

SHORE LINES



Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Association *"Promoting Safe Fun on Clean Lakes"*
www.ciscochainroa.com email: ccroa49969@gmail.com

October, 2014
Volume Number 54, Issue 3

Letter from the President

By Greg Wenzel

Looking back on the summer of 2014, we missed a tremendous fund raising opportunity by not selling mosquito zappers, head nets, rain gear and not marketing our CCROA sweatshirts early in the season. Some folks bemoan this summer as one for the record books, and not in a good way. I however opt to focus on the great memories the summer provided for enjoying the company of family and friends. The countless recreational and relaxation opportunities the Cisco Chain and our surrounding communities offer exceeded any inconvenience caused by bugs, rain or cool weather!

The primary question that is asked is if there is anything to report on the purchase of the Dam. The simple answer is no. The final determination is in the hands of FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission). We are obligated to be patient and wait for a decision. The next question is what the expected timeline for an answer from FERC is. Regrettably, I can't provide that answer. In anticipation of a favorable outcome, the CCROA Board is working with CCROA Attorney, Dave McDonald, to generate important documents that will better serve the CCROA in purchasing and operating the Dam. I want to update the membership on the ongoing process of rewriting our Bylaws, updating our Articles of Incorporation and drafting a Principles of Investment document. CCROA Attorney Dave McDonald attended the annual business meeting and provided an overview of this effort and fielded questions on the subject. This process has continued as drafts have been revised and presented to the CCROA board of directors for approval. The process is a lengthy one and we will continue to work toward final drafts. Once the final drafts are completed, the documents will be made available to the membership. Members will be contacted by mail to vote on the proposed changes. Your patience and understanding are appreciated on both the Dam purchase and the work on the documents.

The new No Wake signs throughout the Cisco Chain are another area of interest. Almost all of the old signs have been replaced with new signs and a couple new ones have been added. This was done with great thought. Balance was considered in placing the signs to accomplish the need to mark areas and yet minimize the impact on the aesthetics of the picturesque water ways. The signs are necessary for multiple reasons. The primary purpose is boater safety. However in narrower channels with sensitive shoreline habitat, it is important for us to protect those shorelines from erosion. Nesting Loons in early summer are often found in these areas as well. Boating regulations of both Michigan and Wisconsin require no wake in the proximity of piers that exist in and near these No Wake zones. Boater courtesy is an additional no wake component. Your support and compliance is important for these compelling reasons.

New signage has been placed at boat landings not only on the Cisco Chain but on other lakes in the area that have Aquatic Invasive Species. The new signs remind boaters as they leave the boat landings to remember to remove plants and to drain their bilge and live well. This project was accomplished in partnership with the ISCCW under a grant from the US Forest Service. I wish to remind you of the importance of a heightened sense of awareness of AIS. By avoiding the areas marked by the orange buoys, disposing of the weeds snagged on anchors and lures well inland of the lake, and by practicing *Clean, Drain and Dry* when moving watercraft from the Chain to other lakes and back, you are greatly minimizing the spread of aquatic invaders.

We are spending tens of thousands of dollars each year to survey, treat and remove AIS manually. Your attentiveness in preventing the spread of these noxious plants and financial support is critical to preserving our lakes. (AIS report on page 3)

I would also like to draw attention to the tremendous commitment and contributions by the Officers and board members of the CCROA. These volunteers work hard to ensure the business of our organization is conducted with the highest level of attentiveness. Board meetings are held regularly, and these generous individuals contribute selflessly in various projects and activities that positively impact every Riparian Owner and user of the Cisco Chain of Lakes. We welcome participation and support of members in any of the many areas of activities we are involved in. The CCROA website is a good place to visit to get an idea of all the activities, events and projects we are involved with. If you can dedicate a small gift of time and talent to an area that interests you, it would be greatly appreciated. Recognizing many people’s limited time available, I urge every member to support the organization by not only keeping current on your membership dues, but reaching out to those that may not be members, and encouraging them to join. Have a great winter!

Greg Wenzel

With Great Appreciation - CCROA Collaboration

The CCROA would like to recognize and thank three individuals that have served on the Board.

Kully Rohlen resigned as president of the CCROA after many years of working diligently. Kully continues to be a wealth of knowledge and has graciously become the Lake Representative for Poor Lake.

Judy Challed of Fish Hawk Lake, served on the Board as recording secretary. That position was filled by Jessica Ryden of 1000 Island Lake.

Don Hall retired as the Lake Representative for Cisco Lake. Jay Sweney is now the Lake Rep for Cisco Lake.

Thank you all. It’s the awesome volunteers that make the CCROA “rock”.

Contact information for CCROA Board Members and Lake Representatives is on Page 6 of the Newsletter.

Walleye Planting on the Cisco Chain

By Phil Wolbrink

For many years the Cisco Chain has had a history of planting walleyes in their lakes. There was a period of ten years that permits were not issued. Four years ago the CCROA was again able to resume walleye planting. The walleye fingerlings are planted in October after the water cools down. Once again, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources has granted a permit to plant **five thousand**, six to eight inch walleye fingerlings as it has for the past three years.

The fish come from Walleye World in the eastern Upper Peninsula. This company has proven to be very professional and the fish arrive in fantastic condition. The fish are tested and certified as disease free before the DNR will issue the permit. The walleyes were two dollars each for the three previous years of plantings. This year the walleyes will cost two dollars twenty-five cents with free delivery.

The fingerlings were released on Friday, October 3rd. Utmost care and speed must be used in the process in order to insure that the new little residents of the Cisco Chain have the best chance for maximum survival.

The fish arrive in a special truck with aerated tanks from Walleye World. Upon arrival they are quickly put into buckets, taken down to the water and gently released as seen in the pictures (pictures courtesy of Lucy Brundage)

The CCROA has a walleye fund and welcomes any and all donations to help fund future walleye plantings in the Cisco Chain. If you would like to contribute, please send your donation to CCROA, PO Box 687, Watersmeet, MI 49969. If you have any questions about the CCROA walleye planting, you can contact Phil Wolbrink at 906-358-4734 or 715-367-9976.



ACQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES UPDATE FALL 2014

By Bob McGuffin

With the 2014 Aquatic Invasive Species Abatement season wrapping to a close, I wanted to bring our members up to date on our successes this year.

First, I would like to thank everyone who responded to our fund raising mailing this spring. With your help, we raised \$20,152 in tax deductible donations to fund our AIS program. Without your support, we could not continue our fight against Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM).

Our biggest accomplishment this year has been the whole-lake treatment on Clearwater Lake. After spot treating Clearwater for nearly a decade, we pulled out the big hammer and treated the entire body of water with Fluridone. According to our biologist, the treatment has been very successful with a sharp decline in observed EWM this year. Next year we will again survey the lake and spot treat any EWM that we might find. Neighboring Langford Lake had the identical treatment last year and nearly no EWM was observed this year.

We continue to spot treat Thousand Island Lake, especially on the North end. We treated approximately 2 acres with 2,4-D and our biologists from Many Waters dove and hand-pulled many plants along the east shore by the boat launch. Our 2015 plan is to continue this approach here- treat bigger areas and hand-pull the individual plants.

Sadly, we now have to add Morley Lake to our list of lakes with observed EWM. A small area on the south end was observed, marked, and treated late this summer. Our spring survey will determine how effective the treatment was.

We continue to have difficulties locating the persistent EWM bed on Big Lake early enough in the season to treat it. We are discussing options that might allow us to get this area treated. We have also found EWM in isolated areas along the east shore and north of the boat landing on the west side.



By now, our EWM marker buoys have been pulled from the water. If you find any that have been missed or broken loose, please advise your lake representative so that we can get it.

One last important bit of AIS news, there has been a sudden and unexpected expansion of Spiny Water Flea in Vilas County Wisconsin lakes. This unsettling report emphasizes how important it is to adopt the Clean, Drain and Dry mindset. We have focused extensively on Aquatic Invasive Plants but equally and even potentially more damaging to our lakes are invasive microorganisms. These invisible or nearly invisible organisms are transported in water contained in live wells, bilges and minnow buckets as well as other potential reservoirs of boats and personal water crafts. It is extremely important to adopt a heightened awareness for ALL potential aquatic invaders that threaten our waters. Please take the special precautions of *Clean* (removing all visible aquatic plants from your boat and trailer) *Drain* (remove all water from bilges, live wells, and jet propulsion systems) and *Dry* (dry watercraft well prior to transporting them from one water body to another)

Again, we appreciate and need your support in our effort to fight AIS on the Cisco Chain. Your board is looking forward to another successful AIS treatment in 2015!

Bob McGuffin
Vice-President CCROA
Member- Invasive Species Task Force

SUMMERTIME..... and the Livin' WAS Easy!!!!

CCROA picnic 2015, was *EASY* thanks to so many people that donated so much. **Thank you** Craig and Lisa Hesse for once again providing us with the perfect venue for the annual picnic. Greg Rogers of Rogers Bar for the use and set up of a tent plus all the tables and chairs. Nathan Grimm for the great pictures you took.

All the fantastic donated raffle prizes -

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Turquoise Necklace | Dick & Marilyn Barney |
| Tabletop Fire Bowl & a Wood Box | Curt & Barb Aarud |
| Deer Hoof Coat Hanger | Steve McDonough |
| Grosbeak/Finch Wall Hanging | Sandy Hodgman |
| "Let's Fly South" Painting | Lois Bates |
| ½ Day Guided Fishing (2) | Bruce Becker |
| Handmade Apron | Jean Erhart |
| Bicycle | Tom Wilson |
| ½ Day Guided Fishing | Al Knutson |
| 50 Round Shooting Clays (2) | John Muir/Gateway Gun Club |
| ½ Day Pontoon Boat Ride | Laurie Cooney/Wilderness Watch |
| Handmade Basket | Mary Jo Wenzel |
| Tripod Flashlight & Lantern | Dean Viverito |
| 4 Buckets Golf Driving Balls | Paul & Jane Ericson |
| 2 Rounds Trap Shooting, Grp of 5 | Paul & Jane Ericson |

Thanks to all those that organized the raffles, the food, tickets, volunteers, beverages, setup and cleanup. To everyone that volunteered their time at the picnic to help sell tickets (dinner & raffle), husk corn, cook, serve, collect tickets and more, Thanks.

The picnic was so much fun because so many people helped. Donating a ½ hour of time at the picnic made all the difference in the world. The CCROA runs on volunteers. It is truly amazing the generosity of time by the board, committee members and the membership.

Again thank you to everyone for helping to make CCROA Picnic 2014 truly memorable.

More about the picnic in the Winter, 2015 edition of *Shorelines*. More picnic pictures will be posted to the CCROA website <http://www.ciscochainroa.com/>.

Mark your calendars: Annual Business Meeting, Thursday, July 16, 2015 9am

Annual Picnic, Sunday July 19, 2015 11:30 at Vacationland Resort



Craig & Lisa Hesse



Vacationland Courtesy of Nathan Grimm



The "Chefs" Courtesy of Nathan Grimm

Bicycling in the Northwoods.

The Wilderness Lakes Trail offers beautiful biking and hiking opportunities in the area. It's another great way to enjoy autumn. The trail system features a loop from Watersmeet to Land O'Lakes and west to Thousand Island Lake Road. It features paved and unpaved (gravel) options.

Go to the website for Wilderness Lakes Trail at <http://wildernesslakestrails.org/>. The site has maps, trail information and also links to bicycle rentals.



1000 Island Lake Rd Photo courtesy of Jody Buergey

Membership Renewal

CCROA membership runs January 1st through December 31st.

In these busy times, it is easy to forget to keep membership to the CCROA current. Please take a moment to ensure you are up to date on dues. Even though you are receiving this edition of *Shorelines*, it does not mean you are current on your dues. We have been sending it to members in arrears as a courtesy and gentle reminder to please make sure their membership status is up to date. If you are unsure if your membership is current, please email the CCROA at ccroa49969@gmail.com

If your membership has expired, we encourage and welcome you to rejoin the CCROA for 2015. Membership is only \$25. Dues can be prepaid for upcoming years.

We kindly ask that you complete the form listed below and mail along with your check to CCROA, PO Box 687, Watersmeet, MI 49969.

If you are not able to print the form, please include your information and mail as above.

Thank you,
Denise Fautleroy, Membership

Welcome Aboard!!!!

CCROA Collaboration

We would like to welcome the new CCROA Lake Representatives, Anne Rapp, Big Lake South and Jay Sweney, Cisco Lake.

Jay is replacing retiring Lake Rep Don Hall and Anne is filling a much needed spot for Big Lake South. Thank you!

GOING GREEN IS A SUCCESS!!!!

Going Green works! In the past, newsletters cost approximately \$1,700.00 per issue (includes postage). In-house formatting of the newsletter and emailing have saved significantly. The combined cost for the January and May, 2014 editions of *Shorelines* was only \$359.00 (includes postage). Thanks to electronic mailing (email) of the January and May, 2014 editions of *Shorelines*, we only had to mail via USPS 88 in January and 65 in May!

All emails are sent bcc so that your email address cannot be seen by others. More than one email address can be entered for each member, which will allow all family members to keep informed.

Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Association Membership Application 2015

NEW _____ RENEWAL _____ DONATION _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ e-mail Address _____

Lake Phone _____ Lake e-mail Address _____

Name of Lake _____ Lake Address _____

Dues are \$25.00 per year. Advance payments are welcomed. Just indicate how many years in advance you wish to pay

Number of years _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Lifetime Membership is only \$450.00. Amount Enclosed _____

Note: Membership year starts January 1st and ends on December 31st

Amount of Invasive Species Donation: _____

Amount for Dam Purchase Donation: _____

Amount for Walleye Stocking Fund: _____ Total Amount Enclosed: _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CISCO CHAIN RIPARIAN OWNERS ASSN.

MAIL TO: CCROA P.O. BOX 687, WATERSMEET, MI 49969-0687

Be a Volunteer! Join Us and Make a Difference!!!

Officer or Lake Representative ___ Picnic Volunteer ___ (just ½ hour of your time)

Seasonal Committee ___ Educate at Boat Ramps _____

President:
Greg Wenzel
906-358-0242

Big Lake North &
Morley Lake:
Tom Krautkramer
906-358-0469

Lindsley Lake:
Laurie Cooney
630-730-4067

Members-at-Large:
Jack Erhart
906-358-9969
Paul Lucas
906-358-4767

Vice President:
Bob McGuffin
630-280-9542

Big Lake South:
Ann Rapp
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Mamie Lake:
Open

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906-358-4460

Webmaster:
Gary Ebert
906-358-4246

Treasurer:
David Fauntleroy
906-358-0106

Clearwater Lake:
Helen Hayhurst
906-358-4125

1000 Island Lake N:
Dean Stanton
906-358-0214

Membership:
Denise Fauntleroy
906-358-0106

East Bay Lake:
Bobby Warren
robertfwarren@me.com

1000 Island Lake S:
Joan Cavanaugh
angel5508@aol.com

WE ARE IN NEED OF A
LAKE REPRESENTATIVE
FOR
MAMIE LAKE

Parliamentarian:
Wes Kiley
715-547-3283

Fish Hawk Lake:
Dean Challed
906-358-4260

West Bay Lake:
Tom Wilson
906-544-2680

Visit the CCROA website for more news & information - www.ciscochainroa.com

SNIPPETS

Fishing in the Fall -
Fall is an excellent time for fishing; however, colder weather and cold water temperatures require extra precautions.
Equip and inspect your boat *before* hitting the water
Always wear U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket, not only will it allow you to float without using energy, it will help provide protection from the cold water.
Travel at a safe speed for water conditions and surroundings.
Avoid alcohol. Alcohol inhibits the body's normal shivering. Shivering is the body's best heat producing response.
Be safe & catch a dandy!!!

Remember "Clean Boats – Clean Water"
Drain & Clean boats, props, live wells & anchors before launching. Do the same after taking boats out of the water. Please dispose of all weeds on shore away from the shoreline. Refrain from throwing weeds back in the lake at all times. Help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. Important in the Fall, too. Thanks!!!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS and JOIN US!!!
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
Thursday, July 16, 2015
At 9:00 am
ANNUAL PICNIC
Sunday, July 19, 2015
11:30 am at Vacationland Resort

Below are links to the websites for Watersmeet Township & the Town of Land O'Lakes -

Watersmeet Township
www.watersmeet.us

Town of Land O'Lakes
www.http://townoflandolakes.com/

Check the CCROA website regularly at www.ciscochainroa.com. The website has a wealth of information available, including detailed reports on the dam, Invasive species and what is done and can be done, pictures, CCROA clothing and links to other information sites.