

LLLPRD Summer 2008

LOWER LONG LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT OFFICERS:
Chair Harlyn Misfeldt 715-235-3758, Vice-Chair Diane Dahl 651-323-7809
Secretary Tom Webster 715-967-2392, Commissioner Chris Haller 715-967-2393

Message From Harlyn Misfeldt, LLLPRD Chair

Jim Dahl, a long time Chippewa County Board Member and the county Board representative on the Lower Long Lake Protection and Rehabilitation Board did not seek re-election.

LLLPRD will most certainly miss the help, cooperation and contributions Jim provided. He was always a "voice of reason" and added a great deal to our meetings. Jim could always be depended on to attend our

meetings, be there on time and actively participate in the discussion. Among the many things we will miss is the historical perspective Jim was able to provide.

As a token of our appreciation and recognition of Jim's service, the LLLPRD has provided a \$100.00 contribution to the Lower Long Lake Foundation in his honor.

Thank you, Jim. You will be missed!

Mary and Jake Farrell hosted the first Coffee on the Dock on Saturday May 24. About 25 people attended, and the talk was nonstop. People wandered from group to group and introduced themselves. Lots of information was exchanged as everyone there got to know new neighbors. The coffee was hot, the bagels were great, the mosquitoes stayed in the shade, and we peeled off our jackets as the day warmed up. What more could you ask for?

C.O.D. will be hosted by a different family/group every Saturday except July 5 (when you will have to have coffee on your own dock) and on July 26 when coffee will be served at the LLLPRD annual meeting and budget hearing. ALL Long Lake families, old and new, are welcome. Come by land or by sea. Join your next door neighbors and come by

"pontoon-pool" (the lake version of a car-pool) or by car if thunder is rumbling. Coffee is served rain or shine, so be sure to dress for the weather.

Thanks to all the 2008 volunteer hosts!

So far, this first experimental year is a great success! To sign up as a 2009 coffee host or to have a 2008 C.O.D. schedule emailed to you, contact sbaer@hotmail.com. Schedules are also available at Max's Resort and Larrabee Lodge. If you are sipping your brew and perusing www.lllprd.org, you will find a link there for coffee information, too.

For privacy reasons, the schedule itself is not posted on the Internet, but information will be sent to you directly from the webmaster.

Cheers, and we'll see you on the dock!

Coffee On The Dock



-by Sara Baer

Website News

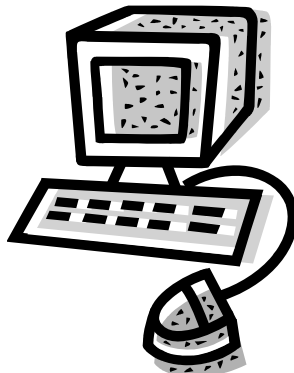
LLLPRD.ORG has been in operation for 6 years. On our site you can find:

- News and meeting notices
- Information about preservation and shore restoration
- The lake management plan and related projects
- Data about the lake, water quality, and fish stocking
- Locations of sensitive areas, and even a video tour!

You can also subscribe to the newsletter, LLLPRD Lake News, and access other lake newsletters and websites.

Please let us know of any information you'd like added to the website by sending mail to your volunteer webmaster, John J. Kinyon, at webmaster@lllprd.org.

Happy "surfing!"



Greeting New Neighbors

The greeting committee visited several new property owners last fall. All the women were really strong, the men were really good looking and the children were waaaay above average. We are way better than Lake Woebegone! Visits are being scheduled for this summer. We drop off "lake" literature, promo materials and little gifts from lake residents and local businesses.

If you would like to include a gift or appropriate coupon or literature representing you or your business, contact Sanja Swan or Sara Baer at sbaer@hotmail.com.



Clean Boats, Clean Waters Grant

- by Jan Frase

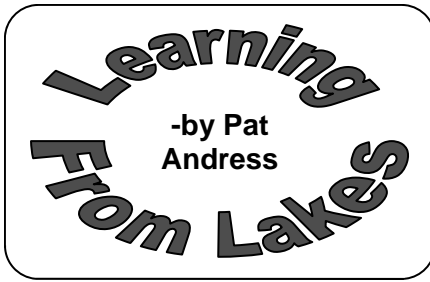


Realizing that Aquatic Invasive Species are rapidly spreading amongst our lakes, the Board passed a resolution to apply for a Clean Boats, Clean Waters grant to help pay for a monitor at the Erickson Park boat launch. The grant will be in the \$5-7,000 range, covering a minimum of 200 hours over a 10 week period and is a 75/25 match (district share being 25%, which can include volunteer hours, housing a monitor overnight and providing gas money or equipment).



The monitor will inspect boats and trailers for small weed particles and zebra mussels coming from other bodies of water and educate boat owners on how to clean their equipment.

Invasive weeds are present in lakes as near as Wissota and Holcombe. Lake Wissota's Association has received a similar grant and is currently monitoring boat launches there. We all love and appreciate our lake water quality but will need to educate ourselves and those recreating on Long Lake to avoid Aquatic Invasives. Jan Frase has volunteered to write the grant proposal by the Aug. 1, 2008 deadline for monitoring to begin with the fishing opener in 2009.



“Learning from Lakes” was the theme for the 30th Annual Wisconsin Lakes Convention, April 17-19, 2008 at the KI Convention Center, Green Bay. This quote by Alvin Toffler was featured: “The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn.”

The LLLPRD had exhibits from Bloomer High School students who explored the lake as they learned about Rusty vs. native crayfish and aquatic plants. Their participation in building fish cribs and signs for Lower Long Lake were also highlighted as ways that the youth of our lake have participated in learning activities.

Another way kids learn from Lower Long Lake is by joining Lou Frase as he takes Manitou campers weekly on his pontoon to monitor the water quality of the lake and learn about how to

keep the water in its best condition.

During the workshop, “Leave No Child Inside: Engaging Youth in Lake Issues,” it was my privilege to share LLLPRD’s Long Lake Trail map, the paper copy and the DVD audio/visual version that is an engaging educational tool created by former Camp Manitou activity director, Kurt Lothe, who produced the DVD and generously gave it to the district.

University students have also been involved in lake district issues. Last summer, UWEC students Kurt Schroeder and Brian Cossette volunteered their time to monitor the boat landing for invasive species. Each spent 30 hours protecting Long Lake and found their efforts to be worthwhile. One of the students commented “. . . we need to know the human behaviors as well as the species behaviors to fully protect these waters.”

The students seemed to recognize that this community service activity was helping them to develop civic and social responsibility.

With emphasis on educating younger generations about lake issues, a hands-on event sounded enticing. Some ideas were put into action at the

“Education, therefore, is a process of living and not a preparation for future living.”

-John Dewey

“Friends of Lake Wissota” lake fair on June 8 and may be used on our lake to steer youth closer to nature. Those ideas included:

- ◇ Fishing Clinic
- ◇ Kayak Demos
- ◇ Treasure Hunt
- ◇ Make fish print T-shirts
- ◇ An up-close look at aquatic bugs and other neat lake critters
- ◇ Build a bluebird house
- ◇ Take a hike with a park naturalist
- ◇ Paint with the Beaver Creek Reserve watercolor club
- ◇ Boater safety demos
- ◇ Exhibits and informative talks
- ◇ Musical entertainment

“You must learn day by day, year by year, to broaden your horizon. The more things you love, the more you are interested in, the more you enjoy, the more you are indignant about, the more you have left when anything happens.” -Ethel Barrymore

Those of you who used Long Lake back in the 1970’s will remember the saga of the rusty crayfish infestation, a time when the lake received headlines in local papers and spots on local news reports with pictures of “Rusty” poised with claws ready to strike. One could not stand on the lake bottom without getting toes nipped by these aggressive little critters. Being vegetarians the crayfish wiped out our weeds, eliminating spawning areas and removing cover for panfish. The remaining fishery consisted of walleyes (which spawn in rocky areas) and planted hybrid muskies.

Our lake district board, working with the DNR (Joe Kurz, fisheries biologist) formulated a two pronged plan which involved planting of smallmouth bass (a natural predator of crayfish that does not require weeds for spawning), and commercial trapping which for several years resulted in our “delicacies” being served in New Orleans. It appears that the combined effort succeeded. As you know the weeds are back and Long Lake has a reputation as a premier smallmouth bass fishery. Along with the weeds has

What Happened

-by Lou Frase



To Rusty?



come the return of the bluegills, crappies, and perch which have added to our enjoyment of the lake.

Now there is some question about the real reason for this transition as other lakes infested by “rusty” have shown a similar crash in the population. The DNR is asking that we resume crayfish counts as done in the 1970 to 1980 era by Gloria Berres who became known as the “crayfish queen” of the LLLPRD. Gloria’s last count in 1990 revealed 1,313 crayfish trapped in a 24 hour period. A similar study conducted in 2007 by Jo Heuschle under DNR contract revealed only 96 (all were rusties, no natives).

Since the answer as to what is occurring is not clear, the DNR has asked that we resume crayfish counts which will be undertaken by Chris Haller (owner of the Larabee Lodge and the Town of Sampson representative to the LLLPRD board), assisted by Tom Webster and Gloria Berres. This will enable the DNR and us to follow the natural cycle of this invasive species. Similar studies being done on many Wisc. lakes will be discussed at the annual meeting.

LLLPRD Proposed 2008-2009 Budget

By Harlyn
Misfeldt



Introduction: In 2008, District voters approved a significant increase in the Project and Grants budget category to allow the Board to seek additional grant funding. As a result the following two proposals were prepared and submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Lower Long Lake Runoff and Restoration Project, Phase II (\$13,649.83)

Lower Long Lake Runoff and Restoration Project (\$133,895.00)

The first of these two proposals (\$13,649.83) was approved and is presently being implemented. The second proposal (\$133,895.00) was also recently approved and will be implemented July 1, 2008 and continue through June 31, 2010. This second proposal presents a cash flow challenge since claims for project expenditures must be made to the DNR on a reimbursement basis (LLLPRD must pay the bills before we receive payment from the DNR). The amount needed to maintain a positive cash flow is estimated to be approximately \$25,000.00. The proposed budget for 2009 presented below has been designed to provide you, the district voters, with two options to meet this need in the Projects and Grants category. All other budget categories remain at the same amount as they were in 2008.

Option 1: This option would increase the Projects and Grants Budget by \$2,000.00 to a total of \$7,600.00. \$5,600.00 of this amount would be used to fund costs associated with the grant already funded and to pay interest on short-term loans needed to maintain a positive cash flow for the \$133,895.00 grant recently awarded. \$2,000.00 of this amount would be used to seek additional funding for aquatic invasive species control.

Option 2: This option would increase the Projects and Grants budget to \$25,000.00, eliminating the need to borrow money while at the same time allowing LLLPRD to meet our obligations to previously approved projects and seek additional funding for aquatic invasive species control. While this option would significantly increase taxes in 2009, it would result in a \$20,000.00 to \$25,000.00 surplus at the end of the grant cycle in 2010. This surplus could be used to seek additional outside funding, fund projects internally, not levy taxes for a period of time or other purposes deemed appropriate by the District voters.

Using the best data available at the present time, the following comparisons may be made per \$100,000.00 of assessed valuation:

2008 LLLPRD Budget	\$19.33
2009 LLLPRD Proposed Budget – Option 1	\$23.11
2009 LLLPRD Proposed Budget – Option 2	\$66.60

**You will be asked to support either Option 1 or Option 2
at the Lake District's annual meeting.**

LLLPRD Committee Chairs



Please contact any of the following committee chairs if you have questions or would like to join a district committee in an effort toward Lower Long Lake Protection and Rehabilitation.

LLLPRD Commissioners

Harlyn Misfeldt, Chair	235-3758
Diane Dahl, Vice-chair	651-323-7809
Tom Webster, Secretary	967-2392
Chris Haller	967-2393

Lower Long Lake Foundation

Wayne Sauls	833-9983
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Publicity

Lesley Sauls	833-9983
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Greeting and Coffee

Sara Baer	559-3151
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Webmaster

John Kinyon	www.lllprd.org
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Fish and Water Quality

Lou Frase	967-2339
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Budget Category	2008 Budget	Amount Spent To Date (06-13-08)	Proposed 2009 Budget
1. Fish/Water Quality/ Invasive Species	\$775.00	\$0.00	\$775.00
2. Projects and Grants	\$5,600.00	\$1336.78	
Option 1			\$7,600.00
Option 2			\$25,000.00
3. Miscellaneous (Postage, copies, etc.)	\$200.00	\$111.10	\$200.00
4. Liability Insurance	\$1,050.00	\$512.50	\$1,050.00
5. Education/Training/ Conferences	\$600.00	\$0	\$600.00
7. Memberships (WAL/ CVORA)	\$300.00	\$270.00	\$300.00
8. Publicity Committee (Newsletter/Web Site/District Meetings)	\$1,000.00	\$218.00	\$1,000.00
9. Maintenance (Buoys/Signs)	\$200.00	\$0	\$200.00
10. Reserve	\$500.00	\$0	\$500.00
11. Totals	\$10,225.00	\$2,448.38	
Option 1			\$12,225.00
Option 2			\$29,625.00

Your District at Work...

In 2007, the LLLPRD, with the help of state and county resources submitted an application for a large DNR lake planning grant, considered a pilot project and an effort to "test the waters." The application was submitted February, 2007, and the grant was awarded in March, 2007. The district, through the Request for Proposal procedure, selected a contractor, executed and administered the contract through December 31, 2007. This grant is considered Lower Long Lake Shoreland Restoration Pilot Project, Phase I.

In February, 2008 a similar application was submitted, and the grant for Pilot Project, Phase II was awarded in March, 2008. A similar procedure for contracting followed, and Phase II is now underway (more details can be found on page 6). The contracted Educational Specialist

selected for both projects is Amanda Kostner.

Phase I was used to introduce "community-based performance standards" to restore shorelands and control runoff. The planning and installation of demonstration projects were designed to show how "best management practices" can be used to meet the community performance standards. The project helped to determine the extent of community support and the feasibility of actively pursuing lake and shoreland management objectives as established in the management plan.

Phase II will continue to actively plan and test the implementation approach that is proposed to advance a multi-year shoreland restoration program.

-by Pat Andress

Long Lake Shoreland Protection Project - 2008



Hello Long Lakers! Thanks to another successful WI Lake Management Grant proposal, I'm back again this year. I'll be continuing to work with you and your neighbors to help protect the lake through shoreland revegetation and runoff prevention. Last year, as you may remember, I visited with 20 landowners at their request. I completed a site evaluation and a shoreland plan for what they could do to reduce their amount of runoff draining to the lake, and how they could increase fish and wildlife habitat along their shoreline. Also, with help from some of you, we planted a shoreland buffer demonstration site at Morris-Erickson County Park, and at private properties enhanced a no-mow buffer and installed two rain gardens to also serve as demonstrations.

Now we are continuing the effort and working with the first 20 landowners to actually install their shoreline buffers and rain gardens as recommended in their shoreland plan. In order to do this, LLLPRD has come up with some incentives to help.

Native Plant Group Order

To help supply the native plant needs of project participants, LLLPRD will coordinate at least one order per year. The participants will pay for their own plants but ultimately receive a discount due to the bulk order. Delivery to a designated area near Lower Long Lake is also arranged. Participants will pick up their orders from there.

Rain Barrel Trial

The LLLPRD is purchasing a variety of rain barrels to lend to participating members for a season at no charge. In the fall, participants can either purchase them from LLLPRD or return them to be lent to another participant the following season.

Contractor Bid Day(s)

To meet excavation, site preparation, and planting needs, the LLLPRD will coordinate at least one day per year where private contractors tour the proposed shoreline buffer and rain garden sites to bid on the jobs. Landowners make the final decision to accept or refuse the submitted bids.

Shoreline Buffer & Runoff Protection Cost-Sharing

Funding for this option is included in a separate grant available in July 2008. It will cover 70% of the costs to install a shoreline buffer or rain garden.

These shoreland incentives are only open to those who have already received a free site evaluation and shoreland plan for their property. However, new participants who wish to have a site evaluation done this year are welcome to contact me to set up a time to meet.

Last year it was encouraging to see the dedication the LLLPRD board and a core group of members have to protect Long Lake. I hope to meet more of you this year that will also step up and become caretakers of this wonderful resource. - Have a great summer!



Amanda Kostner
The Green Frog Co.
715-645-0316
ahilger7@yahoo.com



Foundation Report

-by Wayne Sauls



I humbly thank those who have contributed time, effort, finances, and land to the Lower Long Lake Foundation. I would also like to acknowledge gratefully those who contribute to the preservation of the lake by embracing the important principles of environmental conservation and have changed their lives to reflect those ideals. Society as a whole is changing, and our specific lake community has chosen to modify environmental behavior, minimize impact on and restore our lake quality as much as possible.

There is a direct relationship between our use of the land and water and the quality of the lake that determines whether our activity can continue indefinitely, or whether it is something that will ultimately render an undesirable consequence. In that relationship, nature itself is a major player. A very wet spring season gushes nutrient rich waters into the lake from surrounding swamps and lands, the high water level creates additional shoreline erosion, and turbulent weather stirs up the phosphorous-laden sediment. A warmer-than-usual summer coupled with the preceding conditions can raise water temperatures, setting up ideal conditions for heavy alga blooms and exotic species to gain a foothold in Lower Long Lake.

We all have heard that "nature has its way," and in the case of the quality and clarity of the water in our lake, much of it is beyond our control. The fortunate side of the story is that some of it *is* within our control, and most of the people in our community are making incredibly well-planned changes. Much of what is being done on the shores of Lower Long Lake is being done with a sharp focus on water quality and on the aesthetic value of the lake environment.

If you are considering ways to minimize or mitigate your impact, there are opportunities, information and technical guidance available in our community. If the Foundation can be of service to you, please don't hesitate to ask any of our directors can help. [Wayne's number is included with the phone list on page 4.]



Join Lower Long Lake's Green Team!



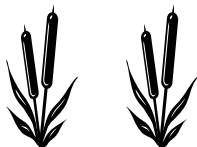
The Lower Long Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District is forming The Green Team to care for the demonstration shoreline buffer planted at Morris-Erickson Park in 2007. The buffer plots are filled with native perennials and grasses that will help keep the lake healthy by providing wildlife habitat, shoreline erosion control, and stormwater runoff protection.

What will The Green Team do?

- ◇ Clean up shoreline buffer plots in spring (add mulch, cut dead stalks, pull invasive weeds).
- ◇ Water plants in extreme dry times.
- ◇ Organize other local groups (students, 4-H clubs, Camp Manitou groups, etc.) to help out.

The demonstration site was designed to demonstrate and promote shoreline buffers to lakefront property owners. Help Long Lake by keeping this site looking great!

For more information about joining The Green Team or to volunteer a few hours at the park, contact Vic or Jan Lothe at 715-967-2703.



*These activities are funded in part by a 2008 Lake Management Grant
from the WI Dept. of Natural Resources.*

-by Amanda Kostner



LLLPRD Lake News



Postage Here

LLLPRD
3509 Cummings Ave.
Eau Claire, WI 54701

Have a
safe
SUMMER!!



**Lower Long Lake
Protection & Rehabilitation
District Annual Meeting
& Budget Hearing
Scheduled
For July 26, 2008
9:00-11:30am
at Sampson Town Hall**

Mark Saturday morning, July 26th, on your calendar. Then come to the **9:00 AM LLLPRD Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing** at **Sampson Town Hall**.

Agenda items include the election of a commissioner, committee reports, Lower Long Lake Foundation report and reports about pertinent lake activities including the latest on Shoreland Restoration Projects from Amanda Kostner.

Come a little early to look at the displays, collect literature, visit, enjoy refreshments and get the LLLPRD Management Plan if you don't already have one. We look forward to seeing you at this meeting!