

### Lake Washburn Association

# NEWSLETTER

Working to Protect our Beautiful Lake and its Environment for Future Generations

### **SPRING 2005**

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# Spring Has Arrived at Washburn



Ice out on Friday, April 15th...



Dock & Boat in on Saturday, April 16th!



By Dave Snesrud

I hope you have all had a good winter and are ready to spend some quality time at "The Lake" this summer.

We have many things going on. There is the sale of the Bear Paw property, of which we have been keeping you informed. I would like to thank all of you who took the time to write a note showing your support.

For those of you who may not have heard, the East Lake froze out this winter. Tim Brastrup, Brainerd DNR Fisheries, has informed the Fish Committee that Walleye fry will be planted in the East Lake this spring. The fry should do well in the absence of predators (sunfish and bass), which froze out. This should create an opportunity for both excellent growth and survival.

Also, we still need people who want to do some shoreline restoration. On Saturday, June 4th the University of Minnesota Extension Service will be having a workshop, which will be planting two properties on Washburn. Sign up (see page 11), help out, and get the fever! If interested contact me. We still have matching grant money available.

Lastly, Cass County has been working on a program call Intra-Lake Zoning. The concept is that all shoreline is not the same, and therefore different types of zoning should apply. Washburn Lake is one of six lakes that this program will be tested on. You will be hearing more about this in the near future.

I look forward to seeing you at our June and August General Meetings --- we have two great programs planned.

Have a great summer!

### MATCHING GRANT MONEY STILL AVAILABE FOR SHORELAND RESTORATION

Contact Dave Snesrud Home: 763-753-2790

Cell: 763-442-2183

Cabin: 218-792-5824

Email: snesrud@usfamily.net

Register for the Shoreland Planting Workshop to be held June 4th on Washburn. See page 11 for more information.

### 2005 BOARD MEMBERS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Listed below are the 2005 Lake Washburn Association board members as well as their general responsibilities. Please contact any of these members or send an email to <a href="LWA@mnlakes.org">LWA@mnlakes.org</a> with your questions, concerns or suggestions. Your input is valuable.

#### PRESIDENT

Dave Snesrud - Newsletter, ACCL Representative 218-792-5824 763-753-2790 snesrud@usfamily.net

#### VICE PRESIDENT

Dan Schultz - Shoreland Volunteers, Conservation & Preservation 218-792-5977 952-423-3536 danschultz11@yahoo.com

#### **SECRETARY**

Mark Hegman 218-792-5499 952-920-2392 hegmanmark@aol.com

#### TREASURER

George Fortmeyer
218-792-5416 651-784-2113 fortmeyergl@earthlink.net

#### DIRECTORS

Harold Cazier - Fish 218-792-5430 jhcminnesota@brainerd.net

Rollie Hirman - Membership, Newsletter Sponsors, Water Patrol 218-792-5528 hirmanrollie@earthlink.net

Dave Johnston - Boat Monitoring, County Road 48 Cleanup 218-792-5560 knotacare@brainerd.net

Jan Judd - Loons, Aquatic Vegetation 218-792-5470 952-445-5378 djudd@mn.rr.com

Jim Lindahl - Reservations & Meetings, Exotics 218-792-5348

Rod McKinley - Buoys, Fish 218-792-5228 mckinley@brainerd.net

Jim Patterson - Conservation & Preservation 612-670-5307 612-827-7156 ptslaw.com

Roger Richters - Conservation & Preservation 218-792-5211 rrichters@yahoo.com



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The center raises money for raptor rehabilitation and related programs by recycling donated cartridges. Call 612-624-8206, or email trcink@umn.edu to request postage-paid recycling envelopes.

### UPDATED BYLAWS WILL BE VOTED ON AT THE JUNE GENERAL MEETING

This is to remind you that we will be voting on the proposed changes to the Association's Bylaws at the General Meeting on Saturday, June 11th.

The proposed bylaws have been combined with the existing bylaws into one document in order for you to view the changes more easily. Because providing copies to everyone is quite costly, we have placed this document on our website (www.mnlakes.org/LWA) where you can view and/or print it. If you do not have access to a computer and would like a copy contact Dave Snesrud by mail 20880 Blackfoot Street NW, Anoka, MN 55303, or phone 763-753-2790.

Following is a summary of the changes:

The current bylaws make reference to The Lake Washburn Association variously as the "Lake Washburn Association", the "Association", and frequently as the "Corporation" or the "Officers of the Corporation" or the "Board of the Corporation". For consistency throughout the document, we recommend the use of the term "LWA" to identify our organization.

Article I-C - Voting Rights: We clarify the provision which permits only one vote per member but limited to only one in cases where more than one person is associated with any given property.

**Article I-F-3:** We recommend that during General Meetings a quorum of the membership need not be present, and that decisions will be based on a majority vote of members present.

**Article III:** We clarify the composition of the Board of Directors and we recommend that term limits for Board Members be changed from one three-year term to two three- year terms.

With respect to term limits for the Officers, currently an Officer is ineligible for re-election after three consecutive one-year terms. We recommend that this limitation be changed to six consecutive one-year terms for the office of President, Vice President and Secretary. The limitation of three consecutive one- year terms for the office of Treasurer would be continued.

Article IV: Currently the President is required to appoint a Nominating Committee 30 days prior to the August Annual meeting. The bylaws do not specify lead time for the Audit Committee. We recommend that lead time of 60 days prior to the August Annual Meeting be established for both committees.

Article V: Unnecessary language has been deleted.

Article VI: This section has been re-titled "Cash and Fund Management" and clarifies the language dealing with the handling of funds and financial instruments. Currently any expenditure of \$500.00 or more requires the approval of the Membership at a General Membership Meeting. We recommend that the limit be changed to \$750.00. In addition, new language is added authorizing the Treasurer to incur costs of up to \$75.00 for minor supplies or services needed for operation of LWA. Further, language is added requiring written approval by the President or Vice President for the expenditure of funds generally, and by each other if either requests approval for expending funds.

**Article VII-D: - Compensation:** Language was added allowing board members to be reimbursed for expenses incurred on behalf of LWA.

All other changes made were to provide continuity to the language throughout the document.

### 2005 MEETINGS SCHEDULE

### **General Meetings**

Saturday, June 11th 9:00 AM

Speaker: Pam Perry

DNR Nongame Wildlife Specialist

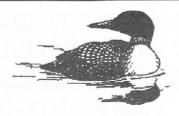
Pam will present a program on loons.

Saturday, August 20th
Ice Cream Social 5:00 PM
Annual Meeting 5:30 PM
Speaker: Doug Sandstrom
DNR Conservation Officer

#### **Board Meetings**

8:00 AM
8:00 AM
8:00 AM
8:00 AM
8:00 AM

Association members are welcome to attend any board meeting.



### WHAT IS MLA?

The Minnesota Lakes Association (MLA) is the only statewide 501(c)3 non-profit organization working solely to protect and improve the quality of Minnesota's lakes. Their diverse members are lake users, lakeshore property owners, lake associations, county coalitions of lake associations, conservations groups and business affiliates who care about the future of our lakes. MLA's actions are determined by a board of directors representing us in eight districts across the state.

#### WHAT DOES MLA DO?

- Represents the voice of lakeshore interests at the State legislature and on government committees to develop legislation and policies to protect lakes.
- Educates youth, who will be tomorrow's lake stewards.
- Provides training programs for lake association leaders, citizen volunteers, trade professionals, and local officials.
- Develops partnerships with other organizations and agencies with similar goals of protecting our State's water resources.
- Sponsors annual statewide and district educational conferences.

#### SUPPORT MLA TODAY!

To become a member (at 40% off their regular membership) or provide a donation to support their work, see page 10.





### WANTED Volunteers for the Wildlife Committee



Do you enjoy seeing the loons, eagles, otters, osprey, and other wildlife? If you are willing to volunteer your time to help place and remove loon platforms, be a loon watcher (especially needed for the West basin), look for eagle nests, find where the otters live, etc. please contact:

Dave Snesrud

Home: 763-753-2790

Cabin: 218-792-5824

Cell: 763-442-2183

Email: snesrud@usfamily.net

Richard Nelles

Home: 218-792-5892

Email: habitat@brainerd.net

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Volunteers are needed for the following upcoming events:



### **Boat Monitoring**

May 14th Fishing Opener Weekend

### County Road 48 Cleanup

Saturday, June 4th

Meet at Clinton Converse Campground at 9:00 AM

To volunteer for either of the above opportunities, contact Dave Johnston at 218-792-5560, or email him at knotacare@brainerd.net

### **WANTED: ITEMS OF INTEREST**

I would like to thank those of you who contributed to this edition of the newsletter and have sent me items and ideas for future issues.

Please continue to send me your articles of interest, lake happenings, photos, or other items. I would be especially interested in receiving any old photos or lake history you may have. (All items will be returned upon request.)

Please send your articles, etc. to:

Linda Snesrud 20880 Blackfoot St. NW Anoka, MN 55303 or email them to: snesrud@usfamily.net

### SPAWNING BED TASK FORCE REPORT

By John Harris

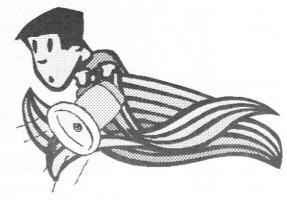
Who are those idiots out there in their boats when the ice is barely off the lake? And, why are they out there late at night with bright lights? Surely it's too early to be out partying! If you are at your cabin you may very well be seeing a boat or two with people behaving somewhat strangely. Don't call the game warden or the mental hospital. What you are seeing is almost certainly members of your association who are on the Spawning Bed Task Force.

The Spawning Bed Task Force has accepted the responsibility of locating and identifying the spawning beds of the game fish on the lake. In particular, they are seeking the beds of walleyes, crappies and bass. As a secondary effort, they will also attempt to identify northern, sunny and perch spawning areas. The information they gather will be provided to the DNR Fisheries so that the DNR may better help us improve the fishing on Washburn Lake. This is one part of the Visioning Session implemented by LWA last summer to maintain water quality, to improve fish habitat and to help meet your angling expectations.

Tim Brastrup of the DNR came out on Sunday, April 10th to provide training for task force members. The fact that he came out on a Sunday speaks to the dedication of Tim and of the DNR to this project. His training included information about when and where to look for the spawning beds of the various species of game fish. The group starts off looking for walleye beds as soon as the ice is off the lake. This chilly first step involves going out in the dark of the night, using flashlights to spot the eyes of the walleyes (don't do this yourself as it is illegal). Shortly after the walleyes spawn, the crappies begin and then, the bass. So, the task force expects to be very busy for about 6 weeks, from mid April to Memorial Day. You'll see them, clip boards, GPS', maps and yes, flashlights in hand trying hard to identify most if not all of the spawning areas.

Task force members are: Howard Dutton, Ron Gaskill, Chuck Johnson, John Harris, Greg Hosch, Richard Nelles and Jon Rask.

How can you help? If you know of spawning beds for any game fish near your cabin, please share the information with one of the task force members or call John Harris at (218) 792-5725. It may be easy to miss a bed so any information you can share is welcome.



### DNR DEER STUDY

By Richard Nelles

Have any Washburn Lake residents seen any Whitetail female deer wearing radio neck collars? There are some out there. You may have seen them on the east, west or north areas of Washburn. These deer are part of a 15-year study, which has been conducted by the DNR during the months of January through March. The goal of this long-term study is to assess the value of conifer stands as winter thermal cover/snow shelter to white tailed deer. This is being accomplished by:

- 1. Monitoring deer movements between seasonal ranges.
- Determining habitat composition of winter home ranges.
- 3. Monitoring winter food habitats.
- 4. Monitoring winter nutrition.
- 5. Monitoring age specific survival and mortality.
- 6. Collecting detailed weather data.

How is this all accomplished? Six to eight interns who are recent college grads come in January 2nd each year and stay until March 31st, to help with the study. They are given a place to stay and a food allowance only. They have come from all over the U.S. Last year one was from Italy. This year there were three males and three females; two from New York, one from Virginia, one from California and two from Minnesota. There are also two volunteers who serve as group leaders, Rod Schloesser and myself. For the past eight years Rod and I have worked five days per week. (Incidentally we both belong to the Lake Washburn Association.)

There are four study sites. These sites are winter habitat areas called deer yards and are named after lakes in the area. Washburn Lake deer have been trapped and collared at the Inguadonna Lake site located southeast of Longville. The other deer yards are Dirty Nose north of Remer, Willow northeast of Remer and Shingle Mill east of Remer. Deer in most average winters migrate from their summer range to the winter range. The winter ranges provide heavy conifer cover, where at night this makes a 10-12 degree difference in temperature. The conifer canopy captures more of the earth's heat and provides less snow cover.

Would you believe we trap these deer with three household items? They are a 2-inch nail, heavy thread from Mom's sewing cabinet and a common mousetrap that serves as the trigger for the deer trap. The deer traps, which are approximately 4 feet by 4 feet by 6 feet, stand between two trees. The frame of the trap is made of small diameter pipe held up with twine attached to the trees. (The trap collapses when the twine is cut.) The door of the trap has a heavy sash weight that slides up and down at the rear of the framework. The entire trap, except the bottom, is covered with netting similar to a basketball hoop. Two small diameter sticks 4 - 5 feet long are woven through the netting and pushed into the snow about 12 inches from the front of the trap. The thread from Mom's sewing cabinet is then tied to one of the sticks 10-12 inches off the ground and run across to the opposite stick. It is then put through a wire eye, and then up to the mousetrap where it is tied to a string that is attached to the spring of the mousetrap, which is bolted upside down to the frame of trap. The first stick is twisted and this tightens the thread. Then a piece of light cord with knot on one end and the 2-inch nail tied to the other end become the final component.

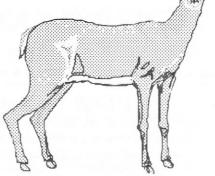
The knot end of the cord is slipped under the spring of the

mousetrap. The nail-end of the cord is then extended out from the mousetrap at a 90-degree angle and woven through netting. Another 90-degree turn and the cord is taken to the rear of the trap where the sliding net door is. A one-inch diameter ring is attached with a three-inch string to the sash weight. The door with the netting is pulled up, and the nail is inserted into the ring between the framework. The weight of door and the tight cord extending from mousetrap holds the nail in place. Corn is then placed under mom's sewing thread. There are 15 of these traps in each of the four yards.

When the deer comes into the trap to eat the corn, its head and ears hit the thread that is tight, but the deer does not notice. This causes the thread to move, which in turn causes the

mousetrap spring to come down and the knot at end of cord to come out. This releases the nail causing the door to fall down. We now have a capture.

DEER STUDY continues on page 9



### CASS COUNTY UNDER A BURNING RESTRICTION

On April 15th, Cass County was added to the list of counties where burning restrictions apply. These restrictions will last from four to six weeks, or until vegetation greens up enough to create safe burning conditions.

#### What are "burning permit restrictions"?

- During a period of "high" fire danger, burning permits are not issued. (This is not a "burning ban" and variances may be issued for special circumstances by DNR Forest Officers.)
- Recreational campfires are still permissible <u>under restricted</u> <u>conditions</u>.

The DNR encourages property owners to use alternative methods for disposing of yard debris such as composting, chipping or just letting large brush piles sit for wildlife use or until it is safe to burn them.

Additional information regarding spring burning restrictions can be found on the DNR's website at <a href="https://www.dnr.state.mn.us">www.dnr.state.mn.us</a>.

### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

At the next general meeting, look for information on DNR approved burners and other fire facts at LWA's "Resource Center".



### **WANTED:**

### PAST ISSUES OF LWA'S NEWSLETTER

Does anyone have past issues of the Newsletter they would donate to the Association's Library (or allow us to copy and return to you)? Following are the issues we are missing:

Other than May & August 2000

Spring 1994 Summer 1990 Fall 1994 Fall 1990

 Spring 1993
 Spring 1989

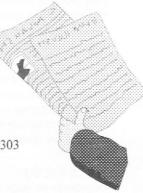
 Summer 1992
 Summer 1989

Any issues before 1989

Please contact Linda Snesrud if you or anyone you know can help. Thank you!!

20880 Blackfoot Street NW, Anoka, MN 55303

Phone: 763-753-2790 Cell: 763-442-2179 Email: snesrud@usfamily.net



### DEER TICK ALERT

The deer ticks are out! We have found deer ticks on ourselves and our dog, both at home (Anoka County) and at the cabin. Deer ticks typically are active from April through October. However, according to the Minnesota Department of Health, now through mid-July is the prime time for Lyme disease. This is when the deer ticks are in their nymph stage and are most likely to spread the disease.

Deer ticks are smaller and darker in color than the common wood ticks. They also lack the wood tick's characteristic white markings. (The Association has Tick ID cards. Check for them in the Resource Center.)

To protect yourself from tick bites, health officials suggest that you:

- Avoid tick habitat if possible wooded, brushy areas.
- Use a good tick repellent, such as products containing permethrin (which can be used on clothing) or DEET, and follow the manufacturer's directions.
- Wear clothes that will help to shield you from ticks. Long-sleeved shirts and long pants are best. Tuck your pants into the top of your socks or boots to create a "tick barrier".
- Check frequently for ticks, and try to remove them promptly. Ticks actually have to bite you and remain attached for at least a day to transmit Lyme disease.
- Remove ticks slowly and gently, using a pair of tweezers or specially designed tick forceps. Avoid folk remedies like Vaseline, nail polish remover or burning matches - they are not a safe or effective way to remove ticks.

If you do develop a tick-related illness, you should see a physician right away. Early symptoms of Lyme disease typically include a characteristic "bulls-eye" rash, consisting of a reddened area, sometimes with a clear area in the middle, at the original site of the tick bite. The rash may expand in size to cover a very large area (usually greater than two inches), or even appear in several places on other parts of the body.

Not everyone develops the rash, however, so it is also important to be alert for other symptoms of Lyme disease - fever, headache, chills, and pain in the muscles or joints - if you've spent time in "tick country" during the past month.

For more information, go to the Minnesota Department of Health website: www.health.state.mn.us.

Source: MDH website: www.health.state.mn.us

### WASHBURN'S SCOUT CAMP

We recently had the opportunity to talk with Dave Smith, Director of the Camp Committee at Shepherd Hills Lutheran Church. (The church, which is located in Edina, MN owns the property where the Boy Scout camp is located.) Dave generously agreed to write the following article about the camp. Thank you, Dave!

### WASHBURN LAKE PROPERTY WHICH WE REFER TO AS 'VOYAGER BAY'

By Dave Smith

Shepherd of the Hills is a church with a membership of about two hundred fifty families. The church has been the steward of the property on Washburn Lake for approximately fifty years which is about how long the church has been in existence. The property was given to the church to be used for youth activities. Currently Boy Scout Troops are the predominate users of the property but there will be an occasional youth group or Church member family that will also use the property.

Boy Scout Troop #123, which is sponsored by Shepherd of the Hills Troop will use the property one weekend a month beginning in April thru October. In addition to the weekend camp outs, Troop #123 will use the property for a week of summer camp. The week chosen for summer camp will vary depending on other activities of the Troop. There are three other troops that each use the property for one week of summer camp, with each troop coming up for different weeks. These Troops are # 254, 347 and 370 from Minnetonka, Hopkins and Eden Prairie. Total Scouts from all four Troops that use the property will be about 150. Then there are approximately another 100 parents that will be at the summer camps with the Scouts.

It is important that people understand just how special the property is to these Boy Scout Troops. Over the years, Troop #123 has had over 80 Scouts go on to become Eagle Scouts. Improvements made to the property are usually donated and involve sweat equity. Unlike most Boy Scout Camps that are run by paid counselors these summer camps are run entirely by parents of the Boy Scouts. Merit badges, cleaning, camp prep, maintenance and cooking are all done by volunteers. (Yes the rumors that Le Ann Chin has prepared evening meals for Troop #123 at camp are true.) You can imagine what an experience it is for the Scouts to spend a week camping, working on merit badges and enjoying the magnificent property we call Voyager Bay.

Now just a couple items of general information. For those that were around a few years ago the church did sell a couple lots but there are **NO** plans to sell any more of the property.

We have had some vandalism done at the camp and we would appreciate any assistance the Washburn Lake Committee could give us to help us minimize it.

We want to be good neighbors and appreciate the opportunity to be involved with the Lake Washburn Association. If you have questions or concerns please contact me or Shepherd of the Hills Church.

Dave Smith Home phone number: 952-926-4006

Shepherd of the Hills 500 Blake Ave. Edina, MN 55343



### BIGGER BLUEGILLS FOR WASHBURN LAKE

By Mike Knapp, Brainerd DNR Fisheries

Who doesn't like bluegills? They are one of the tastiest fish that swim, are generally willing biters, and as anyone who has had them swim at a 90 angle while hooked knows, they can put up a pretty scrappy fight. For these very reasons, they are my 2 ½ year old daughter's favorite fish. So why devote an article to something we already know? Bluegills are not without their problems. In many cases around the state most bluegills are just too small for many people so what ends up happening is anglers harvest only the largest bluegills in the lake, often 7"-8" fish. In Washburn, that represents only 11% of the population. So how can we grow bigger bluegills?

It's really pretty simple. There are only two ways to do it – time or good growth rates. Keep that in mind because it all boils down to those factors and the best deal is when the two are combined, especially for truly large bluegills. Let's talk generalities first and then we'll get into the specifics of Washburn Lake. Time is related to fish size in that the longer a fish lives, the longer it can grow. Unlike humans and other critters that stop growing, fish don't. If fish can live longer, they can grow bigger - only anglers and natural mortality end the process. Most folks get that. But just like interest at the bank, time is a compounding thing. Bluegills typically mature when they reach 6-7", but on lakes with higher populations of larger fish, this can be 8". Prior to this, they put all their energy into growth. Once they reach maturity however, they begin to invest significant resources in reproduction at the expense of growth. Take a population of small stunted bluegills where reproduction has overwhelmed the available forage base. These fish might mature when they are only 5" in length. Growth slows at that point because energy is invested in reproduction. With the growth rate slowed, it takes longer for the fish to reach the nice 8" size we all like. Instead of taking 3 years to grow from 5" to 8", it now might take 4 or 5, thus the reverse compounding. The chances of the fish dying before it reaches 8" then become greater with natural mortality and the "keep it today because someone else will tomorrow" angling mentality. If the fish no longer reach 8", those 7" fish start to look better for the table all the time. People will eventually seek out a different lake, leaving a stunted population with a long road to recovery.

I know someone out there is thinking – well, if there are lots of small fish, why don't bass, northerns, walleyes, and dogfish keep them under control? The answer is they will, and releasing these larger fish can help increase the size of bluegills. However, it goes further than that. Many of these predators prefer forage such as perch or suckers to bluegills, so imagine a scenario with lots of small pike (as in Washburn's case). Smaller pike are voracious eaters in part due to their investing energy in growth - same thing with small walleyes. They can work over a perch population pretty good, leaving an ecological void that bluegills will fill. So you get an explosion of small bluegills, increased competition for food resources, slower growth, and earlier maturity. It's an indirect top-down effect. What controls these small pike? Big pike! The same principles of time, delaying maturity, and growth rates apply to growing big pike as well.

Abiotic factors (nonliving elements or processes that impact the growth, composition, and structure of a lake) are important as well. In a study completed in 2001, Cindy Tomcko and Rod Pierce found that the maximum depth of a lake and water clarity were negatively correlated with bluegill growth rates while total alkalinity (CaCO3) was positively correlated. Alkalinity is often referred to as the measure of a lake's productivity. The results suggest the best growth rates would tend to be in shallow, dark water lakes with high alkalinity.

Let's apply this to Washburn. What can anglers to do help grow more big bluegills?

**BLUEGILLS** continue on page 8



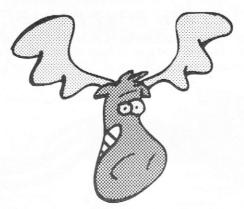
Two Norwegian hunters from Minnesota, Ole & Sven, got a pilot to fly them to Canada to hunt moose. They bagged six. As they started loading the plane for the return trip, the pilot said the plane could take only four moose.

The two objected strongly. "Last year ve shot six, and da pilot let us put dem all on board; he had da same plane as yours."

Reluctantly, the pilot gave in and all six were loaded. However, even on full power, the little plane couldn't handle the load and went down a few moments after take-off.

Climbing out of the wreck, Ole asked Sven,"Any idea vere ve are?"

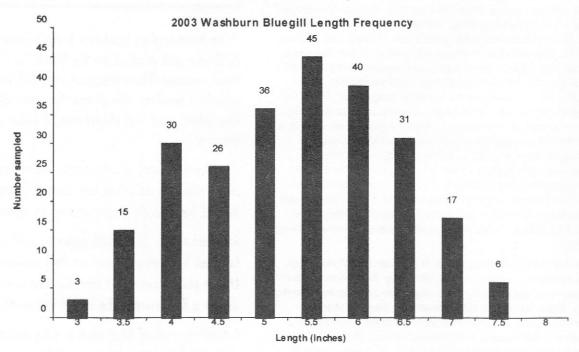
"Yaaaah ... I tink wee's pretty close to vere ve crashed last year.."



BLUEGILLS (from page 7)

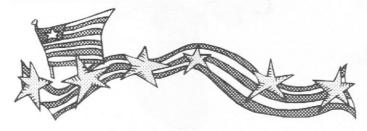
Relative abundance of bluegills caught in survey trapnets was the highest it's ever been in 2003. The proportion of fish  $\geq 7$ " dropped to 11% while the actual number of fish of that size remained nearly the same. This suggests an increase in the number of smaller bluegills. Growth of these fish was relatively slow. It is important to maintain a population of these larger fish, so some angling restraint is critical. However, with the abundance of smaller fish, harvest of these could help reduce competition for the remaining food resources and facilitate growth. Further, by encouraging a population of larger fish, maturity can be delayed, further enhancing growth. The bottom line is this. As hard as it is, release the bluegills  $\geq 7$ " and harvest the more abundant 5-6" fish to help ensure that stunting doesn't occur. Let the time component help to grow some bigger bluegills. With typical growth rates of 1" per year in this area, delaying maturity and giving fish an extra couple years to grow can make the difference between 6" fish and 8" fish. We've seen regulations succeed in bringing back large bluegills when pressure and harvest are reduced, particularly of larger fish, so the concept works. Oh, remember the reverse compounding of earlier maturity? A Wisconsin study suggests that angling has a 4 fold greater effect on bluegill size structure than the aforementioned life history component. And we haven't even started to talk about genetic factors. Typically the faster growing fish are harvested (those that grow slow don't grow as big and are less likely to be harvested) thereby reducing the fast growing genetics from the population. Then there's habitat issues. Aquatic plants form the base of the food web – without them, bluegills have fewer invertebrates to eat and can't maximize their growth potential.

I hope you are getting the idea that this is all very complex. Natural systems are. However, we do know that reducing pressure and harvest can help the remaining fish grow larger. So, next time you have an 8" bluegill on your line, remember how complex the lake ecosystem is, how lucky that fish has been to reach 8"...and how by releasing it, you can help make more of the same. Oh yes, and be sure to keep some of those 6-inchers as well – nothing like a good meal of bluegills – and it will help prevent an overabundance of smaller fish that leads to stunted populations. With a bit of luck, angler restraint, and time, perhaps we'll be looking at harvesting 8-inchers and releasing the 9-inchers.



### DON'T FORGET THE JULY 4TH BOAT PARADE

This year's parade is scheduled to be held on Saturday, July 2nd, 2005. Meet at 1:00 p.m. in front of the Schuller's. All are welcome!



### *OOPS!!!*

When thanking the Emily-Outing-Fifty Lakes Laker Lions & the Outing Yarn Shop for their generous contributions for the door prizes of our Visioning Session in the last issue, we neglected to include the following winners:

> Sharon Benzel - \$10 John Schuller - \$10

We apologize for the oversight.

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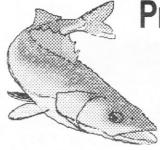
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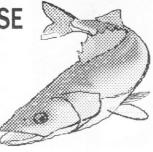
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DEER STUDY (from page 5)

We split up into teams that have been coordinated so that each yard is checked each morning, seven days a week. Each week there is a wildlife biologist in the field with us that has been on the project the entire 15 years.

We go into the four remote areas by snowmobile each pulling a sled with the processing gear. A minimum of two people sneak into the trap. The first person is carrying a hatchet, the second is carrying a syringe, which is loaded with drugs (xylazine, a tranquilizer and ketamine, an anesthetic). The hatchet person cuts the twine binding and the trap starts to collapse. When the netting at the top of trap touches the deer's back the deer automatically starts to pull up its legs. The hatchet person guides the trap down gently and then lays on top of the deer and he or she covers the deer's eyes. The second person then injects the drug into the hindquarter of the deer.

In three to ten minutes the deer is snoring. A hood is then placed over the deer's eyes. The deer is removed from the trap and placed on a foam pad. The following is then accomplished: Temperature kept track of, three blood samples drawn from the jugular vein, urine collected by catheterization, saline eye wash done, antibiotic injection given, deer is weighed, hind leg, girth, and teats measured, and ear tags attached. We then extract the last incisor canine tooth with dental tools. This is used to age the deer. We then put a radio collar the deer. Some years we have put in a vaginal implant transmitter so that we can locate the fawns when she gives birth. We can then radio collar the fawns with an expandable collar. The last thing we do is carry the deer to a safe open area and give it an intravenous injection of

yohimbine, which reverses the other drugs. In just a few minutes the deer is up and gone and becomes a very important part of the study.

Also throughout these three months we do browse and urine studies. In order to get the urine we locate the deer beds and then follow the track out until they urinate. We then take a zip lock bag turned inside out, reach down in the snow and get the snow urine, and close the bag. Later, when the urine is melted, it is put into vials, and sent to the lab in Grand Rapids. The browse is a 200-meter feeding track. We write down every thing the deer ate or could have eaten within one meter of the track. We all have to know approximately 40 different trees and shrubs. If we can't identify a browse, a sample is taken and it goes to a botanist at the office.

A fine man and teacher, Dr. Glen Del Guidice, DNR wildlife biologist, has run the program for the 15 years. Dr. Glen is a research scientist and professor at the University of Minnesota. He personally gets in the field one or two days week giving the interns hands on experience. Over the years several interns have gone on and gotten their masters and doctor degrees as a result of coming on as a volunteer with this program.

We all put in eight to twelve hours per day in the field. After work I come home and sit in front of the TV. The interns go home and spin blood, take care of the urine, enter data for each of the 60 traps, restock all the med kits, go through all the equipment, and dry out blankets, pads, and hood covers, if used. They also enter data from the browse and snow urines, fuel the snowmobiles and make any needed repairs. They dry out their clothes, eat and visit, and get ready for the next day. They are happy people and I know they are getting an opportunity that no one else has. They are wonderful and beautiful people.

I hope you have enjoyed this report requested by our president, Dave. Guess what? I have the privilege of working with Dr. Glen and the interns. It's been a great education. I am a lucky guy!

### LAKE INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON INTERNET

By Steve Campbell, DNR Fisheries Employee

If you are like me, the computer and Internet are a new and exciting part of every day life. It is amazing how much information is out there, available for us and at our fingertips.

As one of approximately three hundred DNR Fisheries employees that work for the State of Minnesota, a large share of my time at the Walker Area Fisheries Headquarters is spent conducting biological lake surveys. These surveys include sampling fish with various nets, electro-fishing, collecting water quality data, surveying aquatic plants and much more.

During the winter months we determine the age of fish collected during the surveys, summarize length data and prepare the lake survey reports. All of this information is available to the public. This data is available on-line, complete with instructions on what the data means. Try our DNR website at: www.dnr.state.mn.us and click on LAKE FINDER. A simple search routine allows users to quickly find their lake of interest. Lake maps are also available for those with adequate computer programs.

Don't be afraid to give it a try. I purchased my first computer at the ripe old age of 49 and have just begun to explore the wealth of information available through the internet.

Reprinted from May 2004 "Walker Fish News" A Newsletter Prepared By: Walker Area Fisheries Staff





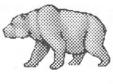
a dog's.

Elephants are the only mammal that cannot jump.

A squirrel cannot contract or carry the rabies virus.



brown bear can run as fast as a horse.





November 2004 "The Messenger" Information was provided by Como Zoo

## LOST



Lake Pinecone, 12,830 years old, 500 million tons, last seen being overwhelmed by large amounts of algae due to high phosphorus levels entering her system from fertilizer. Please help reunite Lake Pinecone with her family and friends. Use phosphorus-free lawn fertilizer. For more details visit:

www.cleanwatermn.org.

Minnesota Water Let's keep it clean.

Minnesotans love their lakes. They are part of our heritage, recreation, state economy, and they are an important factor in our quality of life. Lakes are part of our natural world. Even though people are only a small part of the natural earth, our behavior can have a tremendous impact on the quality of our natural resources and our lakes.

Today, Minnesota's lakes are in danger of being loved to death. Over development, overuse, exotic plants and animals, and other pollution sources threaten the quality of our lakes.

Those of us who use and enjoy the lakes are responsible for their care. We have an obligation to leave the lakes clean and beautiful for future generations to enjoy.

The Minnesota Lakes Association seeks to protect, preserve and enhance Minnesota's lakes as irreplaceable natural assets and to encourage responsible use of lakes for widely diverse purposes. We invite you to join us in our efforts and learn how you can help protect Minnesota's lakes.

### 

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### REMEMBERING OUR WASHBURN LAKE FRIENDS



#### Florence Pattock

Florence Pattock, wife of Lawrence Pattock (60 years) passed away on July 3, 2003 from a stroke.

Florence loved to go up to Judy's in Longville, and also Owls N' Things in Outing.

In her younger years, Florence like to go snowshoeing out to a little tiny island on the smaller Washburn lake, which she named "Plum Pudding Island"!

My mom and dad loved going up to the cabin and said how time stands still while there. Her spirit is very strong there, and she will be forever missed.

(Submitted by Ann Pattock, Daughter)

#### 100000 100000

### Leo G. Solstad

Leo Solstad, age 60, of Brooklyn Park passed away in August of 2003.

Leo is survived by his wife of nearly 40 years, Emily; three daughters, Kimberly Hackett, and her husband Mark, Holly Kasel, and her husband Jeff, Susan Solstad; one son, Scott; grandchildren, Nicole and Dylan Hackett; brother, John; and other family and friends.

A celebration of Leo's life was held on Saturday, August 23, 2003 at Nye's Polonaise Room in Minneapolis.

(Information obtained from the Minneapolis Star Tribune)



### BE FIREWISE DURING SPRING CLEANUP

Spring is upon us and it's time to start cleaning up the yard. Spring is also when most of Minnesota's wildfires occur. What people do during their spring cleanup efforts can affect the safety of their home.

More than 40 percent of Minnesota-s wildfires are caused by debris burning - those spring cleanup fires that get away from home and cabin owners. Spring fire restrictions have greatly reduced the numbers of these wildfires and using alternatives such as composting can further reduce these fires, according to Dave Schuller of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

"Before lighting a match to that pile of dead grass, leaves and other spring yard debris, check with the local fire warden or DNR Forestry office for a burning restrictions, check the weather and consider alternatives like composting," Schuller said.

There are three simple spring clean-up activities that can improve the fire safety around the home:

- ➤ Clean leaves off the roof and especially out of rain gutters to improve the flow of rainwater and prevent a wildfire from jumping onto your roof.
- → Clean leaves and other flammable debris off of decks.
- ➤ Clean all leaves, lumber, firewood and other flammable debris out from under decks and against the foundation of buildings places a small grass fire can gain a foothold and ignite a home. Make sure lumber and firewood are moved at least 30 feet from buildings.

For other firewise tips, check the DNR Web site at www.dnr.state.mn.us.

Source: Minnesota DNR Website

Look for "Firewise" information at LWA's Resource Center.

### SHORELAND PLANTING WORKSHOP ON WASHBURN

The University of Minnesota Extension Service will be holding a Shoreland Planting Workshop on Saturday, June 4th from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM, on Washburn Lake. Workshop participants will spend the day assisting with site preparation and planting the actual project.

The Shoreland Planting Workshop is one of a series of Shoreland Revegetation Workshops that emphasize a holistic approach to shoreland vegetation --- addressing environmental functions of natural shorelines, property owner expectations, and shoreland regulations --- that will enable participants to make sound shoreland management decisions and implement revegetation projects at the local level.

The cost of the workshop is \$15. You may use a credit card and register online at www.extension.umn.edu/water/shore, or you may register by mail. When registering by mail, reference the Outing Shoreland Planting Workshop (WRC 7-2) and include your name, lake affiliation, address, phone, and email address, along with a check or money order made payable to the *University of Minnesota*. Mail to:

B. Liukkonen, Water Resources Center 173 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Avenue St. Paul, MN 55108

If you have any questions, contact Dave Snesrud by phone at 763-753-2790 or email at snesrud@usfamily.net.



### 2004 MEMBERS

The following <u>260</u> property owners (and some immediate family members) were 2004 members of Lake Washburn Association. That is an increase of 29 members over 2003's membership of 231! We'd like to welcome the 17 new members (those in bold and underlined) and those of you who had not been members for a while.

Thanks to each and every one of you!!

Abts, Jerry & Judy \*Ahlquist, Gary & Karen Ahlquist, Keith Albers, Jim & Shirley Andersohn, Bruce & Wendi \*Anderson, Jerry & Karen \*Anderson, Marje Anderson, Paul & Sherry Appel, Marty & Karen Arf. Kevin \*Baker, Ron & Nancy Ballard, Cecil & Carole \*Ballard, Gerald & Marie Ballis, John & Marge Ballis, Paul & Sharon Barker, Jim & Jeanine Barron, Edward & Paula Barron, Ruth Bear Paw Lodge Beard, Robert & Rita \*Behning, Ron & Pat \*Bendt, Kyle & April Benzel, Ken & Jennifer Benzel, Sharon Betts, Dan & Julia \*Bierstedt, Bob & Judy Blackmon, Rick & Michelle \*Boblett, Lois Borgwardt, Fred & Arline Botts, Gerald & Lisa Branham, Tom & Diane Braun, Larry & Marjorie Reed Brinkman, Tom & Marlies \*Brodersen, Don & Barbara Bryan, Donald & Donna Buck, Roger, Randy & Ramon \*Bullis, Ruth Buttz, Cendyl & Jennifer Callander, Harlow & Mary \*Campion, Jim & Perri Carlisle, Todd & Kellie Carlson, Greg & Erin Carlson, Lillian Carlson, Steve & Denise Carlson, Terry & Fran Carr, Corey & Victoria \*Carr, Nancy Cartwright, Paul & Elizabeth Cartwright, Todd & Kami Cartwright, William Cazier, Harold & Janice Chapman, Bob & Laurene Chinquist Jr, Fred Coleman, George (Bob) & Leone Consoer, Steve & Sherrie Dahlager, Ken & Sonja Davis, Darwin & Laurie Davis, Lawrence & Joy Dawson, Keith & Donna Deans, Ken & Mildred \*DeVries, Steve & Hallie Doebler, Robert Dorr, Gary & Tracy Downey, Arthur & Joanne DuBois, George & Cindy

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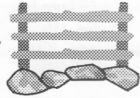
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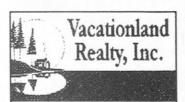
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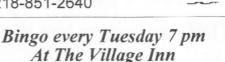
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