

# Lake Washburn Association Newsletter

Winter, 1991-1992



## President's Memo

by Jan Hron

Hello. A very exciting thing happened to me this year. At the August general meeting I was elected President of the Lake Washburn Association. Let me tell you what I have learned about the LWA since August.

The LWA is governed by a Board of Directors and four officers, President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Members of the Board are elected by the Association to serve from one to three years. This year each Director has been assigned a specific area of the lake as the representative for those residents. Do you know who your Director/representative is? The Director and area represented is listed below.

The work of the Association gets done thru Committees (No, that is not a contradiction of terms!). The Water Quality Committee takes samples, temperatures, and clarity readings, and much, much more

The Natural Resources Committee is going to work this year on getting the Lake restocked. Hopefully we'll all have better fishing in the future.

And then there is the Zoning Committee, Membership Committee, Newsletter Committee, and the Adopt-A-Highway Committee. As you can see, there is plenty of room for everyone to contribute. And if we all give a little, and share the work, alot can be accomplished and we can have some fun in the process too.

Our number one goal for the coming year is to increase our ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP. In this regard, every member of the Board of Directors is designated to represent a specific area of the Lake.

It is our goal that every household on the Lake be personally contacted and invited to become a member of Lake Washburn Association. The Directors and designated areas are as follows:

John Houston:	Fehrs Road
John Schuller:	Birch Bay to Bear Paw
Iris Lindblad:	Longwood Point
Steve Hacker:	Muchow Bay
Marje Anderson:	Eastburn

Jerry Ballard: Peninsula Road  
Jan Hron Available to  
any area.

This is YOUR LAKE ASSOCIATION please become an active member this year.

## Membership

At the August 1991 meeting of the Lake Washburn Association the membership voted to make the membership period on a calendar basis covering January 1 thru December 31 of each year. The annual dues are \$10.00

In this newsletter you will find a membership form. Please fill it out and mail it to Marje Anderson, Treasurer, P.O. Box 26, Outing, Minnesota 56662.

We need you! Join YOUR Lake Association.

## Spread the Word — Not the Weed!

A "growing" problem in many Minnesota lakes is Eurasian Water Milfoil. Lake Washburn is -so far-free of this pesky plant. Let's keep it that way. Become familiar with what milfoil looks like, and areas

where it can be found. The Lake Association will purchase six milfoil samples and place them in various sporting outlets, and will also have samples at all of the meetings.

At each of our meetings in

1992 we will make available new information on milfoil and what the State and LWA will be doing about this threat to one of our most valuable assests, our beautiful lake.

## Lake Watch

by Jim Anderson

Lake Watch is a special program, the goal of which is to collect information on the condition of Minnesota lakes. These data, when collected and correlated, will provide an invaluable tool for use in implementing plans and programs to preserve the most valuable asset in our state. The Freshwater Foundation is managing the program, which is also subsidized to a large extent by the Coors Brewing Co.

In 1991 there were 100 participating lakes involved in the program—one of which was Lake Washburn. In 1992, 200 more lakes will participate. The information gathered will be shared with the Department of Natural Resources, the Pollution Control Agency, the Board of Water and Soil Resources, and other involved agencies.

## Who Are The Good Guys That Save Your Props?

Over the years many of us have given credit to the DNR for setting out the markers in our lake, but the bouys in Lake Washburn are set in place every spring immediately after ice-out and taken in every fall by volunteers on the Lake. If you are interested in helping with this

The data collected at each lake includes secchi disc readings each week which are being taken by Jim Anderson, Roy Stohl, Lloyd Cannon and Howard Dutton. Surface water temperatures, PH measurements of acidity and general observations of lake conditions, daily rainfall, weekly lake level measurements with a gauge which has been provided by the DNR, are being provided by Jim Anderson.

The Association will receive an annual report of conditions on all participating lakes to make possible comparisons and trend evaluations. Copies of the report will be distributed with future newsletters.

We have also received from the DNR a computer printout of their observations of the lake characteristics and fish data. This will be posted at the next Association meeting.

program, or if you know of areas that need marking, please contact Steve Hacker - 792-5422.

**THANKS TO ALL THE WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE DONE THIS IN THE PAST. WE OWE YOU A LOT!**

## Septic Systems Require Proper Care

Septic systems represent the largest reported cause of groundwater contamination resulting in disease outbreaks in the United States. A poorly maintained system can also contribute significantly to weed growth and to the aging of lakes and ponds. When used correctly, septic systems provide an effective and environmentally safe method of treating waste. However, a misused system will only succeed in polluting surface and groundwater and in over-fertilizing lakes.

With routine maintenance and proper care, a septic system can last for 20 to 50 years. The septic tank will need to be pumped every two to three years to prevent accumulated scum and sludge from clogging the drainfield. The tank should be checked every year to determine the

accumulation rate.

The following practices will keep your system running smoothly:

- Limit your use of water. Conserve water with water-saving devices. Fix leaky faucets, toilet float valves, etc. Do laundry and dishes only when you have a full load. Remember, a 10 minute shower takes 55 gallons of water!

- Use phosphate-free detergents. Phosphorous is the nutrient most responsible for unwanted plant growth in lakes.

- Do not put garbage down drains that will clog the septic tank (fats, grease, coffee grounds, paper towels, disposable diapers, etc.) Garbage that has been through the disposal will also clog the system. It is better to compost garbage or dispose of it in another manner.

## Adopt-A-Highway Program

At the Aug. 1991 meeting the Adopt-A-Highway program was passed. We will be responsible for cleaning up the section of Highway #48 from Highway 6 for two miles. This is approximately to Peninsula Road or to Clinton Converse Campground. Dates for the clean-up are:

**Saturday May 30, 1992 -** Starting at 9:00 a.m. Meet at the Clinton Converse Campground picnic area. A pot-luck dinner is planned to follow, so bring a dish to share. The LWA will furnish beverages. (In case of inclement weather, the Town hall has been reserved.)

**Saturday July 11, 1992 -** Meet at the Clinton Converse Campground at 9:00 a.m.

**Saturday Sept. 5, 1992 -** Meet at the Campground. Let us know if you would also like to make this a year-end potluck.

The County will provide us with garbage bags and bright orange safety vests and will pick up the trash we have gathered. **COME, BRING A FRIEND AND BE PREPARED TO HAVE A TON OF FUN AND FELLOWSHIP.**

If you have any questions regarding the Adopt-A-Highway Program please call Jack Johnson: 792-5432 (L) or 612-920-9367 (H).

- Be careful with chemicals. Do not pour toxic substances down household or street drains (cleaning fluids, oils, paints, pesticides, disinfectants). Remember they could end up in your drinking water. Look for alternative products that are less hazardous or non-hazardous. Motor oil should be recycled at the nearest waste oil collection site.

- Use toilet paper that breaks up easily when wet.

- Do not connect the basement sump pump or other "clean water" discharges to the septic tank.

- Avoid compacting the soil above the drainfield.

- Avoid using "starters" or additives. Do not use automotive antifreeze to flush the system. This will only kill the bacteria necessary in the decomposition process.

**LAKE WASHBURN ASSOCIATION**  
Newsletter - May 1991

**1990-91 Officers-Directors.** The following were elected at the August 1990 General Membership meeting:

OFFICERS - elected to one year term.

		PHONE	
		lake	home
President	Jack Johnson	792-5432	612-920-9367
Vice Pres.	John Houston	792-5540	507-282-9104
Secretary	Mary Johnston	792-5560	612-792-5560
Treasurer	Marje Anderson	792-5317	612-941-1412

<u>DIRECTORS</u>		Term	
Gerald Ballard	3 years	792-5286	515-964-4312
Jack Schuller	3 years	792-5256	612-533-9107
Jim Fox	2 years	792-5358	
Jim Zerwas	2 years	792-5117	612-426-9110
Steven Hacker	1 year	792-5422	612-774-0249
Paul Cartwright	1 year	792-5428	612-835-1067

You can contact the association by writing to Box 26, Outing, MN 56662.

**1991 Board of Directors Meeting Schedule.**

-May 27, 1991, 9:00 a.m. Jack Johnson's cabin, Fehr's Road, fire #405.

-Saturday June 8 and Aug. 10, 7:30 a.m., Outing Town Hall.

Association members are welcome to attend Director's meeting. Subjects for consideration at Directors meeting should be submitted 10 days prior to the meeting.

**1991 General Membership Meeting Schedule.**

-Saturday, June 8 and Saturday August 10, 9:00 a.m., Outing Town Hall. Coffee and rolls will be served beginning at 8:30 a.m.

**General Membership Meeting Program June 8, 1991.** We are fortunate to have speakers for two very important subjects. First, a representative of the MN DNR will present information on Eurasian Water Milfoil. Approximately 25 Minnesota lakes, mostly in the southern 1/3 of the state, have been infested with milfoil.

Second, Lake Washburn resident Jim Eisler has been closely following the progress of the Shorelands Management Act in Cass County. This is a comprehensive piece of legislation that will have significant impact on lakes and the areas immediately surrounding them. Jim will present information on the major components of the act.

The Lake Association has gone on record as favoring adoption of this act by Cass County. The county board will vote on the act on Tuesday, May 21, 1991.

Election of Officers and 2 new Directors is scheduled for the August general membership meeting. Anyone interested in serving as either an officer or director should contact Lloyd Ahlquist at 792-5452.

**Lake Washburn Water Quality Survey.** The association will continue to offer survey results to property owners through on site interviews. Appointments can be made by contacting Terry Blexrud at 792-5331.

**Recycle Center.** A recycling cannister is located behind the township hall. Recyclable materials accepted there include glass, newsprint, plastic, cans, and cardboard. Information concerning recycling can be obtained at the general membership meeting or by calling the Cass County Solid Waste Office, 547-3300 or Cass County Recycling, 587-2211.

**Highway 6 Spring.** A decision has been made to relocate the spring to a place on the Spire Valley Hatchery road. This should be complete by mid June.

**Certified and Licensed Cass County Sewage Installers.** Thinking about a new septic system? A list of certified installers can be obtained at the general membership meeting.

**Membership.** The board of directors raised annual membership dues to \$10.00. Complete the form below for new or renewal memberships.

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LAKE WASHBURN ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

PERM. ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE(h) \_\_\_\_\_ (l) \_\_\_\_\_

LK ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ FIRE# \_\_\_\_\_

1991 Fees: \$10.00. New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_.

Mail to Lake Washburn Assoc. Box 26, Outing MN 56662. Make checks payable to Lake Washburn Assoc. Inc.

I would like to participate on one of the following committees:  
Natural Resources \_\_\_\_\_ Water Quality \_\_\_\_\_ Zoning/Planning \_\_\_\_\_

Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter \_\_\_\_\_ Finance \_\_\_\_\_ Program \_\_\_\_\_ Govt \_\_\_\_\_

## New Officers Elected For 1991-1992

At the August 1991 Annual Meeting the following Officers and Board of Directors were elected:

**OFFICERS** elected for a one year term:

		Lake Phone	Home Phone
President .....	Jan Hron .....	792-5517.....	612-934-8050
Vice President .....	John Houston .....	792-5540.....	507-282-9104
Treasurer.....	Marje Anderson.....	792-5317.....	612-941-1412
Secretary.....	Iris Lindblad.....	792-5449.....	Same

### DIRECTORS:

Gerald Ballard.....	2 Yr. Term.....	792-5286.....	515-964-4312
Jack Schuller.....	2 Yr. Term.....	792-5256.....	612-533-9107
Jim Fox.....	1 Yr. Term.....	792-5358	
Jim Zerwas.....	1 Yr. Term.....	792-5117.....	612-426-9110
Steve Hacker .....	3 Yr. Term.....	792-5422.....	612-774-0249
Harold Hegman .....	3 Yr. Term.....	792-5428.....	612-835-1067

You can contact the Association by calling any of the officers or Directors listed above or by writing to Box 26, Outing, MN 56662.

## MEETING DATES

All Board of Directors meetings are open to the Membership. Please join us at the following times and places.

Saturday June 6, 1992 9:00 a.m. Outing Town Hall  
 Saturday July 18, 1992 9:00 a.m. Outing Town Hall

Please submit any agenda items to any of the Directors and Officers prior to the Board meetings.

The General Association meetings are scheduled as follows:

Saturday June 13, 1992 Coffee at 8:30 a.m. Meeting at 9:00 a.m.  
 Saturday August 8, 1992 Coffee at 8:30 a.m. Meeting at 9:00 a.m.

The general elections will be held at the August meeting.

## Lake Washburn Association Membership

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 PERM. ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (L) \_\_\_\_\_  
 LK ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ FIRE# \_\_\_\_\_

1992 FEES: \$10.00 NEW \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to Lake Washburn Association, Box 26, Outing, MN, 56662. Make checks payable to Lake Washburn Association, Inc.

I am interested in the following committees:

Natural Resources \_\_\_ Water Quality \_\_\_ Zoning/Planning \_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_ Newsletter \_\_\_ Finance \_\_\_

Personal interests or suggestions:

# A Lesson From The Geese

As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an "uplift" for the bird following. By flying in a V formation, the whole flock adds 71% flying range than if each bird flew alone.

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

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: It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks, and sharing leadership - with people, as with geese, interdependent with each other.*

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 - not something less helpful.*

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

*Lesson: If we have as much sense as the geese, we'll stand by each other like that.*

A lesson from the Geese appeared in the Nov. 1988 Edition of Nebraska Synod (ELCCA) Update, where it was credited to Milton Olson, of of Region IV's directors for Outreach.

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Box 26  
Outing MN 56662

