

SHORE LINES

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

Cisco Chain
of Lakes

OCTOBER, 2016

Volume Number 56 Issue 3

PICNIC 2016!!!

First and foremost, thank you to everyone that volunteered their time and/or donated to make the annual CCROA annual picnic another fun filled event. The weather forecast did not discourage 144 CCROA members, family and friends from enjoying the laughter, great food, and exciting raffles. As it so often happens in the Northwoods, the weather forecast was wrong and everyone enjoyed the lovely summer sunshine.

The words "Thank You" just don't seem adequate. We are beyond grateful to Craig & Lisa Hesse for providing an amazing venue for the picnic and to Greg & Sue Rogers of Rogers Bar for not only lending us the tent, tables and chairs but assisting with the delivery, set up and tear down. THANK YOU!!!!

2016 PICNIC RAFFLE PRIZE DONORS & WINNERS? (We apologize for any misspellings)

1. "Special Prize" Fitbit - Randy Pozin
2. Moose Tapestry, Canoe Lamp & Vase - Halina Jancovic - Donated by Lois Bates & Debby Brost
3. Rocking Chair Print - Mary Congdon - Donated by Jane & Paul Erickson
4. Deer in Winter Print - Dave Neumann - Donated by Jane & Paul Erickson
5. Wireless Sound System - Denise Fauntleroy - Donated by Joan, Kelly, Martha & Jim Patton
6. Turquoise Necklace - Al Sweney - Donated by Dick & Marilyn Barney
7. Keurig Coffee Maker - Ron Verkuilen - Donated by Diana & Dick Mehlhop
8. Chili Pepper Platter & Tequila - Lois Bates - Donated by Barb & Curt Aarud
9. S'Mores Basket - Lucy Brundage - Donated by Barb & Curt Aarud
10. 1 hour massage - Martha Patton - Donated by Kathy Geise/Joy Massage & Wellness
11. ½ day Guided Musky Fishing - Phil Wolbrink - Donated by Bruce Becker Guide Service
12. ½ day Guided Walleye Fishing - Mary Congdon - Donated by Bruce Becker Guide Service
13. Full Day Guided Fishing - Jerry Rosenberg - Donated by Al Knutson Guide Service
14. Fishing Rod & Reel - Bruce Jancovic - Donated by Al Knutson Guide Service
15. Bird Feeder - Rick Nevers - Donated by Helen Hayhurst
16. Virtual Reality Game - Kelly Patton - Donated by Helen Hayhurst
17. Morley Lake Oil Painting - Martha Patton - Donated by Diana Sparks
18. 2 - \$20 Redman Certificates - Dave Neumann - Donated by Redman Restaurant
19. 2 - \$20 Redman Certificates - Craig Hesse - Donated by Redman Restaurant
20. 2 Quarts Maple Syrup - Russ Paepke - Donated by Phil Lenhart
21. Browning Dark Ops 8MP Trail Cam - Randy Pozin
22. Crossman Recruit Rifle - Dean Viverito
23. Ninja Blender - Carolyn Rohlen
24. Accent Table & 2 Chairs - Diana Mehlhop
25. Chickadee Picture - Karen Statler
26. Metal Hanging - Jimmy Warren
27. Wood Carving - Christine Hayes
28. Backpack - Mary Jo Wenzel
29. 2 Pool Drifters & Towel - Esther Bucholtz
30. Drone - Alex Shabaz
31. Waterproof Speaker - Bill McNicholas
32. Polarized Sun Glasses - Joan Cavanaugh
33. Weed Whipper - Bob Warren
34. Rustic Table - Cindy Sweney
35. Rustic Mirror - Kathy Krautkramer
36. Loon Spinner - Rick Nevers
37. BBQ Grill - Tom Krautkramer
38. 18 Holes of Golf + Cart - Kelly Patton
39. 50/50 Raffle - \$177.00 each - David Fauntleroy and Linda Hammer

Really great CCROA apparel was available thanks to Melissa McGuffin. Denise Fauntleroy, from the Watersmeet Lake Guards (ISCCW), had an Invasive Species kiosk set up and was able to field many questions and provide important AIS information.

Next year's picnic is tentatively set for July 23, 2017. There was a brief discussion regarding the future of the CCROA Annual Picnic due to declining attendance. (See article on Page 2)



As I write this autumn Shorelines update, fall color is just past peak and boat landings are seeing considerable traffic as boats are being put away for the winter. After Labor Day the activity on the Chain decreases and water temperatures drop; however, there are still many people out on the Chain enjoying the autumn splendor or fishing. Bob McGuffin and I removed all the EWM marker buoys this past week. The surface water temperature was in the upper 50's and felt tepid in comparison to the air temps which were in the 30's that morning.

I have received numerous phone calls recently inquiring about a boat on the lakes at night outfitted with a loud motor and searchlights. Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) has been conducting a fall fish survey. Additionally UPPCO has contracted with an archaeologist to traverse the entire shoreline of the Chain to identify areas of erosion and determine if any artifacts have been unearthed. People have lived, hunted, fished and worked here since the Copper Culture thousands of years ago! This might be a good time for a reminder to observe the no wake zones to preserve sensitive shorelines.

The CCROA has been busy this summer! As a result of donations to our Lake Management fund, grants, and volunteer efforts, much has been accomplished. We hired a Clean Boats Clean Waters intern from UW Oshkosh to staff the Palmer Bay boat landing. Extensive lake surveys were conducted throughout the Chain by our biologists. Water quality monitoring was conducted on seven lakes by Board member volunteers, and some of our shorelines were surveyed for invasive plants. Scuba diving was done to hand remove EWM and our biologists utilized diver assisted suction harvesting to remove EWM in larger colonies. One of our biologists Bill Artwich came face to face with a huge Musky along a weed line on Thousand Island Lake while diving for EWM! Board member Dean Stanton and I were

not as lucky when we were diving for Milfoil. Board member Linda Hammer and her husband John tackled a stubborn area of Purple Loosestrife on the north shore of Thousand Island Lake for the second year in a row to remove the terrestrial invader. Volunteers continue to remove areas of Japanese Barberry as well.

We hope to expand our participation in the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program to every lake on the Chain next year. All expenses will be covered by ISCCW under a cooperative grant awarded to us under a collaborative effort by numerous partners, if we can secure volunteers to conduct the Secchi Disc component of the program. We need volunteers for West Bay, Fish Hawk, Mamie and East Bay lakes. If we are unable to get a volunteer for every lake, we either have to pay for participation out of our Lake Management Fund or abandon the project. The volunteer takes a black and white disc affixed to a tape measure and documents a water visibility reading once every week or two from late May to early September. It is a minimal commitment that often can be combined when fishing or recreating on the lake. If you are on one of these lakes please contact me (414-581-5444) if you would be willing to help. The effort can be coordinated with a neighbor to fill in should you have travel plans. This information is important in monitoring the health of our lakes!

There is no progress to report on the purchase of the Dam. Funds are safe in a segregated fund awaiting FERC's ruling.

Your continued support of the CCROA is crucial to our stewardship efforts to preserve our cherished waters for future generations. Please continue to respond to the annual Lake Management Fund appeal and if you have interest in any of the programs or initiatives mentioned in this edition of Shorelines, please let me know!

Thank you!!
Greg Wenzel

To Picnic or Not To Picnic?

The number of people attending the annual CCROA picnic continues to decline. It was brought up at this year's picnic that perhaps the picnic should be discontinued or held every other year. The picnic is a very labor intensive endeavor, not only the day of the picnic, but days and months of work prior to the picnic. These are all volunteer hours and board members and CCROA members have only so many hours to give.

The board has discussed this at some length and wants the input of the membership before any decision is made. Ann Rapp, Lake Representative for Big Lake South has been working on an online survey that we will ask the membership to complete. This will be after the beginning of the New Year and be sent via email that includes the link to the CCROA survey on SurveyMonkey.com. A printed survey will be mailed to members who do not have email.

Life has changed since the beginning of the CCROA and often when members are enjoying time on the Cisco Chain, they prefer spending time at their property with friends and family versus going to a picnic; or it's Sunday and they must drive home.

When you receive the link, the board asks that you complete the survey as soon as possible. The Annual Business Meeting is a requirement per our by-laws and will continue to be held. The tentative dates set for the CCROA picnic is July 23, 2017 and July 20, 2017 for the Annual Business Meeting. Again, these dates are tentative depending on the survey results.

View Picnic 2016 pictures on the CCROA website at www.ciscochainroa.com.

By: Bob McGuffin, Vice-President CCROA & Member Invasive Species Task Force

Our 2016 Lake Management program (aka Invasive Species program) is drawing to a close. We have had a busy year protecting the Cisco Chain!

As part of a grant we were given in conjunction with the ISCCW, every lake on the Cisco Chain was surveyed for Aquatic Invasive Species. As usual, this survey had good news and bad news.

Clearwater Lake - The good news is that our whole lake treatment of Clearwater Lake was a big success with no Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) found.

1000 Island Lake - EWM continues to be found on 1000 Island Lake; however, the good news is that there is not enough to warrant a chemical treatment, which is a significant improvement over the last several years. This year we hand pulled 250 plants and harvested 160 pounds of EWM using Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH).

Morley Lake - As expected, EWM was again found on Morley Lake. These plants were hand pulled.

Lindsley/1000 Island Channel - EWM was found and hand pulled in the channel

Big Lake - Obtaining a permit to treat from Wisconsin DNR has been a challenge; however, we have a face to face meeting scheduled in November with members of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to try to overcome the obstacles that have prevented a chemical treatment of EWM on Big Lake.

West Bay and Lindsley Lakes and the entrance to Fish Hawk Lake have been added to the list of lakes with EWM detected. Fortunately Fish Hawk Lake did not have EWM.

Our efforts combating invasive species are not only focused on aquatic species but include terrestrial invasive species as well. On land, volunteers worked clipping the flowering stalks of Purple Loosestrife to stop their spread with plans to treat these plants in 2017. Volunteers tackled by spraying or digging the ever obstinate Japanese Barberry and European Swamp Thistle.

I want to thank those that supported our efforts in 2016 and look forward to your support next year. Have a great winter- whether you will be somewhere warm and sunny or joining me on the snowmobile trails up north!

Thanks!
Bob McGuffin



Above - The diving crew - Bill Artwich & Barb Gajewski, Many Waters LLC; Dean Stanton, Lake Rep 1000 Island North; and Greg Wenzel, CCROA President

Left - An anchor full of EWM on the Chain - Why *Clean, Drain & Dry* along with proper disposal of weeds is so important. Everyone's diligence is crucial.

Right - Purple Loosestrife growing out of a downed log.



Collaborative Partnerships are Important

By CCROA Collaboration

Collaborative partnerships that have been developed with organizations are crucial and very beneficial to the Cisco Chain of Lakes.

On September 16, 2016, CCROA president, Greg Wenzel, assisted Lac Vieux Desert tribal members plant over 1000 six to nine inch Walleyes in the Cisco Chain. It was a very neat experience. The walleye spawn was harvested from the Cisco Chain this spring and were raised in one of the Lac Vieux Desert's rearing ponds. The walleyes were then harvested and carefully transported to the Cisco Lake boat landing for release. Greg will be working to build a strong cooperative partnership with the tribe to continue to stock our lakes. The CCROA is planning to also stock walleye later this month. Details of the CCROA stocking efforts will be in the winter edition of *Shorelines*.



This summer another collaborative partnership, the ISCCW (Invasive Species Control Coalition of Watersmeet) expanded their existing boat washing schedule at Cisco Chain boat landings to include Bent's Cap landing.

In August, a gentleman was bringing his pontoon boat and trailer to Bent's Camp landing to launch the boat. The boat washer greeted the man and talked to him about invasive species. The boat washer noticed that the pontoon boat and motor were encrusted with Zebra Mussels, a particularly nasty aquatic invasive species. The boat had been moored on the Wisconsin River in Wausau, WI and had been pulled out of the river and transported that very day. The boat owner was completely unaware of what Zebra Mussels and other AIS were. **It took the boat washer 1 ½ hours to power wash the boat!** This was most certainly a significant victory for the ISCCW's boat washing program. Had the boat been launched without washing, it could have seeded the Cisco Chain with another invasive species. Zebra Mussels are almost impossible to combat. Unfortunately, no before or after pictures were taken.

A boat washing station is more than a "power washer". Hot water (heated to 180 degrees) is required to kill aquatic invasive species. The boat washing station heats the water and delivers it under pressure. The stations are set up either far enough away from the lake to prevent any of the runoff water to go back into the lake OR there is a special collection mat used. These the razor-shelled creatures can damage boat motors, slice swimmers' feet and threaten fish populations.



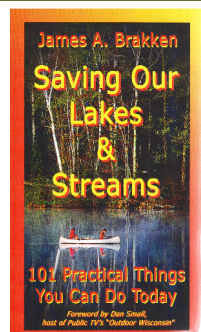
Zebra Mussels are native to Russia and were introduced to the Great Lakes in 1985 or 1986 when ballast from a transoceanic ship was released into Lake St. Clair. Since then, Zebra mussels have spread to the Great Lakes Basin, Ohio River Basin and the Mississippi River Basin. Zebra mussels were found on a recreational boat & trailer transported as far west as Washington State



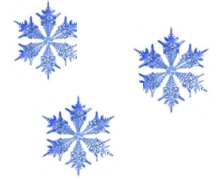
As part of a collaborative partnership with ISCCW, US Forest Service, Iron County Conservation District and additional partners, we applied for and were awarded an Aquatic Invasive Species grant from the state of Michigan. Our portion of the grant will cover permit expenses, extensive lake surveying by Many Waters, LLC, plus both hand pulling and Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) of Eurasian Water Milfoil.

Every property owner on the Cisco Chain has the ability to protect and improve the quality of this beautiful chain of lakes. *Saving Our Lakes & Stream*, by James A Brakken, provides 101 practical and sometimes very simple things you, as a property owner, can implement and make a positive difference.

The CCROA purchased several of these books and are offering them to the membership at cost. Many were sold at the Annual Business Meeting and the Picnic; however, there are a few left for sale. The cost is \$10.00. If you are interested in purchasing a book, please email the Association at ccroa49969@gmail.com or call Linda at 906-358-0500. If you would like to have it mailed to you, we're more than happy to do so. There would be an additional cost for the postage (cost of postage only).



WINTER FIRE SAFETY



Fall is the perfect time to get ready for the winter heating season. Here's a simple checklist -
Have you -

- Tested your smoke alarms and replaced the batteries recently?
- Tested carbon monoxide alarms and replaced the batteries recently?
- Had your furnace inspected?
- Had your chimney cleaned?
- Checked for worn/damaged appliance cords?
- Checked/cleaned dryer exhaust vent for lint buildup?
- Do you have a metal container with a lid for disposal of fireplace/wood burner ashes?

Make sure that -

- Portable space heaters have an automatic shutoff
- Keep a minimum of 3 feet of space between space heaters and other objects
- Turn space heaters off overnight or when unattended
- Plug space heaters directly into an outlet
- Use a fireguard in front of a burning fire
- Keep fire extinguishers handy
- Change or clean furnace filters regularly

Stay warm, stay safe this winter and remember fire detectors save lives. Make sure that there is a minimum of one on each level of the home and one in every bedroom.

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

Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Association Membership Application 2017

NEW _____ RENEWAL _____ DONATION _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Spouse _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ e-mail Address _____

Lake Phone _____ Additional 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 _____

Amount of General Fund Donation _____

Amount of Lake Management (formerly AIS) 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 1/2 hour of your time)

Seasonal Committee _____ Educate at Boat Ramps _____

President:
 Greg Wenzel
 414-581-5444

Vice President:
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Lindsley Lake:
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Mamie Lake:
NEEDED

Poor Lake:
 Kully Rohlen
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1000 Island Lake N:
 Dean Stanton
 906-358-0214

1000 Island S:
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NEEDED

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WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!!
 Currently Mamie and West Bay Lakes are without Lake Representatives. Please volunteer to be a Lake Representative today.

Visit the CCROA website at www.ciscochainroa.com for more Cisco Chain information

SNIPPETS

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/](http://www.townoflandolakes.com/)

Watersmeet Township Planning Commission is considering changing zoning ordinances regarding short-term property rentals (less than 27 days) in Watersmeet Township. For more information, please go to the Watersmeet Township website at www.watersmeet.us or call the Township office at 906-358-4501.

As an organization, the CCROA does not take sides in any political issue.

“Some of the toughest things have the biggest pay-offs – like rearing muskies”

“They say muskellunge are the fish of ten thousand casts – a fitting moniker for a fish that’s pretty difficult to catch. But rearing them is almost just as difficult, something the DNR has learned through trial and error over the years.” Reel In Michigan Fisheries – October 2016 edition.
 Read the full article at
<http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153--395170--,00.html>

Volunteers Make the CCROA Successful

Thank you to all who volunteer their time and equipment. Volunteers are always needed and greatly appreciated. Board Members and Lake Representatives can’t do it all. An hour, a day, a summer or as a board member/lake representative, can help in our mission, *“Promoting Safe Fun on Clean Lakes”*

Email the CCROA at ccroa49969@gmail.com or contact a CCROA Board Member and find out where you can help.

Around Town Events-October

October 30th 1 pm - 4 pm Trick or Treat in Land O'Lakes
October 30th 3:30 pm -6:30 pm Trunk or Treat at Ely Church
 Trick or treat out of the trunks of cars
October 30th 4 pm - 6 pm Boo Bash
 Halloween fun at the library – games, food & more

October 31st 3 pm - 6 pm Trick or Treat in Watersmeet

Around Town Events-November

November 25th 11am – A Christmas Carol Performed by the Traveling Lantern Theatre Co at Land O'Lakes Town Hall
November 25th 1 pm - 2:30 pm – Santa Comes To Town
 Santa Village in Land O'Lakes (across from Library) Starting at the Airport, Santa travels to the Town Tree and Santa Village
November 26th 10am – 3pm Christmas Craft Sale at Land O'Lakes Elementary School