

# LLLPRD SPRING 2002

*LOWER LONG LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT OFFICERS:  
Chairman Wayne Sauls 967-2152 Secretary/Treasurer Guy Wood 967-2248  
Commissioner Pat Andress 967-2518 and 723-9157 Commissioner Jim Dahl 568-3225  
Commissioner Brian Kent 967-2182*

## Message From Chairman Wayne Sauls

As another winter draws to a slow close, I share the excitement of everyone to enjoy our lake again. I mentioned in the fall newsletter that winter gives our lake a seasonal chance to rest. But once again the warm, active summer is upon us, and the impact that we, riparian owners, have on our body of water is in the forefront of my mind.

Boating has drawn my attention this year. There is mounting evidence in the scientific community that our churning propellers may have a greater impact than we previously thought. Our boats have a tendency to stir up the bottom sediments which, in the case of our lake, contain high quantities of phosphorous according to sediment core reports. This results in denser algae blooms during the warmest water temperatures which is usually the most active boating time of the year. Thus, our activities may have an exponential effect. I'm certainly not advocating that we stop turning propellers, but I do think we can all be conscientious. For example, try to bring your boat on plane in deeper waters to minimize this impact.

Another issue is the runoff we generate from our properties. Buffer strips are the most promoted means of minimizing the impact of our runoff. Anything we can do to reduce the runoff that we generate from dragging things into the lake will help. Your shoreline, your runoff and the landscaping that filters your runoff are *your responsibility*.

Commissioner Pat Andress has spearheaded a shoreland restoration demonstration site at Morris-Erickson park this spring, and a number of property owners have undertaken their own restoration projects over the years. If we all try to help a portion of each property return to a natural state, the lake will benefit. Native vegetation leads to a more natural food chain that contributes to the health of the lake.

Frank Csongedi sent a letter to the foundation that is included in this newsletter which conveys his appreciation for the aquatic diversity of Long Lake. I think we can all relate to his feelings in some form. Again, I'm not suggesting we

remove our homes, pack everything up and give it all back to Mother Nature. I'm just suggesting that we try to do a little bit to protect some of the simple pleasures we get from a healthy Long Lake.

Our fishery has been a concern to me, too. Insufficient fish habitat structures seem to be part of the problem, and I think I have an answer. We need more cribs! This year the DNR advised that they would be unable to place cribs on our lake. This has led to an effort to attain our own delivery boat which would be used to place cribs in the future. I think the project deserves funding, so please attend the annual meeting to voice your opinion.

The board has agreed that we need to better centralize our operations. The resolution of this effort is the placement of a filing cabinet and the creation of a regular schedule of meetings (on the second Monday of even numbered months at 7pm) at the Sampson Town Hall. The District is a governmental body operating under the township, and we need to return to those roots.

There is an abundance of data that has been collected over the years on our lake, and I feel that this could be better preserved, correlated and accessed through technology. The board has decided to create a District web site, [www.lllprd.org](http://www.lllprd.org), which is currently under construction. This will serve as an access point for the data and studies, and a means to fulfill our demand on communications. Ultimately, I would like to see these efforts culminate in some long range planning for our district in the form of a management plan with definitive goals.

I have learned a great deal as a commissioner these past three years. Our District is in continuous need of volunteers to sustain its efforts. I would like to extend a hand to any and all who wish to participate and help care for our body of water.

# LLLPRD 27th Annual Meeting

The LLLPRD Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 27 at 9:00 a.m. at Sampson Town Hall. Refreshments will be served, and many vital issues will be discussed.

The program at the annual meeting will be scheduled to fit into a two-hour window with a ten-minute break. The development of Camp Chippewa Bay will be updated, and the creation of a fish crib delivery system will be addressed. Committees will give annual reports, and a new commissioner will be elected.

The proposed budget for 2002-2003 will be voted on

after the discussion of a possible tax levy. The preliminary proposed budget is outlined in detail in this newsletter so that everyone will be prepared for the discussion and vote. An updated budget will be posted at the Town Hall prior to the annual meeting for public consideration.

If you will be unable to attend the meeting but are interested in voting by absentee ballot, please contact Wayne Sauls (967-2152) or Guy Wood (967-2248).

## WAL 2002 Convention -by Pat Andress

"How's the Water?" was the title of the 24th Annual Wisconsin Lakes Convention at the KI Convention Center, Green Bay. It is the largest convention of its kind in the nation, and I am grateful to the District for the exceptional opportunity to share and learn.

I attended sessions on March 7-9, including evening sessions. There are so many topics and issues that affect Long Lake people because the lake is woven into the fabric of our lives.

Here are some of the questions that were addressed at the convention:

- ◆ What are trends and concerns in the boating industry?
- ◆ Do boat wakes disturb bottom sediments?
- ◆ What are the concerns about water toys, the RAVE toys?
- ◆ What are the personal watercraft trends?
- ◆ How can the invasion of non-native plants and animals be controlled?
- ◆ What is being done about noise pollution across the nation?
- ◆ Why is it important to leave trees in the water?

William Cole, Ontario Ministry of

Natural Resources, presented a scholarly study of "the ancient shore." This session was an eye-opener because he explained this component of the littoral zones, this age-old feature of lakes: trees in the water.

A nationally recognized expert, Les Blomberg, talked about one of the most pervasive pollutants today: noise. It is aural litter. Second-hand sound is the waste product of someone else's activity. Noise is more powerful

**NOISE  
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emotionally than sight and is an environmental concern. Middle class and wealthy can no longer be certain of buying quiet. Noise knows no political divisions. Blomberg reminded us that between the jet ski and the loon, noise always wins.

The questions continue. Answers will depend on people talking and

sharing concerns, working together to solve lake-user problems.

An idea that I really liked related to the quiet side of water recreation: water trails. I immediately thought of the DNR Sensitive Area Study of Long Lake. Water trails, especially along those sensitive areas of the lake, could be described and mapped in a brochure. An interpretive water trail map would help to connect people with the place. Learning occurs best when an individual is closely associated with an experience.

A water trail activity may involve partnerships, volunteerism, and diversity. Watercraft involved may include pontoons, but canoes and kayaks would be preferred because of their quiet sensitivity.

There will be handouts from the convention available at the annual meeting, and links to pertinent websites will eventually be included on the new Long Lake website, [lllprd.org](http://lllprd.org).

*For more information about the conference and answers to the questions raised there, please contact commissioners Pat Andress, Wayne Sauls or Guy Wood.*

# Lake News

LLLPRD

LLLPRD  
28286 149th St.  
New Auburn, WI 54757



# MORRIS-ERICKSON PARK PROJECT



The DNR, Chippewa County Land Conservation Department, and Chippewa County Forest and Parks Department are working with LLLPRD on a shoreland restoration project at Morris-Erickson County Park. In addition, Bloomer High School teacher DeWayne Fossum has students interested in helping with the project. The staff at Clear Creek Nursery, Bruce, WI is also very helpful. LLLPRD appreciates the cooperation of these departments and organizations.

Located at the entrance to Morris-Erickson County Park, the area for this project will also be a demonstration site, as native shrubs and flowers are added to existing shrubs and trees. As a demonstration site, it will provide education concerning native plants, lake protection and wildlife attraction. Please stop by to see how you can easily create a more natural buffer zone.



## WELCOME SPRING

-KURT LOTHE

As I walked down to the lake the morning after the ice finally went out, I couldn't help but think, "Welcome back!" As Grandpa tells Little Tree every morning looking out over the mountains, "She's coming alive!"

If you live here or have visited your property recently, you know how true those words are. For those who love birds, the spring migration brings hundreds of species through our area to their breeding grounds further north. Mammals are out and about again, some rather hungry after a long winter's sleep. Those who keep their bird feeders filled at this time run the risk of feeding bear and raccoon in addition to feathered visitors. Turtles are out on their logs, spring peepers are drowning out all others at dawn and dusk, and snakes are looking for warm spots on the roadsides. What a cool time to be here.

There are a few publications pertaining to property, lakeshore and others that I would like to mention as worthy of your attention. The Department of Minnesota Nongame Wildlife Program puts out an excellent spiralbound book called *Landscaping for Wildlife*. Within are contained an index of native plants, examples of songbird areas, water gardens, butterfly gardens, and landscaping for farms, woodlands, and shorefronts.

Two other books they offer are *Woodworking for Wildlife* and *Wild About Birds: The DNR Bird Feeding Guide*. For information about obtaining these, you can borrow my copy or write to:

Department of Natural Resources  
500 Lafayette Road, Box 7  
St. Paul, MN 55155

There is also an excellent field guide to aquatic plants put out by the University of Wisconsin Stevens

Point, *Through the Looking Glass...A Field Guide to Aquatic Plants*, in which each species is accurately drawn, described in detail and compared to similar species. Habitat and ranges are given as well as aquatic community value. To get a hold of this book, you can preview my copy or write to:

Wisconsin Lakes Partnership  
UW-Extension, UW Stevens  
Point

College of Natural Resources  
1900 Franklin St.  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
715-346-2116

I hope you have had a wonderful winter and are preparing for an amazing summer. They are always amazing here.

*If you would like to contact Kurt Lothe, you can find him at Camp Manitou (27960 137th St., New Auburn, WI 54757)*

## Fifth Annual Picnic



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

The date for the Annual Picnic is just around the corner! The picnic will be held at Morris-Erickson Park (Hwy. 40) on Saturday, August 17 at 12:00 p.m. As in years past, hamburgers and their condiments will be provided. Please bring your own

beverages, a dish to pass, friendly conversation and lawn chairs on which to sit and enjoy the day.

Call Lesley Sauls (715-967-2152) to participate in the final planning of this fifth annual picnic. It has been a fun, successful day in the past, and we hope to have another great turnout.

## Foundation Report - by Wally Schulenberg



We are still involved with the process of receiving a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for the purchase of the Playter property. We never dreamed it would be such a time consuming, long, drawn-out process. The latest word is that we can expect to receive funds to reimburse Chippewa County and our Foundation within a few weeks. The old adage applies... "All good things take time."

We believe there is an opportunity to acquire more lake frontage at the south end of the lake. The developer and others involved in the purchase of the former Girl Scout property have indicated an interest in our organization which we will pursue.

Our thanks to those who donated in response to our request late last year. We will present our annual report at the summer Lake District meeting.

## An open letter to: Lower Long Lake Foundation, Inc.



My family wishes to thank you for your kind and thoughtful recognition of our donation of waterfront wetlands known as "Basswood Wetlands." Knowing we were giving a gift that would benefit wildlife, lake ecology and secure an area to remain "wild" as I knew it as a boy was thanks enough. The plaque we received is an additional and unexpected honor for sure.

Growing up on the lake as I did, I spent many leisurely summertime hours pushing and poling my little boat through the maze of cattails and wildflower bog into small lagoons to catch largemouth bass as long as my forearm in water so shallow the big ones' dorsal fins would be out of the water. Sunfish and bluegill would scatter like autumn leaves caught in a sudden gust when I would burst red-faced from pushing into another watery pocket of seclusion. Painted turtles perched on logs numbered in the teens on every log around. Red-winged blackbirds sat crookedly on cattail stems gently swaying in the summer breezes and scolded at my intrusion. I would lay in a dream-like state over the bow and drag my hands through the

warm, clear water, and if I stayed still long enough minnows would gather and swim in and out of my opened palms. Some nights, the bullfrog symphony would call to me, and I would quickly organize a nighttime foray into my swamp. Braving hordes of buzzing biters, I tried to catch a few big frogs, but they were always too fast.

Time stopped during those idyllic summer days in the swamp, and I think today *if I'd only had the presence of mind to take a few pictures back then.* But on reflection, cool static imagery could never replace the pictures I have taken in my mind. Basswood Wetlands was truly a magical place to me, and I know from now on that kids of all ages will always be able to experience the same thrilling halcyon days I knew.

As with all the lands around Lower Long Lake donated to remain in a wild state, we gave these wetlands with confidence in the Foundation's stewardship and know that they will be tended with an ever-vigilant eye to the future.

Sincerest wishes - and more power to the Foundation,  
Frank J. Csongedi

## LLLPRD Committee Chairs

### LLLPRD Commissioners

Wayne Sauls, Chairman	967-2152
Guy Wood, Secy./Treas.	967-2248
Pat Address	967-2518/723-9157
Jim Dahl	568-3225
Brian Kent	967-2182

### Lake Property

Kurt Lothe	967-2703/834-0290
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### Lower Long Lake Foundation

Wally Schulenberg	967-2514/832-4217
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### Long Range Planning

Jan Frase	967-2339
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### Publicity

Lesley Sauls	967-2152
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### Fish and Water Quality

Lou Frase	967-2339
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# PROPOSED 2002-2003 BUDGET

## Possible Tax Levy to be Discussed at July 27th Annual Meeting

	Current Budget (2001-2002)	Estimated Expenditures (2001-2002)	Proposed Budget (2002-2003)
Publicity expenses (newsletters, mailings, etc.)	\$600.00	\$565.00	\$600.00
Fish /water quality committee (1)	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Shoreline Projects: Restoration & Trail (2)	\$0.00	\$330.00	\$300.00
Picnic	\$50.00	-\$40.00	\$0.00
Property Committee (1)	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Liability Insurance	\$949.00	\$949.00	\$949.00
Adopt-a-Lake/ Fish Cribs (3)	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$1050.00
WAL meeting and membership (4)	\$687.50	\$810.00	\$900.00
Miscellaneous	\$100.00	\$54.00	\$100.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2886.50</b>	<b>\$2818.00</b>	<b>\$4049.00</b>
<b>Projected Checkbook Balance (07/27/02):</b>			<b>\$1060.00</b>
<b>Proposed Tax Levy for 2003:</b>			<b>\$3000.00</b>

- (1) Although Committee activity has had no expenses to date, expenses are expected before the annual meeting.
- (2) \$ 330 for the Shoreline Restoration Project were available from the District's portion of matching funds that were not expended for the Water Shed Study. This was done with the DNR's recommendation.
- (3) Traditional District matching funding with the DNR was not done this year due to DNR budget reduction. Proposed budget is to continue this program with District acquiring a crib delivery boat (\$800 one time only) and matching crib construction costs (\$250/year) with the DNR.
- (4) WAL meeting traditionally had 2 Board members attending. This year 3 attended. It is recommended attendance at WAL meetings continue with 3 attending from the District. Membership Dues are \$187.