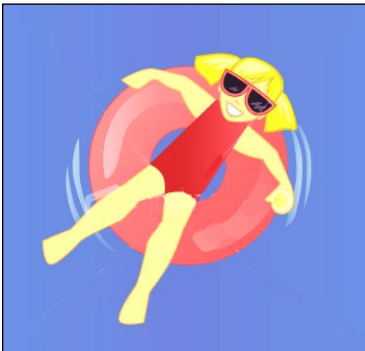


Pequaywan Lakes Association News

Spring 2009

Let the summer season begin!



After a long and tough winter, we are looking forward to long (and warm) summer days at the lake. We all love our two Pequaywan lakes but we can't take them for granted. Good stewardship of the land and water will ensure that we can enjoy them for years to come.

As part of incorporating last summer, the Lake Association put a special emphasis on "good lake management." To fulfill this objective, a committee was formed to develop programs that promote water quality, conduct testing of the water in both lakes, and share information on shoreline regulations, protection, erosion prevention, and zoning issues.

Another important committee is the one on Environmental Protection, which will cover everything from invasive species, pest management and mining in the area. With Zebra Mussels, Emerald Ash Borer, Spotted Knapweed and Gypsy Moths, there are plenty of threats we need to be aware of and address. *You can read more about the Association committees on Page 3.*

On the back page of this newsletter is a form you can use to send your (only) \$10 in dues to the treasurer or you can pay at an Association meeting. Note that you have to be current in dues to be able to vote at Association meetings. Being an Association member has benefits. It's a good way to meet your neighbors and get access to such benefits as Trash Day and the Summer Picnic, as well as the Association informational programs and communications. *The Association plays an important role in keeping this a great area and you can support those efforts by becoming a member.*

New Association officers

At the annual meeting in August, the following officers were elected:
Phyllis Mead, President
Dick Arndt, 1st Vice President, and Judy Strom, 2nd Vice President
Jim Guldseth, Treasurer, and Lorene Sorlien, Secretary
Mark Merrill, Director at Large, Little Lake
Jan Kolehmainen, Director at Large, Big Lake

Calendar of Events

Lake Association: Meetings start at 10 am at the Fire Hall on #44.

May 2 General information, committee reports, planning of summer activities

June 6 David Benson, naturalist and writer in Duluth, who has written *Owls of the North: An Amateur's Handbook*

July 11 Dan Dexter, Big Lake resident and retired DNR employee, on fishing on the two lakes and the possibility of stocking Tiger Muskies

Aug. 8 Annual Meeting. Dr. Joel Bamford, Duluth dermatologist, on skin care and problem prevention

Sept. 5 Program to be announced

Association committees will also present information throughout the summer. Visit the Association's website at www.pequaywanlakes.com for updates.

Road Clean Up: May 11. Meet at the Fire Hall at 9 am for coffee and rolls, followed by the clean up.

Yard Waste Day: May 30, 10 am - 1 pm, at the gravel pit near the south end of the Big Lake. No branches larger than 8 inches in diameter.

Fire Department Pancake Breakfast: Sunday, July 5, 8 am to noon. Fire Hall

Area News and Events



Volunteer Fire Department

Greetings from all of us at Pequaywan Lake Volunteer Fire Department! 2008 was a good year for our department. We had 16 total calls — 12 medical and four fire-related.

As always, we appreciate everyone's care when burning. Please be sure to burn only brush and organic material when you are issued a permit. We have had some complaints of garbage and non-authorized material being burned. This requires us to respond, along with law enforcement and DNR personnel, and is not the mission of our department.

We have added four new members to our staff: Dale Brooks, April Smitke, Laura Ackman and Rick Fry. They have all recently completed their training and we are thankful for their commitment. We look forward to working with them into the future.

Also, Jack Rinne was voted into the position of Assistant Chief at our January meeting replacing Ron Lathrop who will stay on the department as a regular member/fire fighter. Ron Sluka has officially retired from the department after 26+ years of loyal service. He will be truly missed. There was so much he did for the department that we took for granted. He has offered to help out whenever he can. Thanks for your dedicated service, Ron!

Our pancake breakfast is set for Sunday, July 5, from 8:00-12:00. Thanks again for your support!

John Lucia, Fire Chief

Recycling

North Star Recycling Center is open Saturdays, 9 a.m. to noon, accepting cans, glass, plastic, paper, cereal boxes, and cardboard.

Also, Paul Johnson takes additional recyclables to benefit other local causes including: printer cartridges, cell phones, Box Tops for Education, Campbell's Soup labels, Kemps milk bottle tops, and pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. County Road 44, next to the North Star Fire Hall.

Valley Homemakers

The annual first gathering of **Valley Homemakers** will be for the cleaning of Lakeside Chapel Thursday, May 21, at 6 p.m., in anticipation of services beginning Sunday, May 24. After the cleaning, the group will enjoy a supper together at the Pequaywan Inn. Regular meetings will be held the 4th Thursday of the month through the summer and into the fall.

Pequaywan Township

Congratulations to Mark Freeman who was re-elected to a three-year term as township supervisor and to Keith Stoneburner who was reelected treasurer.

Township meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Fire Hall. Minutes and other information can be found on the township's web site at <http://pequaywantownship.org>.

Also watch the township sign at the corner of Pequaywan Lake and West Branch Roads for meeting announcements (including Association meetings).

Lakeside Chapel

Services begin Sunday, May 24, at 10 a.m., 8905 Pequaywan Lake Road, and continue through Labor Day.

Lake Association Minute Highlights

Finances: As of September 2008, the checking account balance was \$1,361.72. Reported income was \$90 and total expenses were \$248.52. The majority of the expenses were for the picnic. Treasurer Jim Guldseth renewed one CD on August 8 with a rate of 3.1% The balance is \$5,635. The other CD was renewed on July 18 with a rate of 3.5%. The balance is \$11,130.85.

Picnic: Lori Gherna reported 50 to 60 people attended. Those that were there said it was an enjoyable time for both the children and the adults. The entertainment provided by Sandy Williams of Little Lake Pequaywan was especially appreciated and enjoyed by all. One concern was that bar patrons were eating the food meant for the picnic.

Lake Association Committees

Members are encouraged to join a committee. These committees are a good way to get involved and help make this an even better area.

Environmental Protection: Tree issues, invasive species, loon watch, pest management, and area mining

Members: Lorene Sorlien, Kris Larsen, Marcie Ceryes, Deb Pomroy, Ray Barnes

Events Committee: Evaluate and plan community events such as the annual picnic, solicit volunteers to provide treats for monthly meetings

Members: Lori Gherna, Kristi Helgen, April Smitke, and Donna Johnson

Finance: Responsible for Association finances and reports.

Members: Jim Guldseth and Jan Kolehmainen

History of Lakes Area: Compile history of the association and area through interviews with long-time residents and solicitation of historical photos and documents from residents

Members: Phyllis Mead, Deb Pomroy, Kris Larsen, and Kathy Sluka

Lake Quality: Develop programs or communications that promote water quality in our lakes, water testing, shoreline (regulations, protection, erosion prevention), zoning issues

Members: Mark Merrill, Mary Beth Schultz, Judy Strom, Phyllis Mead, Dexter Larsen

Program Committee: Identify topics for meetings and obtain speakers, educational programs and materials

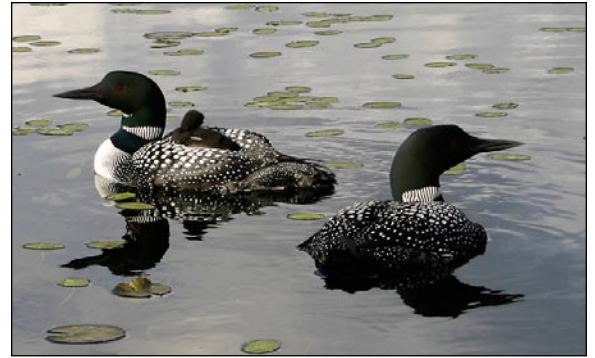
Members: Marilyn Bamford and Judy Strom

Safety - Watercraft - Fire: Develop programs or communication concerning safety on water and land, buoy placement, and boating courtesy and regulations

Members: Deb Pomroy and Ray Barnes, Jan Kolehmainen, Scott Mead, Dick Arndt

Service Committee: Identify services to benefit members, such as Trash D or Yard Waste Day, determine costs, and solicit volunteers

Members: Dick Arndt and Scott Mead



What you can do to help protect our loons

Loons are part of that special lake experience, but it's important for their survival that we are good "neighbors." Lorene Sorlein on the Big Lake and Carmen Freeman on the Little Lake are the official Loon Watchers. You should report any problems or harassment of loons to them.

Here are some things you can do (or should not do) to help protect our loons.

- **Stay away!** Watch loons from at least 200 feet. Although baby loons may be cute to look at up close, this is stressful to both parents and babies. It is particularly important to stay away from nesting loons.
- **Use non-lead fishing sinkers and jigs.** Ingesting one sinker or jig will kill a loon.
- **Be an ethical angler.** Never fish or cast near loons nesting or swimming and properly dispose of extra bait and trash on land. Don't dispose of fishing line in the water, as loons can get caught in it or leave a jig in a fish you return to the water so that if a loon eats it, it will be cut by the lure.
- **Be a responsible boater.** Never chase loons or run boats or jet skis over areas where loons have been seen. Loons and chicks have died from being hit by boats and propellers. **(Injuring or killing one of our loons could make you the most unpopular person on our lakes!)**
- **Dispose of household garbage** at a collection site so you don't attract racoons, foxes, gulls or eagles, which prey on loon eggs.

Pequaywan Lakes Association Membership Dues



Please send this form or bring it to an Association meeting along with your \$10 check (made out to Pequaywan Lakes Association) to: Jim Guldseth
14550 Beverley Lane
Savage, MN 55378

Even if you pay in person, please attach this form to your payment. It makes it easier for Jim to match payment to name.

Your Name: _____

Cabin Address: _____

You only have to change things that have changed from last year.

New members – please complete the entire form.

Cabin Phone _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone _____

Email: _____

Corrections or additions to your listing in the Lake Directory _____

Please include your email if you have not provided it. Sending communications electronically helps keep our printing and mailing costs down. With postage increasing in May again, this is important.

And please encourage your neighbors do to so it they have not.