Association. Membership packets have yet to be assembled. These packets will include shoreline property owner regulations and rules, past copies of Long Lake Association Newsletter (The Sentinel), a welcoming letter, and the like.

The Long Lake Association Directory 2000 has been updated and is free to Association members and is also available to non-members for \$5.00. The mailing charge is \$1.00.

BCLARA: M. Myers, the Association representative to BCLARA, outlined the following projects that BCLARA is involved in and/or sponsoring:

DNR Shoreland Habitat Restoration Grants: Lakeshore property owners are encouraged to apply for 'lakescaping' demonstration projects to be completed during Spring, 2006. A total of \$560,000 has been allotted since 2000. An extension of the project has funding of \$205,000. If interested contact the DNR by September 16, 2005. Eligibility includes \$500 from property owner and an 'in kind' contribution of \$500. One restoration project has been completed this year, bringing the total to three restoration projects in Beltrami County.

Healthy Lakes and Rivers Initiative: The program would be advantageous to the Association. Five to eight Association members are needed to participate in a two session training workshop in the summer of

2006. These members would develop and implement a lake management plan for Long Lake. The Association could receive \$2,400 upon completion of the members' participation and special project grants may be available up to \$3,000 which could bring a total of \$5,400 to the Association treasury!

Planning and Zoning/Board of Adjustment: Due to the increase of permanent lake homes and resort conversions, stricter shoreland ordinances are being established. The Planning and Zoning/Board of Adjustment has a mandate to protect our lakes.

Annual Loon Count: Loon babies are decreasing, thus affecting the loon population. The DNR is conducting a study in an attempt to discover the cause in the decrease.

Long Lake's Water Monitoring Quality: We are in our second season of monitoring Long Lake for phosphorus, clarity and chlorophyll A. Our phosphorus levels are low, water is clear...we are maintaining the quality of the lake. Bill Beck reports an annual average Secci disk reading of 19 feet.

Spring Road Clean-Up: Becky Chakov steps down and Ruth Ann Will will replace Becky in organizing the adoption of permanent ownerships of portions of the ditches along Long Lake Dr. and Oman Rd for clean-up each spring.

Social Events:

September 10, 2005--Fall Weenie Roast @ Schwegman's

December 3, 2005--Holiday Kick-Off Dinner @ Squirrel's

June 10, 2006--Welcome Back Wine & Cheese @ Plath's

July 4, 2006--Annual Boat Parade preceding refreshments @ Ettl's beach

August 6, 2006--Annual Potluck and Annual Meeting @ Olson's (Myrle/Mavis)

September 9, 2005--Fall Weenie Roast @ Johnson's (Will/Sandy)

Executive Board Meetings (Wednesdays, 7:00 pm @ Meyers home):

August 24, 2005

November 16, 2005

April 5, 2006

August 2, 2006

Shoreland Alteration Permits: There is a \$150.00 fee for the permit, as required by Beltrami County.

Proposed Amendment to the By-Laws: Will Johnson will chair a committee to explore the wording of Article E. Executive Committee in the Association By-Laws #7: "The Executive Committee may use funds in excess of \$200 for any particular activity, action or event only with expressed approval of the membership." The Executive Committee has requested a greater "allowance" before full membership approval is required. Such an amendment will be discussed at the 2006 annual meeting.

Proposal by Mihal/Kacena Family: The owners of Long Lake's island have indicated they are interested in donating the island to the Long Lake Association. Jay Johnson, chairman of the Island Committee, passed out to attendees 'Island Information' including description, financial issues and guidelines for use of the island, as well as the legalities, liability and insurance plus other pro/con considerations. Discussion followed of the the island donation and island information hand-out.

It was agreed that all property owners would receive a letter on the possible donation; attached to the letter will be a ballot. Association members will be asked to vote by mail-in ballot as to whether or not the Association should proceed with the possible acceptance of the island being donated by the Mihal/Kacena Family. Votes will be taken on or before a special meeting to be held at the annual weenie roast on September 10, 2005.

If the island donation is accepted, membership dues will likely rise to cover the taxes and insurance of the island. Such an increase will be presented at the 2006 annual meeting.

Curtiss Hunt volunteered to assist in establishing a web site regarding the project of acquiring the island.

Burning Ban: Clint Braaten reminded attendees that a fire restriction would be in effect beginning Monday, August 15 @ 8:00 am due to lack of rain and extreme dry conditions.

Boating Safety: A black speedboat has been twice observed driving at high speed through the loon family. The license number of boat would be helpful in reporting this activity to authorities.

It was requested that boat traffic travel down center of lake...high speeds close to shore and excessive circling are destroying shorelines. State regulations state that boats exceeding the 'no wake' speed of 5 mph must stay 150' from shore.

A Reminder: The narrows is a no-wake zone as it is less than 150' from shoreline to shoreline.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

Diane Plath