



Letter from the President

Greetings Shore Owners,

I'm sure there were only a select few that came close to guessing the correct ice out date this year. Rita and I happened to be up the weekend that it went off. It couldn't go off fast enough. I will tell you it was a thing of beauty to finally see all blue rippling water. I felt bad for those of you that were itching to be out fishing on the opener that almost happened. It just makes us appreciate the beauty of spring and summer when they arrive.

A month or so ago I went to dinner with a friend that has a cabin in northern Minnesota. He shared in detail the effects of Zebra mussels on their lake, which was first spotted a few years ago. He showed me photos of his boat lift and dock sections totally encapsulating any of the framing, and how difficult it was to scrape off. He also said their lakeshore was not walkable without some type of water shoe, because of the sharpness of the mussels' shells. A history of so much fun in the water has ended for my friend's family and grandchildren. The reality of this is only a few lakes away from Stone Lake, as we all know from last year's report of Lake McKennie. I can't emphasize enough the importance of all shore owner's diligence in keeping invasive species out of our lake, a high priority. First, I would encourage you to do your utmost in keeping your boats clean, as well as insisting the same for any of your friends or relatives' boats. Secondly, be willing to take one or more shifts helping to monitor boats at the landing. And third, if you are unable to assist in monitoring, make an AIS contribution to SOSLA. We all share in the benefit of a clean lake, let also share in the preventative measures that ensure a clean lake.



Please be sure to approach me or any of the board members with questions, comments, or suggestions you may have. I'm sure I share the same desire as all of you: LET THE SUMMER BEGIN. I wish all of you a safe and enjoyable summer.

John Ryan - President SOSLA
(Shore Owners of Stone Lake Association)

SOSLA Upcoming 2018 Meetings, Events, and Important Dates!

- **June 16, 10:00 AM**
Membership Meeting at
Stone Lake Town Hall.
- **July 4, 3 PM**
Boat Parade
(Rain date July 5)
- **August 18, 10:00AM**
Membership Meeting at
Stone Lake Town Hall.
Annual Picnic and Golf
Outing to follow.

Stone Lake Chamber Events

- **Thursdays, 1-6 PM**
Farmer's Market.
- **2nd Monday of Month,
6:30-7:30 PM**
Stone Lake township
meeting at Town Hall.
- **July 12, 7-9:00 PM**
Speaker Tom Sybert
discusses the B52 plane
crash of 1966 at Stone
Lake Lions Hall.

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The Board would like to thank retiring member Karen Young for all her years of service and commitment to SOSLA.

What's New in Stone Lake

STONE LAKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Stone Lake Chamber is very active. They held a Business Expo on April 28 which was well attended. There are 48 members at this time. They have Business After 5 meetings, which meet in various businesses that belong to the Chamber. The Chamber sponsors the town garage sale on June 02.

The Stone Lake Hardware Store has reopened. It is a great looking store and has a lot of merchandise. The Last Frontier has been remodeled too. I haven't checked it out yet, but people who have say it really looks great. There is a new business in town, R K Repair and Service. Their ad says "no motor too big or too small", phone number 715-957-0068. Success to all businesses this year.

THE LAKES COMMUNITY CO-OP DBA STONE LAKE MARKET

A new name for a new beginning. On the Board is Hal Helwig, Sharon Paine, Carol McDonnell, Diane Sheppard, Cathy Sommer Holz, Susan Walker and Betty Hanson. Joanne Nitz is the Manager, if you need anything special just ask her. Mary Nilssen (from Pine Knoll) is advising in the selection of deli meats, cheeses and Amish butter. We have been very lucky to have a lot of volunteer help and support, for which we thank the community. The volunteers have been painting, cleaning, running errands, etc. Still more in the works.

If there are items you would like to see in the store, please let us know. We are looking for Wisconsin products. We do carry quite a few – they are mostly beer, cheese, sausage and brats!! A new website is in process and the Facebook site is being updated. New products and sale items will be posted there. Search for "stone lake market & coop". Like us! You can also find us on The Stone Lake Chamber of Commerce. The e-mail address is tlcoop08@yahoo.com Phone number 715-865-6989. Come in, check it out.

What's New in Stone Lake – continued

WETLAND PARK

There has been much activity at the Wetland Park this spring. Last fall's removal of all the dense buckthorn created lots of brush piles. Carol McDonnell asked the Stone Lake Fire Department if they would initiate a controlled burn in the park. They burned on May 2. That should help with all the little buckthorn trying to take root. Carol ordered trees from Sawyer and Washburn Counties and on May 5 and May 10, children and parents from the area planted about 100 trees and shrubs. It will be exciting to watch all of them grow. The children tagged the trees with their names and they will be checking on them often.

The Whistle Punk hosted a presentation about the wetlands and the role they play in keeping our lake clean. Tracy Hames, Executive Director of Wisconsin Wetlands Association and John Haack toured the Park with some of the committee. They refer to our park in their presentations around the state. Take a stroll through your park and check out the progress that is being made or check out the web site: <https://www.stonelakecommunitywetlandpark.com/>.

Betty Hanson

Slow-No-Wake 100 and 200 Foot Rules

Per Wisconsin State Statute 30.66(3), while operating a motorboat on any lake, Slow-No-Wake speed is required when within 100 feet of a raft, pier, buoyed restricted area and lake shore. While operating a Personal Watercraft, this distance increases to 200 feet. This is especially important during high water years.

2019 Calendar

A new problem with quality has become a recurring problem with the use of phones to take pictures. Most phones now reduce the quality of the photo for transmittal, resulting in a level of quality that is insufficient to enlarge to calendar size. We had to disqualify several photos last year simply due to quality of reproduction. Please download pictures taken with your phone to your computer and then transmit them by e-mail. Before transmittal, check their size to confirm a size of at least 500 KB. Many send pictures with quality ranging from 2 to 5 MB which makes the committee's work much easier.

Our goal continues to be broad representation of our members. Remember to have variety in your submittals. Photos should be taken in a landscape format (horizontal). Some great photos have been eliminated because the resizing of a portrait (vertical) photo to fit the calendar's landscape format lost the integrity of the original. Action photos are good, but we would like pictures with

people to be as generic or non-identifiable as possible.

Plan to submit your photos in digital format no later than 10 days before the August meeting. You can never submit too early and they don't all have to be submitted at once. Your pictures do not have to be taken in the previous year. They should, however, have been taken within a mile of the lake. They may be sent by e-mail to garyjohnerickson@aol.com or you may deliver a disc or flash drive to Gary at W550 Walter Road. Please limit the submittal to six photos per household. If needed, we will look at past submittals as well. The calendar committee uses the voting results as the primary selection tool, but final decisions are made on quality, variety and broad representation when possible. Thanks for your continued interest and great photos.



The Calendar Committee

**20th Annual Northwest Wisconsin Lakes Conference
Spooner High School
Friday, June 22 @ 9:00 AM - 3:45 PM**



This is an all-day event of lake science, policy, critters, and culture sponsored annually by northwest Wisconsin lake associations including both Wisconsin Lakes and Washburn County Lakes & Rivers. Registration begins at 8:00 with continental breakfast and exhibits. The Conference begins at 9:00. This year's keynote address will be *Gordon MacQuarrie and Aldo Leopold: Partners in Conservation*, by Keith Crowley. Mr. Crowley is an outdoor photographer and journalist. The keynote will be followed by breakout sessions. Lunch is provided. Registration is \$45 and the deadline is June 16, 2018. View the agenda and register at <https://www.stcroixriverassociation.org/events/>.

Cathie Erickson

Spring 2018 Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Update

We are happy to report that 2017 AIS landing monitor at the Stone Lake boat landing was successful, we would like to thank Mike for his many hours at the boat landing, he was a great book keeper and compiled accurate records throughout the summer conducting many AIS inspections while building public knowledge and protecting Stone Lake. In 2017 alone, 293 boats were inspected reaching out to over 650 individual boaters during those exchanges. Of the boats contacted, 67 had been in other waters less than 5 days prior to contact with Stone Lake, reminding us the potential threat exists of spreading aquatic invaders to Stone Lake from nearby waterbodies.

Moving forward to 2018, we are pleased to announce that over the winter were acquired an AIS monitoring and education grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources which will allow us to employ a paid monitor on weekends. Wilbur Larsen has been hired to conduct landing monitoring for the summer of 2018. As always, we need a strong volunteer presence to meet our 25% match grant obligations and support our paid landing monitoring. The AIS monitoring and education program has served Stone Lake and SOSLA members well over the

years, playing a role in keeping our pristine lake free of Aquatic Invasive Species. More and more lakes in our immediate area are becoming infested with AIS in recent years and we have to remain vigilant as ever to ensure Stone Lake is not next. If you have never had a chance to volunteer, it is a great way to invest in the wellbeing of our lake and feeling sense of involvement in the community. If you have volunteered in the past we appreciate your time and hope you consider volunteering again this summer. If you are unable to donate time to our volunteer efforts, consider a monetary contribution that will count towards of 25% grant match as well. You should have received an email with more information about volunteering and a signup schedule for 2018. We have also included a simple volunteer calendar with your newsletter for reference (calendar on next page). As soon as you have a date in mind, please contact me via email or phone then I will update the calendar as we move along. As always, don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments on aquatic invasive species related topics.



Jordan Donatell - AIS Coordinator



Waterskiing hours are 10 am to 7 pm.



Stone Lake Landing Monitoring Volunteer Sign Up 2018							
Dates		AM (9am-1pm)	PM (1pm-5pm)	Dates		AM (9am-1pm)	PM (1pm-5pm)
Saturday	5/26/2018			Saturday	7/14/2018		
Sunday	5/27/2018			Sunday	7/15/2018		
Monday	5/28/2018			Saturday	7/21/2018		
Saturday	6/2/2018			Sunday	7/22/2018		
Sunday	6/3/2018			Saturday	7/28/2018		
Saturday	6/9/2018			Sunday	7/29/2018		
Sunday	6/10/2018			Saturday	8/4/2018		
Saturday	6/16/2018			Sunday	8/5/2018		
Sunday	6/17/2018			Saturday	8/11/2018		
Saturday	6/23/2018			Sunday	8/12/2018		
Sunday	6/24/2018			Saturday	8/18/2018		
Saturday	6/30/2018			Sunday	8/19/2018		
Sunday	7/1/2018			Saturday	8/25/2018		
Monday	7/4/2018			Sunday	8/26/2018		
Saturday	7/7/2018			Saturday	9/1/2018		
Sunday	7/8/2018			Sunday	9/2/2018		
				Monday	9/3/2018	Jordan Donatell	

SOSLA			
2017 FINANCIAL REPORT			
01/01/2017 Checking account balance			1,057.27
01/01/2017 Savings account balance			<u>6,892.51</u>
01/01/2017 Cash Balance			7,949.78
2017 INCOME			
Membership dues		1,440.00	
Calendar contributions		893.00	
AIS contributions		792.00	
Donations		140.00	
Interest		13.80	
Total Income			3,278.80
2017 EXPENDITURES			
Calendar printing/ mailing		1,384.94	
Dues		368.50	
Meetings/picnic		50.26	
Newsletters publication/ mailing		417.82	
Postage		9.00	
Post office box		52.00	
Supplies		22.95	
Total Expenditures			<u>2,305.47</u>
2017 increase in cash			<u>973.33</u>
12/31/2017 Cash Balance			<u>8,923.11</u>
12/31/2017 Checking account balance			2,016.80
12/31/2017 Savings account balance			6,906.31
			<u>8,923.11</u>
Unspent AIS funds included in the above balance			4,780.13



The Town of Stone Lake, Washburn County, will hold the annual Spring Clean Up day on Saturday, June 9th, 2018 at the Stone Lake Garbage & Recycling Facility located at N5960 Walter Road, from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. For information on what will be accepted, please contact Gary Walter at 715-699-4702.

No brush or wood debris will be accepted.



Zebra Mussel Update – Watercraft Decontamination

Last year’s monitoring showed that Big McKenzie Lake, which straddles the border between Washburn and Burnett Counties, had a population of approximately 20 zebra mussels per square foot. Two adults were verified in downstream Middle McKenzie Lake.

Fortunately, no zebra mussels were found in any northwest Wisconsin lake outside of the McKenzie watershed.

While Stone Lake probably does not have a suitable chemistry for zebra mussels, it is still important for us to pay attention to measures taken to prevent their spread. These same steps will help us keep other nasty invaders out of our lake. And, if you take your boat to other lakes, please make sure that you are not spreading invasive species.

Increased watercraft decontamination will be a key component in this year’s battle to stop further spread of zebra mussels in our area. Over the winter, Washburn and Burnett Counties passed matching decontamination amendments to their existing AIS ordinances. County law now requires that **“If a decontamination station is available for use at a public or private access, the boater shall decontaminate per posted directions using the station provided.”** A decontamination station is defined as “a device provided at a public or private lake access to remove all potential invasive species. The station

may consist of high temperature water (140 degrees or more) applied with a pressure washer by trained personnel, a recommended chemical solution applied with a low-pressure sprayer, or other techniques or devices

County staff and area lake associations are working hard to make decontamination equipment available at more landings. Last fall, a high pressure hot water decontamination unit was purchased by Burnett County, McKenzie Lakes Association, Washburn County Lakes & Rivers Association (WCLRA) and Burnett County Lakes & Rivers Association (BCLRA). This decontamination unit will be used mainly in the McKenzie Lakes area by trained operators.

Last summer, lake associations in the vicinity of Big McKenzie developed self-service decontamination stations for their landings utilizing a very mild bleach solution. Each station has an instructional sign, garden sprayers with the bleach solution and other tools for cleaning watercraft. Burnett and Washburn County Staff, WCLRA and BCLRA have launched a joint project to help other lake associations in the two counties purchase signs and set up similar stations.

Updates will be posted throughout the summer and fall at wclra.org.

Cathie Erickson



McKenzie Decon Station



Shore Owners of Stone Lake Association
P.O. Box 102, Stone Lake, WI 54876

SHOREOWNERS OF STONE LAKE ASSOCIATION (SOSLA)

