

LLLPRD Winter 2009

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, Commissioners Pat Andress 715-967-2518/715-723-9157 and Chris Haller 715-967-2393

Message From Harlyn Misfeldt, LLLPRD Chair

As I listen to public radio and read various newspapers I find it depressing to contemplate the financial doldrums facing our nation and the resulting pain and hardship for many of our citizens. In the middle of one of these "downers" along came an e-mail from Lesley with the reminder that it was time for the winter newsletter. As I began to think about what I might write, my mood began to change. I thought about the positive things happening in the Lake District and all of the people that help make them happen...including:

*The successful completion of our first and second grants and a very encouraging start on our third grant thanks to the work of Amanda Kostner, Pat Andress, Diane Dahl, the DNR and Chippewa County staff in both the Land Conservation and Parks and Recreation Departments, the many volunteers and the participating landowners.

*The volunteers that help maintain the demonstration sites at Morris-Erickson County Park.

*The Publicity Committee and hosts of the very successful first season of "Coffee on the Dock".

*The work of the Fish & Water Quality Committee led by Lou Frase.

*The volunteers organized by Jan Frase that monitor the lake for any sign of Aquatic Invasive Species.

*The district landowners who attend the annual meeting and regularly scheduled Board meetings to provide input concerning issues affecting the

lake and budget.

*Our website that would not be possible without Webmaster John Kinyon.

*Lesley Sauls, without whom we would not have this newsletter.

*The continuation of crayfish monitoring by Chris Haller and his crew.

*The recent announcement by the DNR that 41 municipalities, counties and other groups will receive about \$2.5 million to be used to stop the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species.

*Pat Andress whom we are fortunate to welcome back on the LLLPRD Board as the Chippewa County Representative to the Board. I sincerely appreciate her willingness to serve as well as the work and cooperation of each of our Board members.

*Our recording secretary, Gail Misfeldt, for the many, many hours spent on the minutes and other administrative work for the district.

Sometimes winter provides time to dream and plan for future outdoor activities. If you wish the board would do something that would contribute to the Lake District please share your proposal with individual board members or the board collectively. If your proposal requires any expenditure of money, now is the time to forward those details including dollar amounts for consideration by the Board when we formulate the 2010 budget proposal.



After serving the LLLPRD as an elected board member from 2001-2007, Pat Andress has been appointed to the LLLPRD board as a citizen representative of the Chippewa County Board. This position was formerly held by Jim Dahl from 2000-2008. As a voting member, Andress will report back to the county Board's Land Conservation committee and the County Board itself. We are pleased to have Andress continue her relationship with the LLLPRD board in this new capacity. A multiple-term member of the Wisconsin Association of Lakes Board, Andress is in tune with projects and grants that will benefit Lower Long Lake. Her experience and enthusiasm for lake quality issues is deeply respected and appreciated by those with whom she works.

COFFEE ON THE DOCK 2009

-by Sara



The young and elderly came by foot, new neighbors and old arrived by boat, a few cars full of cheerful lake friends pulled in. Between 35-50 lake neighbors met each Saturday of last summer to share coffee and conversation on the docks of our lake.

We will have another season of Coffee on the Dock starting Memorial Day weekend, 2009. COD meets from 9:30-11:30 at cottages, homes, and cabins around the lake and will continue through August as long as there are hosts interested in participating—except for the following dates: July 4, July 25 (the Lower Long Lake Rehabilitation and Protection District annual meeting date), and August 15 (the rain garden eco pontoon tour).

Hosting is easy! You simply meet with the previous week's hosts and pick up a tub that includes cups, sugar sweetener, Thermoses, name tags, a big coffee pot and 2 signs—one for the road and one for the lake. There is even a list of what to expect. There is more schmoozing than munching, so keeping the snacks simple is the order of the day. Pair up with your neighbors or call the kids and grandkids; make it a family thing.

To volunteer as a host, email ssbaer@gmail.com or call Sara Baer at 715-559-3151 or Sanja Swan at 715-225-7897 or 715 967-2177.

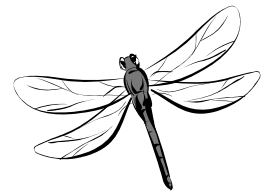
Please include:

- * Names
- * Lake street address
- * Phone numbers --all of them
- * Brief description of where you are on the lake



Dragonflies and Damselflies

by Gail Misfeldt



You won't see them today, but after the ice is out, summer will follow spring and you will again enjoy common pleasures on Lower Long Lake. You may notice dragonflies and damselflies, two insects of the order Odonata (translated from Latin as "the toothed ones"). Both species have a long slender body and two pairs of large transparent wings. The wings are usually spread when a dragonfly is resting but the damselfly rests with its wings folded over the body.

Vicious predators, dragonflies are swift, ancient and elusive beasts with a reputation for wickedness and ferocity. Sometimes called the diminutive dragons, they are fearsome. With shark like predatory voraciousness a dragonfly will devour anything it can kill, even creatures larger than itself.

Dragonflies are awesome fliers. They can fly like no other bug. A dragonfly can hover, fly upside down, and sideways. It is the only insect that can fly backwards. A dragonfly can pull nine Gs of force in a turn and accelerate up to three Gs, according to Charles Habermann, a robotics engineer.

Dragonflies are at the top of their own little food chain and live much of their lives as larvae in fresh water ponds, lakes and streams. As a result they are like a canary in the coal mine for the region's environment. Their presence or absence can give an early warning of changes due to pollution, development or climate change.

In addition to being scientifically significant, dragonflies (*Anax junius*, etc.) and damselflies (*Calopteryx maculata*) are just plain fascinating to watch. Naturalist, Kurt Mead refers to them as "charismatic micro-fauna" because they are beautiful, sporting radiant jewel-like eyes and brilliant spots and stripes on their wings and bodies.

Unlike birds, dragonflies cannot be identified by their calls. They have no vocalization and no sense of hearing. Some species such as the Emerald dragonfly with its bulging green eyes are distinctive enough to be identified on the wing. Look for them over the crystal clear water of Lower Long Lake.

Long Lake Shoreland Problems and Solutions

-by Diane Dahl

There have been requests for help in restoring shorelines that have eroded because of waves and wind. We are requesting that the DNR allow us to add this problem to our present Shoreland Restoration Grant. If included, our consultant, Amanda Kostner, would assess the property owners' problems and recommend plans for remediation. The Grant may also help to accomplish the suggested work.

Looking forward to 2009, there are plans to decrease the phosphorus run-off load to Long Lake through action — whether it be a small or large scale change. 30 of our property owners will have the opportunity to decrease phosphorus loads and improve run-off quality from their land.

The District is ready and willing to help with sweat

—equity through our "Green Team." There are also cost-sharing opportunities to get the work accomplished. Let's put the shovel to the ground and make a difference.

There are many shorelines that have been improved by independent judicious conservation and Amanda's expertise. We thank you for your efforts. Spread the message and your knowledge with neighbors who are interested in similar conservation. Contact a Board member or Amanda Kostner for further information.



Approved 2009 Budget



The LLLPRD Board has moved to a calendar year budget and the approved budget covers January-December 2009.

CATEGORY	APPROVED
Fish/water quality/Invasive Species	\$775.00
Projects and Grants	\$7600.00
Miscellaneous (postage, copies, etc.)	\$200.00
Education/Training/Conferences	\$600.00
Liability Insurance	\$1050.00
Membership (WAL/CVORA)	\$300.00
Publicity Committee (Newsletter/Web Site/District Mailings)	\$1000.00
Maintenance (Buoys/Signs)	\$200.00
Reserve	\$500.00
TOTAL	\$12,225.00

Thanks!



Thanks to our 2008 Coffee On The Dock hosts and hostesses! You did a great job juggling boats; lake boaters are so creative with mooring that small yards, short driveways and short docks seemed to help more than hinder. The weather and the mosquitoes cooperated, too!

For those of you who are a bit shy, this might be the easiest group of people you'll ever meet! This isn't the "same old" people every week so come once or come every week. You will be warmly welcomed!



Lower Long Lake Shoreland Protection & Restoration Project: More Than 30 Sites Evaluated

More information and photos of the project can
be found on LLLPRD's website at:
www.lllprd.org/shoreland_restoration.htm

This is a good time to recall all that has happened in the past year and try to plan ahead to the next. 2008 was eventful for the Shoreland Protection and Restoration Project. As I think back on all that has taken place on Long Lake, I am proud to be a part of it. However, these activities would not be at all possible without the great volunteers from Long Lake. There are dedicated people here who have assisted me and even taken on the sole responsibility for some actions. Without their continued support, and yours, this project cannot continue to be as successful as it has been. I look forward to meeting and working with even more Lower Long Lake neighbors!

- Amanda Kostner

Shoreland Specialist, *The Green Frog Co.*
715-645-0316 ahilger7@yahoo.com.

What happened in 2008?

- Amanda Kostner

Here is what was accomplished this past year:

Organized a group native plant order and delivery for 11 Long Lake landowners for use on their shoreland properties. A total of \$1,680 worth of plants was purchased by the landowners. *Gigi Stafne of MI ZI ZAK Kayaks allowed us to use space at her place of business to distribute the plants.*

Six landowners planted native plants in their shoreland buffer to help revegetate their shoreline. *Enders, Hinnerichs, Larson, Lothe, O'Brien, Swan.*

Three landowners constructed a total of eight rain gardens to help stop runoff and shoreline erosion. *Babbitt's Resort (6), Tom and Annie Grewe (1), Don and Cindy Zimmerman (1).*

Held a shoreline buffer and rain garden workshop for do-it-yourselfer shoreland residents and those wishing to offer their services as paid labor to install these practices. *Pat Andress and Tom and Carol Webster donated their time to help out with refreshments and registration.*

Built 11 plastic rain barrels to offer for sale to LLLPRD members. Four of these were purchased and installed at Long Lake properties. *Dave and Jenny Larson donated their time to help assemble and store the barrels.*

Held a rain barrel workshop to show people how to make their own. Three of these were made and installed at Long Lake properties. Six others were made by non-district members and used at their own locations. *Tom Grewe put in many hours procuring rain barrel parts and hosting the workshop at his cabin.*

Revisited the 20 landowners who received a site evaluation and restoration plan in 2007 to review their plan and help achieve those goals. *Babbitt's Resort, Berres, Callstrom, Dahl, Doyle, Enders, Helgerson, Hinnerichs, Ihle, Krause, Larson, Lothe, Morris-Erickson Park, O'Brien, Proehl, Rizzi, Seyberth, Swan, Wood, Zimmerman.*

Visited 10 new properties and produced site evaluations and restoration plans for each. *Andress, Burzynski, Ember-son, Frase, Tom Grewe, Pete Grewe, Mills-Gladitsch, Misfeldt, Zacho.*

Formed The Green Team to take care of our demonstration shoreline buffer plots at Morris-Erickson County Park. *Jan and Vic Lothe volunteered to organize the group. Those that took part in maintaining the plants along with the Lothes were Lou and Jan Frase, Tom and Carol Webster, and Pat Andress.*

Held our annual Long Lake Shoreland Tour. *Diane Dahl and Tom Dunkel donated their time and use of their pontoon boat for the tour. Andresses, Morris-Erickson Park, Babbitt's Resort, and Diane Dahl allowed us to tour their properties.*

What's up for 2009?

-Amanda Kostner

I will be completing 10 new free, voluntary site evaluations this summer. These restoration plans give recommendations to reduce property owners' amount of runoff and shoreline erosion and increase fish and wildlife habitat along their shoreline. Those who complete a site evaluation are eligible to take part in the following incentives:

Native Plant Group Order: To help supply the native plant needs of project participants, LLLPRD coordinates at least one order per year. The participants 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 pick up their orders from there.

Rain Barrel Trial: The LLLPRD has rain barrels to sell or lend for a summer at no charge to participating members. In the fall, participants can either purchase them from LLLPRD or return them to be lent out the following season.

Contractor Bid Day(s): To meet excavation, site preparation, and planting needs, the LLLPRD coordinates at least one day per year where private contractors tour the proposed shoreline buffer and rain garden sites to bid on the jobs. The landowners make the final decision to accept or refuse the submitted bids.

Shoreline Buffer & Runoff Protection Cost-Sharing: LLLPRD reimburses landowners for 70% of the total project costs. The landowners retain the remaining 30% of costs, which can be paid in cash or worked off through labor. The total amount shall not exceed \$3,000 per conservation practice, which includes shoreline buffers, rain gardens, or other approved runoff protection practices. (Some restrictions apply. Contact me for more information.)

If you are interested in a site evaluation for your property, would like to participate in some of the annual events, or want to volunteer your time to your lake community, please contact me. Funding from the state will take us through June 2010. Right now we are unsure what will happen beyond that point due to government budget instability and grant availability. Until then, though, the LLLPRD will continue working hard to reach out to everyone on the lake.

The Lower Long Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District acknowledges the loss of Jim Dahl, a Chippewa County appointed commissioner to the district from 2000-2008, who died of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's disease) on August 27, 2008.

Dahl was born on Dec. 13, 1924 in Bloomer, Wisc., and was wounded in 1945 when he landed on Iwo Jima with the third wave of Marines who fought to take the tiny island during WWII. When he returned home, he married Barbara "Betty" Hudek on September 13, 1947. Both were local to the area and knew the beauty of Lower Long Lake. Betty's stories of her father, Doc Hudek, patching up bootleggers on the lake during prohibition are the thing of legends.

Dahl's interests were in forestry, and he studied after the war in Montana to be a Western Forester, but circumstances returned him to Chippewa County where he worked instead in a lumberyard until he became a rural mail carrier and eventually the postmaster of New Auburn.



Dahl used his forestry knowledge and skills to further the cause of conservation in this area. He served 16 years on the Chippewa County Board's forestry committee and was the county's representative to the Trout Committee Conservation Congress for nearly 50 years.

Dahl promoted conservation and preservation and worked with the Duncan Creek Citizens Advisory Committee to clean up their creek as tirelessly as he worked with Excel Energy to stop the annual drawdown of Lake Wissota that was so hard on the lake's ecology. He was a member of the New Auburn Fish and Game Club and the New Auburn American Legion Post #367. His family and friends knew they could find him outdoors at any time, and he was always ready with a story or sage advice.

The LLLPRD recognizes the importance of Dahl's affection for the lake and his instrumental role in developing a relationship between the district and Chippewa County. His support and guidance motivated the district to pursue multiple grants in conjunction with the county that continue to improve the quality of Lower Long Lake's protection and rehabilitation.

LLLPRD Annual Meeting Minutes [*abridged] July 26, 2008



Commissioners present: Harlyn Misfeldt, Diane Dahl, Chris Haller

Constituents present: 34 (plus 7 guests)

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Lenny Seyberth

Recording Secretary Appointed: Gail Misfeldt

Announcements: Diane Dahl posthumously thanked Jim Dahl for his service to the LLLPRD Board as a representative of the Chippewa County Board.

Hawk Metal Wetlands: Sanja Swann displayed Kyle Tostenon's aerial photo of Lower Long Lake that will be raffled to raise money for the wetlands at Larabee Lodge on Aug. 30. Carol Webster had tickets and donation forms.

Sign-In Sheet Circulated: Included a request for email addresses to be used for:

- **Sending reminders such as annual meeting notices.
- **Sharing communications such as the Coffee on the Dock (COD) Schedule or Boat Found in Chippewa Bay.
- **Distributing the Newsletter electronically if specifically requested to cut LLLPRD costs.

At any time property owners can add, change or remove their email addresses by notifying the Webmaster directly.

Minutes: July 2007 annual meeting minutes approved as published in the LLLPRD newsletter.

Audit Report: Carol Webster reported she had audited the Treasurer's records and found everything in order.

Treasurer's Report: Harlyn explained three budgets and gave a final accounting of the Lower Long Lake Shoreland Runoff and Restoration Pilot Project that was audited by the WI Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the second phase that will also be audited by the DNR.

Committee, Grant and Individual Reports:

Chairperson report: Harlyn issued a sincere Thank You to everyone doing something to help Lower Long Lake.

Fish and Water Quality Committee: Chairperson, Lou Frase, introduced Jeff Wood, Representative in the Wisconsin Assembly and presented a report (available on the website) about the lake's status and discussed efforts to monitor water quality and aquatic invasive species including crayfish, and restore shoreland. The state of the lake is good. Jeff Wood briefly reviewed the bill he co-sponsored to ban phosphorus in lawn fertilizers. The bill has not yet passed. Joe Kurz, DNR Fish Biologist in Eau Claire and Chippewa Counties gave a detailed report (available at lllprd.org) on the **Long Lake Fishery 1995-2008**. He announced his

upcoming retirement and expects continued support from Buzz Sorge, DNR Lake Manager and the Chippewa County Land Conservation staff. Smallmouth slot sizes were discussed.

Publicity Committee: Gail Misfeldt read Lesley Sauls' report. Sara Baer and Sanja Swann are greeting new lake property owners: 20 in the last two years. Harlyn openly appreciated the newsletter effort toward timely notification at least possible expense.

Foundation Report: Denny Zacho indicated no new land had been acquired by the Foundation this year. Wayne Sauls was appointed for a third and final term as LLLPRD Foundation director. \$3000.00 was discussed to be used toward the purchase of Hawk Metals Wetlands if necessary.

Lake Fair & WI Lakes Conference: Pat Andress reported on the Lake Fair held in June at Lake Wissota for lake property owners and lake users in the 5 county area. Pat had a display of photos taken by a professional photographer who volunteered to record the many activities including kayak demonstrations, boaters safety programs, loon education and Clean Boats Clean Waters presentations. Pat also reviewed success stories of the Lower Long Lake District's working with youth over the years including Bloomer High School students, Camp Manitou water quality monitoring, and the two students who each donated 30 hours monitoring the boat landing in 2007 for their UW-Eau Claire Service Learning project. These cooperative efforts were highlighted during a workshop Pat participated in at the 2008 Wisconsin Lakes Conference, sponsored by the DNR, UW-Extension and WAL.

Lower Long Lake Shoreland Runoff and Restoration Pilot Project- Phase I-2007 for \$10,000.00 (Also Known As Grant 1): Amanda Kostner, Consultant, shared results from this project that was completed Dec. 30, 2007.

Lower Long Lake Shoreland Runoff and Restoration Pilot Project- Phase II-2008 for \$10,000.00 (aka Grant 2): Amanda addressed key elements of this Wisconsin Lake Planning grant currently underway including shoreland buffers and rain garden installations, workshop opportunities and shoreland incentive programs.

(Continued on next page)

Lower Long Lake Shoreland Restoration and Runoff Protection Project 2008-2010

\$100,000.00 (aka Grant 3): Looking to the future, the District had just received this Lake Management grant. This grant will provide funding to: provide technical support to property owners; conduct an additional 10 new site evaluations and plans each year; promote shoreland incentive programs including cost-sharing options, annual rain barrel programs and native plant orders. The funding source for these grants is the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Amanda's complete report is available at lllprd.org.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Control: Jan Frase provided information regarding aquatic invasive species that have been identified in area lakes, the programs and funds available to monitor and educate lake users about AIS, and the latest LLLPRD efforts to protect the lake from AIS. She asked for volunteers that will be trained and subsequently monitor a section of the lake monthly May – August. Members of this team will learn what's growing in the lake and then look for changes in vegetation that indicate the presence of AIS as soon as possible. Buzz Sorge (DNR) and Sara Braun (Beaver Creek Citizen Science Center) are submitting a CBCW (Clean Boats Clean Waters) grant on August 1, 2008. LLLPRD will be a part of this grant which will hire four interns to monitor boat launches in a regional area beginning in the summer of 2009.

Grant and Budget Business:

Proposed Authorization to Borrow: Motion passed to authorize the LLLPRD Board to borrow money only up to the amount that is expected to be reimbursed through an approved grant from the DNR.

Review and Approval of Proposed Budget: The (on file) "Proposed 2009 Budget" with 2 options as published in the newsletter and in the distributed handout for this

meeting, was introduced. Option 1 was passed after discussion regarding an offer of a \$35,000 loan from Denny Zacho at 4% if necessary.

Election of a Commissioner: Harlyn Misfeldt was elected to the position of commissioner for a three-year term.

Old Business:

LLLPRD Management Plan: This plan was made available to individuals attending the meeting and is available electronically on the website: www.lllprd.org. The plan guides the work of the Board and is reviewed annually to assure relevancy.

New Business:

*Dan Masterpole, Chippewa County Land Conservation Agent shared some observations with the district property owners. He congratulated the Lower Long Lake District for its excellent stewardship and management.

*Ralph and Carol Deluga, Island Chain Lake Association and Don Dukerchein, Chippewa Valley Outdoor Resource Alliance, Inc (CVORA) explained the effort to preserve the Hawk Metal Wetlands.

*Chris Haller indicated that he was looking for volunteers to help build fish cribs this winter. He will obtain the necessary permits and was hopeful that this activity could continue annually.

*The success of the Coffee on the Dock was discussed and signs made by Jay Bearson were on display.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: Last Saturday of July 2009

Submitted by: Gail Misfeldt, recording secretary

**These minutes have been abridged for space. The full text is available by contacting Gail Misfeldt or any board member.*

LLLPRD Committee Chairs



LLLPRD Commissioners

Harlyn Misfeldt, Chair	715-235-3758
Diane Dahl, Vice-Chair	651-436-3105
Tom Webster, Secretary	715-967-2392
Pat Andress	715-967-2518/715-723-9157
Chris Haller	715-967-2393

Lower Long Lake Foundation

Wayne Sauls	715-833-9983
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Publicity

Lesley Sauls	715-833-9983
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Webmaster

John Kinyon	www.lllprd.org
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Coffee On The Dock

Sara Baer	715-559-3151
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Sanja Swann	715-225-7897/715-967-2177
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Fish and Water Quality

Lou Frase	715-967-2339
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LLLPRD Lake News



Postage Here

LLLPRD
3509 Cummings Ave.
Eau Claire, WI 54701

Have A
Fun Winter!
From the
LLLPRD



720 Wetland Acres Preserved

Pamela Powers — MENOMONIE, Jan 11, 2009 (From the Eau Claire Leader-Telegram)

West Wisconsin Land Trust on Friday bought 720 acres known as the Cedar Creek Wetlands, preserving it for future generations.

The wetlands, also known as Hawk Metals, are in the Chippewa Moraine Lakes Conservation Opportunity Area, designated by the Department of Natural Resources.

The wetlands are east of New Auburn between Chain Lake and Long Lake.

"It is the filtering mechanism for Long Lake and Chain Lake," said Rick Gauger, West Wisconsin Land Trust executive director. "It is what helps keep Long Lake clean. It is almost two miles long between the two lakes."

The land trust purchased the land for \$280,000 with the help of a number of partners over five years.

Chippewa County supplemented the project with a \$50,000 grant from the Chippewa County Stewardship Fund. Another partner, Chippewa Valley Outdoor Resource Alliance, raised \$30,000 for it.

"We are very glad to see this wetland now preserved for public use," Don Dukerschein, president of CVORA, said in a statement. "A special thanks goes out to the Island Chain Lake, Round Lake and Lower Long Lake Associations for their help and fundraising efforts. This was a real community effort."

Other partners included the DNR and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who awarded grants from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program and the North American Wetland Conservation Act Program of nearly \$150,000.

Ducks Unlimited also awarded a grant of \$10,000 to the project.

Cedar Creek Wetlands provided a hunting area for raptors, including owls and red-tailed hawks.

Frogs and fish use it as habitat and fish use it as a spawning area from both Long Lake and Chain Lake.

The property is open to the public for hunting, fishing, trapping, hiking and skiing. An existing snowmobile trail crosses the property when conditions are suitable.