

The Chatty Loon

Upper South Long Lake Improvement Assn. Newsletter
P.O. Box 201, Brainerd, MN 56401

April, 2015
Edited by Dan Martonik



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President's Message



Greetings to the Upper South Long Lake community! What a strange winter, very cold and not as much snow as we normally get. Once again, we enter 2015 with an engaged community and a rich history of lake stewardship. We also enter the year continuing our focus on

preventing Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). The good news is that we are seeing increased focus and funding at the state and county level and we are continuing to expand our partnership with other lakes in our watershed. Please encourage your state representatives to continue funding AIS.

The USLLIA BOD continues to partner closely with the USLL LID BOD in planning and funding lake improvement activities.

Focus areas for 2015 include:

- Continuation of the Lake Inspection Program in partnership with Crow Wing County and the DNR. The state and county money will fund a significant number of inspection hours and we will continue our volunteer inspection program to provide broader coverage. **We need more volunteers for these inspections, so contact Randy Peterson or Terry Lahti if you are interested.**

- Curly Leaf Pondweed treatment
- Continue water testing of inlets
- Ongoing water quality testing
- Ongoing educational programs
- Social activities

New programs in 2015 include:

- Increased AIS signage (in partnership with the lower lake).
- Zebra Mussel testing
- Eurasian Mil Foil testing
- Watershed partnerships

continued ↴

We will be sharing the detailed 2015 plan at the **Annual Spring Meeting at the Green Lantern - 10AM, Saturday, May 23.**

Remember to check out our Website which is updated quarterly. We would love to have more pictures and family stories posted on the site. usllia.org

We are always looking for volunteers to serve on our boards and committees, so please consider volunteering your talents and energy. Thanks for your ongoing lake stewardship and support.

Ron Trosvig, BOD President

Water Report - 2014 Summary



1. We continued testing water samples with RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc.
2. Final Secchi readings for 2014:
May 7.0' August 7.0'
June 8.0' Sept 5.0'
July 7.0'

3. Previous results can be viewed in detail by going on line to www.rmbel.info.

4. We contracted with Professional Lake Management, Inc. (PLM) to treat curly leaf pondweed. They treat with Aquathol K, and depending on the size and location of the weed bed, the rate of application ranges from .5 to 1.5 ppm. This is within the guidelines as set forth by the DNR.

5. The acreage treated in 2014 was 32.95.
Respectfully submitted,

Daniel J. Martonik, Committee Chair

Association Board of Directors

Ron Trosvig, President
Dan Martonik, VP
Don Crust, Treasurer
Mike Simons, Secretary
Terry Lahti, Past Pres.
Jeff Gans

Chuck Yancey
Gerald Spande
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From the LID President



This year, 2015, will be our 5th year of existence, at which time we will be required to re-apply to Crow Wing County to extend our existence for another 5 years. It will also be our opportunity to re-evaluate our current goals and financial position, and make any adjustments necessary to continue our resource for the benefit of Upper South Long Lake.

The current LID board consists of the following individuals that donate their time and energy to ensure our lake is as healthy as can be:

Bruce Dybvig, President
Mary Reetz, Vice President
Mike Simons, Secretary
Gary Hopping, Treasurer
Chris Psotka
Ruth Naber

Goals and objectives for the LID continue to be:

- > Funding for treatment of invasives
- > Educating membership on issues to keep Upper South Long Lake healthy, beautiful, and an amazing ongoing resource for our use today as well as the future
- > Monitor the lake via water testing
- > Work closely with the DNR, USLLIA, and other organizations that monitor and work for a clean watershed
- > Share in the funding for inspections at our boat landing.

Our 2015 annual meeting will take place at the Green Lantern on July 18th, 10am.

Each year, we have to nominate and/or re-elect board members at our annual meeting. Up for re-election are Gary Hopping, Chris Psotka and Bruce Dybvig. Gary and Chris have indicated their willingness to continue as board members. However, Bruce has declined to continue his longstanding board membership which leaves us one member short of the required six. **We will need at least one and hopefully more individuals to step forward and become a board member to keep the LID operating in a professional manner.**

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Please consider becoming a LID board member. We need more people to raise their hand, step forward and get involved with taking responsibility for preserving the beauty of the lake.

After all...IT'S ALL ABOUT THE LAKE!

If you want to be nominated or know of someone who would like to be nominated for the LID board, please either contact a board member or email the association at: USLLIA1@gmail.com, and let them know of your intentions.

In closing, we appreciate our partnership with USLLIA, and will continue to work closely together as we move forward in our respective resources for the lake.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Dybvig, LID President

A little Lake History

Some of you around the lake may still have a copy of "The History of Upper South Long Lake" written by Birney C. Wilkins in 1984. For those of you who have not seen or read it, here are some interesting highlights taken from that book.

- > Soil borings in the areas around the Nokay Sippi basin, show the presence of pine, spruce and oak pollen. This pollen was carbon dated and shows it was produced 10 to 20 thousand years ago.
- > The original name of our lake was Lake Willipi.
- > The earliest people to inhabit this area were the Mound Building (Laurel Culture) Indians, who were generally thought of being farther to the north.
- > The next were the Mississippi Culture. Very little is known or written about these people. They were followed by the Blackduck Indians.
- > The Indians we know today and in recent history are the Ojibway (commonly called the Chippewa).
- > Our Lake Association was established on October 1st, 1965.

The book is full of colorful stories of what life was like around the lake at the turn of the 20th century. If you can find a copy, take time to read it over.

Dan Mastonik, as suggested by *Gary Hopping*

Get Real Chatty

If you want to get real chatty with your Upper South Long Lake neighbors, join our new social network called NEXTDOOR. It's free. It's fun. It's useful. It's safe. Over 25 of Upper South Long Lake neighbors are already using it. Some other lake associations have over 100 participants.

Join it and you can buy and sell stuff or give stuff away. Lose your dog; just pass the word. Send news and exchange info. Get help. Announce events. Post a message. Recommend something. Give crime alerts. Get lake info as it happens.

Only our own lake members can join though. (We're a little snooty and exclusive you know). Join how? Call Don at 218-831-6637 or email to don.e.crust@gmail.com. Join and get chatty with your neighbors.

Don Crust

Membership Committee



SIGN UP

GET ONE - BE ONE

SEND \$25 TODAY

2015 MEMBERSHIP



Paradise Shores Resort/Char's Bar
10067 Leisure Lane
Brainerd, MN 56401
218 764-2328

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP



The association had an awesome 165 dues-paying members last year. That's a record! Please renew this year – and check to make sure your lake neighbors are on the membership list too.

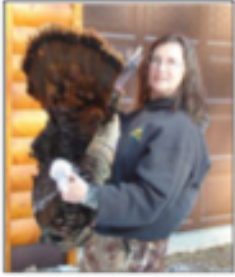
You'll get a couple of fancy "2015" stickers for your new sign to prove your dues are paid. Just mail your \$25 check in the envelope enclosed with this newsletter or mail to USLLIA PO Box 201, Brainerd, MN 56401.

Being a member has so many benefits. Your Board is functioning in high gear. Find out about all the action with State, County, Township, LID and the association all working together to conserve and protect our lake. Your annual dues are the origin and source of everything. So it's important that you participate by joining every year. Please renew now,

Don Crust, Committee Chair

Aquatic Invaders Summit

By Ruth Naber



In January I represented Upper South Long Lake at the two day Aquatic Invaders Summit held in St. Cloud, MN. This event brought together local and national leaders to provide the latest science, research and goals in AIS prevention and control. There

were nearly 400 participants from a wide range of interested entities such as county commissioners, University of Minnesota research lab personnel, lake associations, county watershed managers, marina owners, water resource managers, DNR, law enforcement, etc.

Many of the speakers were from the western states where they have been dealing with ANS (aquatic nuisance species) for many years. A coalition of 19 western states called the Western Regional Panel developed an extensive document and plan in 2010 to address ANS. Minnesota is not one of those states, but we do have about 70% of those same provisions already in place to protect our waters. Many western states have mandatory boat inspections and/or decontamination. In some states, boats are even quarantined when in violation. Some states have sticker requirements similar to the boat trailer ones currently being considered in MN. Funds from those stickers are used in the fight of AIS. I pulled an appendix from that document that I will post on the LID link at www.usllia.org which shows a summary chart of each of those states' efforts to combat zebra mussels and other ANS.

Up until now, in Minnesota, education seems to be the top priority. Inspectors at the accesses make every effort to educate boaters on the current laws such as removing drain plugs and not leaving a lake with aquatic vegetation on ones' boat trailer. Many at the summit felt that it is time for Minnesota to get more serious about enforcement.

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Inspectors at the accesses turn data over to the DNR enforcement division that includes boat owner/license number etc., but they do not have the man-power to process all the violations. They only deal with the worst cases. Efforts need to be made to get the legislature to designate more funds to either DNR or counties to be used specifically for water patrols etc.

Some of the summit speakers addressed the economic impact. Ecological impact of invasive species drives the economic impact. For example, impaired waters causing a decrease in fishing or other recreation will ultimately affect the number of tourists spending money in the area. We, in Crow Wing County, would certainly feel the pain. While any new regulations cause pain and inconvenience, we need to ask ourselves "How much do we value our lakes?" What are we willing to do or sacrifice in order to protect our waters?

It is also important to realize that any plans will require not only money and time, but that mistakes will be made. The more input we can get from various stakeholders, the better. This summit gathered information to aide in forming a Local AIS Framework document which will help Crow Wing County decide how to apply their resources to protect our lakes from invading species.

Submitted by *Ruth Naber*, LID Board Member

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