

CLARK LAKE ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION WINTER/SPRING, 2008

We're in the midst of a "classic" winter, with plenty of snow and cold for all. Ice-fishing, snowmobiling, cross county skiing and snow shoeing are just several winter sports in full swing as I write this annual letter. But, Good News, spring is just around the corner. We have much to report, so here we go.

CLARK LAKE WATERSHED STUDY:

In previous Annual Letters, at several special informational meetings held in May/June, 2007, and at the last three annual meetings, I've described the goals and objectives of our Lost Lake-Logan Creek-Clark Lake watershed study which started in 2005 and concluded in May, 2007. The study was performed by UW-Stevens Point (UWSP) with their scientific findings (copies of the final reports of the research performed are available on our website (<http://www.clarklakewi.com>)) adopted by a Watershed Planning Committee into a Watershed Management Plan (Plan) with one of the key goals **designed to maintain or improve Logan Creek and Clark Lake water quality**. The Planning Committee was made up of seven CLAA members, two residents from Lost Lake and other interested stakeholders. The study was an outcome from the 2002 survey of CLAA members, in which you overwhelmingly directed the Board to pursue actions to maintain or improve water quality.

Your CLAA Board of Directors approved the Plan in 2007 and recommended the following nine recommendations be ratified by the CLAA membership at the 2007 Annual meeting. These actions were approved by the CLAA by the vote shown:

- #1:** Designate north end of Clark Lake, Logan Creek and other areas identified by UWSP within Clark and Lost Lakes as "critical habitat" or "sensitive areas". VOTE: 41 YES, 2 NO.
- #2:** Designate north end of Clark Lake and Logan Creek as "no-motor" by requesting creation of ordinance by Town of Jacksonport. VOTE: 38 YES, 5 NO.
- #3:** Designate shallow areas (less than 4 feet) in the north end of east bay as "slow no wake" by requesting creation of ordinance by Town of Jacksonport. VOTE: 41 YES, 2 NO.
- #4:** Designate shallow areas (less than 4 feet) along state park shoreline as "slow-no-wake" by requesting ordinance by Town of Sevastopol. VOTE: 40 YES, 3 NO.
- #5:** Consider protection measures for remaining S2 and S3 sensitive areas. VOTE 36 YES, 5 NO.
- #6:** Place buoys to identify the north end of Clark Lake as "no-motor" sensitive area. VOTE: 38 YES, 3 NO.
- #7:** Mark north end of east bay, and S5 (along State Park) as sensitive areas and "no-wake" in 4 ft or less of water. VOTE: 39 YES, 2 NO.
- #8:** Promote voluntary inspection of septic systems around lake area. VOTE: 39 YES, 2 NO.

#9: Request reprioritization of septic system survey in Clark Lake area by Door County Sanitarian. VOTE: 36 YES, 5 NO.

To date, progress towards implementing these actions is as follows:

#1: Clark Lake, Logan Creek and Lost Lake were surveyed by UWSP in 2006 for areas that contain Critical Habitat. Areas considered critical habitat are important for wildlife, plants and are areas that fish use for spawning and foraging. The areas add to the aesthetic beauty and increase the water quality of the lakes and creek. The survey identified sites which have recently been designated as critical habitat by the Department of Natural Resources. The locations of these areas are shown in the accompanying map and a more detailed description of critical habitats and how you can safeguard them is found in the accompanying hand out. Landowners with critical habitat designations along their shores have received a letter from the DNR which describes these areas in more detail.

#2, #5 & #6: Under Consideration – actions potentially later in 2008.

#3, #4 & #7: Ordinances for slow-no-wake operation in areas identified on enclosed map were approved by both townships. Received permit from DNR for placement of buoys, and on March 15 installed anchors for buoys. Informational signs showing slow-no-wake areas will be developed and installed in April/May.

#8: We will be requesting information from Door County Sanitarian on how CLAA members can request voluntary septic system inspection.

#9: A letter was sent to DC Sanitarian requesting consideration of accelerated septic system inspection. No response to date.

In addition to these actions, the CLAA board also approved the following recommendations from the Plan.

- Provide information to CLAA members, watershed residents and lake visitors on actions which can be taken to improve Clark Lake water quality, upgrade informational signs at boat ramps and beach, implement a Clean Boat/Clean Water program to prevent further introduction of aquatic invasive species, and re-survey CLAA members on topics of interest.
- Develop protection plans for important areas to water quality around Clark and Lost Lakes and Logan Creek, and take an active role in monitoring development in the watershed.

I understand that false rumors regarding the Plan and the intent of the Watershed Planning Committee in creating the Plan have been circulated around the lake and in the community. In an effort to ensure accurate information, please direct questions you may have on the Plan or on the process of creating the Plan to me or one of your elected directors. Thank You.

2008 MEETINGS & EVENTS:

Directors will meet at the Jacksonport Town Hall on May 10, June 7, July 12 (if needed), August 16, and September 16 to conduct lake business. Meetings start promptly at 9AM, and are open to all members. Our **Annual Meeting** is scheduled for **July 5 at 9AM** at the Jacksonport Town Hall, with a Directors' meeting immediately following. Agenda items for the Annual Meeting include discussion of the watershed management plan, voting on several management initiatives by the general membership, election of several lake directors and much more – please join us. This will be another opportunity to vote on watershed management actions. The **picnic** will be on **July 26 at the Jacksonport Lakeside Park**, with fun starting at 11AM, and food served at Noon. More details to follow. The annual golf outing is scheduled for August 31, with the fall dinner scheduled for September 13.

Please join us at as many events as you can.

ANNUAL DUES & UPDATES:

If you're not already a dues-paying member, dues are still an affordable \$15 per family. Payment of dues allows membership in the Association, with attendant benefits, including free lake directory, free attendance at picnic and full voting rights (1 vote per home/cottage). Please take this opportunity to join the Association by forwarding your dues to:

Lawrie Kull, 5296 West Shore Drive, Sturgeon Bay, WI. 54235 .

Please forward any changes in ownership, address, phone and e-mail address (optional) directly to Lawrie. We will update our website with this information, and will be publishing an updated directory next year.

WEBSITE:

Please use our website (<http://www.clarklakewi.com>) to keep updated on lake news, as important information is posted on the site. Please forward any updates to the website to Lainie Kuftrin at lkuftrin@gmail.com. Lainie will be distributing this Annual Letter and other key correspondence from CLAA to those folks who have provided their e-mail address. Please keep Lainie updated as you change your e-mail address. Thanks.

INVASIVE SPECIES:

We know that Zebra mussels are in Clark Lake. We now also have an aggressive water plant (phragmites) rapidly expanding its range along the far northeast side of the lake. Left unchecked, this “weed” will overtake our bulrushes, and will spread along the shoreline, growing to heights of 5-7 feet. To help us prevent the introduction of other, potentially even more dangerous aquatic invasives, please help us establish a Clean Boat/Clean Water program for Clark Lake. If you can donate your time by watching our west shore boat ramp, please contact Lawrie Kull. Or, in the alternative, help us hire local high school students to watch the boat ramp by **making a tax deductible donation** to the Association. We'll give you an update on our Clean Boat/Clean Water program later in spring. Please consider helping the lake in either, or both ways.

SWIM BEACH TESTING:

2007 marked the fifth consecutive year that water samples were collected weekly during summer at our Clark Lake public beach for e.coli bacterial analysis. All samples were below the level for concern, and were well below the beach closure level.

LAKE HISTORY:

Please forward any pictures, stories and other historical memorabilia regarding early days on Clark Lake to Lainie lkufirin@gmail.com for possible posting on our website.

LOST AND NEW MEMBERS:

Lake members who left us this year are:

Deaths:

- Jim Brandt – 5576 Clark Lake Drive
- Evelyn Fosmark – 5507 Clark Lake Drive
- Walter Gerhard – 5587 Clark Lake Drive
- Jack Jackson – 5280 West Shore Drive

Please remember them in your thoughts.

Moved Away:

- Rosie and Joe Jasmer – 5565 Clark Lake Drive
- Mary-Alice Martines – 5564 Clark Lake Drive
- Marie, George Jr., & Judy Salaj – 5332 W. Shore Drive
- John & Cathy Severson – 5527 North Cave Point Drive

The building of new cottages and turn-over of old cottages to new owners continues at a fast pace – new lake land owners are:

- Bryan & Sally Brandt – 5332 W. Shore Drive
- John & Jill Czajkowski – 5527 North Cave Point Drive
- Erin Farrell, co-owner – 5568 Clark Lake Drive
- John Paul & Melody Reis – 5383 Erdmann Drive
- Stephen Spindler – 5259 South Lake Road
- Joe Otto & Rosemary Stuart – 5565 Clark Lake Drive.

Please join me in welcoming these new neighbors to the lake.

Please have a safe year while enjoying the beauty of Clark Lake and Door County.

Paul Schumacher

President, Clark Lake Advancement Association

5530 Butts Road, Sturgeon Bay, WI. 54235, or

1937 Riverview Trail, Fredonia, WI. 53021

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