

# SHORE LINES



Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Association *"Promoting Safe Fun on Clean Lakes"*  
[www.ciscochainroa.com](http://www.ciscochainroa.com) email: [ccroa49969@gmail.com](mailto:ccroa49969@gmail.com)

January, 2014  
Volume Number 54, Issue 1

## Letter from the President

By Greg Wenzel

The New Year finds me working on business of the Association with renewed vigor. The first order of concern is to get this year's first edition of Shorelines in the hands of the membership. Please note the scheduled dates of our annual business meeting and picnic. I hope you will be able to attend both events.

The CCROA board of directors has decided to migrate toward communicating with the membership electronically. The purpose of the decision is twofold. First, we have a fiduciary obligation to be good stewards of the financial resources of our organization. Printing and mailing editions of Shorelines is a costly undertaking. Recognizing the expense of the ongoing Aquatic Invasive Species treatment and lack of funding for the work, every available dollar must be spent prudently. Secondly, electronic communications allow us to communicate important updates in a timely fashion. Please make sure we have all the email addresses you wish to have communications sent to. Please note the additional article on electronic communications elsewhere in this newsletter.

Two important topics continue to be primary concerns of members and the CCROA Board of Directors. The purchase of the Dam and Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) are complex and challenging subjects. Let me update you on the Dam purchase first. The process has proven to be a significantly protracted process. Numerous related documents have been posted on the CCROA website. Please recognize that removal of the Dam from FERC licensing, which would allow the Dam to be sold, involves a defined

process that involves the input of many resource agencies. Furthermore the process has been complicated by developing a cost effective design for a fixed crest weir as mandated by language in the licensing agreement. The issue is currently in the hands of FERC and we continue to await a final decision.

The second important topic is AIS. Two invasive plants have made their way into the Cisco Chain. They are Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) and Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). Each poses a unique threat to native habitat and recreational activities on the Chain. There is no current technology to eradicate them but we can manage them. Management is very time consuming and costly. Our first line of defense against aquatic invaders is prevention. To that end, a heightened awareness of preventative measures must be embraced by every property owner and visitor. A mindset to Clean, Drain and Dry every water craft leaving any body of water is critical in preventing further introduction of CLP and EWM as well as other potential invaders such as Zebra Mussels and Spiny Water Flea. These threats exist in lakes in surrounding areas. Ongoing surveying of lakes on the Chain and subsequent AIS treatment and control efforts are costly. We are avidly pursuing every possible source of grant funding but the expense extends beyond any grants we may be able to secure. The effort to control aquatic invaders is limited by available funding. Please consider this when you are solicited for annual contributions to the Invasive Species Fund.

## Letter From the President-continued

During the past few months as President of the CCROA, I have become more keenly aware of the importance of shared stewardship and the responsibility to protect the Cisco Chain and its environs for future generations. It is not only a duty of property owners on the Chain but also a far greater expanse of stake holders including our surrounding communities and visitors to the area that come from all directions. Recognizing the vital need of time, talent and support required to accomplish the many initiatives the CCROA has undertaken, I urge you to consider some level of personal involvement in the Association. We need help with AIS prevention activities, vigilance on the lakes for suspicious plants, assisting with manual removal of EWM, observation of no wake zones, and help with the annual picnic to name a few. We are also

looking for someone on Mamie Lake and the south end of Big Lake to serve on the Board as Lake Representatives. Lastly, dues from membership and donations from special appeals are the cornerstone of our ability to effectively address the challenges of protecting the lakes. Please keep your membership dues current and encourage others to join our organization. Printable membership forms are available on our website= ([www.ciscochainroa.com](http://www.ciscochainroa.com)). Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you have.

Thank You,  
*Greg Wenzel*

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

## Winter Fire Safety Tips By Sam Otterpohl, Land O'Lakes Fire Chief

This has been a cold winter and the heating bills have been high. So we have been using supplemental heating sources such as woodburners, fireplaces, electric space heaters, and propane space heaters. Here are a few tips to stay "fire safe":

1. Have your furnace cleaned and inspected annually. This insures operation at maximum efficiency and minimizes carbon monoxide dangers that can ultimately result in death. If using electric space heaters and an extension cord is necessary, make sure that the extension cord is capable of handling the electric current necessary to operate the space heater. Space heaters need space. Make sure all combustibles are at least 36 inches away. Make sure that all extension cords are unplugged when you leave. It is never a good idea to leave space heaters unattended. The cleaner that the heating source equipment is, the safer you will be. This includes chimneys.
2. Winter is a good time of year to burn accumulated brush outdoors. If you want to burn that big brush pile, first check with the DNR website for burning restrictions. Additional information can be secured from the ranger station. Notify your fire department and local law enforcement agencies. By doing so, you avoid the fire department being unnecessarily dispatched to an event that does not require

their services. Calm wind conditions and clearing the area around the brush pile minimizes the possibility of the brush fire getting out of control. There are many tips and information on the web that provide fire safety and fire prevention tips. One of them is <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/fa-249f.pdf>.

3. Lastly, fire detectors save lives. Change batteries annually, test the detectors regularly and make sure that there is a minimum of one on each level of the home. Current building codes require one in every bedroom. Your local fire department is your one stop resource for all fire safety related questions.

Stay warm, stay safe.

*Sam Otterpohl*

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS and JOIN US!!!**

**ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

**Thursday, July 17, 2014**

**9:00 am at Cisco Lake Resort**

**ANNUAL PICNIC**

**Sunday, July 20, 2014**

**11:30 am at Vacationland Resort**

## Aquatic Invasive Species Update – January, 2014

By Bob McGuffin

Hello to everyone from the Northwoods! I hope everyone is surviving the brutal cold! While everything up north appears to be dormant and ice-locked, nothing could be farther from the truth. Your Association is still busy at work readying for the upcoming summer and our battle against Aquatic Invasive Species. I wanted to bring you up to date on what we are doing and what you can expect to see this summer on a lake-by-lake basis.

**Clearwater Lake-** This year will be a big year for Clearwater. After years of spot treating Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) with the chemical 2,4-D (same chemical that is in "Weed-B-Gone"), a whole lake treatment using Fluridone will be done. This same process was done on neighboring Langford Lake last year. Closely monitoring their success, we are very encouraged for a successful outcome on Clearwater Lake. We have great confidence that this 3 year plan on Clearwater Lake will give us the upper hand in what has been a stalemate with EWM here over the years.

**Thousand Island Lake-** EWM surveys will continue here and we expect to see continued presence of EWM which will require treatment on the north shore even after our 2,4-D treatment last year. Last fall, your Association sent divers (Riparian volunteers) twice out along the north and south shores and hand-pulled EWM in many locations. Hopefully the spring surveys will show a smaller number of plants this year than last year. Our 2,4-D treatments are not a cure but a useful tool to help us *manage* EWM.

**Big Lake-** Our survey last year did not reveal any EWM that was found the year prior. Our joy was short lived, however, when several Association board members detected some large areas of suspicious EWM-like plants along the east and south shores. These plants were



Hand pulling EWM on 1000 Island Lake

sent out for genetic testing to determine if they are EWM (bad), Northern Milfoil (good), or a hybrid version of the two (bad). If they are EWM, we will pursue a Rapid Response grant from the Wisconsin DNR for treatment. If they are hybrid, we will follow established WDNR protocols for treatment. Stay tuned...

### **PLEASE AVOID OUR ORANGE EWM MARKERS**

Our survey teams mark locations of EWM with orange buoys. EWM is spread by breaking the plant (with props, lures and paddles). Those fragments drift, settle, and root to form new plants. These buoys are not there as a water skiing slalom course or as markers for some super-secret fishing spot. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Our work on the Cisco Chain is expensive. The Clearwater treatment alone will cost approximately \$30,000. This is done to protect your property. Failure to act would have devastating consequences on your property value and the ability to enjoy the beautiful Cisco Chain of Lakes. This spring, you will receive a mailing from your Invasive Species Task Force requesting that you make a tax-deductible donation to our Invasive Species Fund. Please consider donating as much as you can so that we can continue the fight to protect the Cisco Chain.

Thank-you for your support!  
 Bob McGuffin CCROA Vice-President  
 Invasive Species Task Force Member

## Ice Fishing Report from Fishing Guide, Bruce Becker

By Bruce Becker

Ice formed on area lakes earlier this year than last season. A couple of thin ice mishaps occurred on the Chain with minor consequence. Even in the coldest of conditions and on prevailing thick ice, it is a good idea to stay on established snowmobile trails when traveling to your ice fishing hot spots. Currents in and near channels and underwater springs can cause sudden unexpected thin ice conditions that can lead to wet feet or worse. Beaver runs can also contribute to thin ice. Dress appropriately for weather conditions for the prolonged exposure to the cold one may experience during a morning or afternoon on the ice.

The bitter cold of early January reduced fishing pressure which in the long term helps sustain healthy fish populations. Catch and release fishing practices maintain and sustain viable fish populations and continued enjoyment of catching fish. That is not to say that anglers are to deprive themselves of keeping fish for the fry pan, but repeatedly taking the limit of pan fish, perch and walleye ultimately affects the quantity and size of fish in a lake.



Joan Cavanaugh,  
Dick Statler &  
the Dick & Diana  
Melhop Family  
enjoying a  
winter day on  
1000 Island Lake

Fish are generally being found in the weeds at this time of the year. The Perch and Walleye favor the bottom and pan fish suspend themselves at various depths between the bottom and ice. As the season progresses, fish migrate to deeper water. Typical baits and presentation for this time of year are producing results. Walleye, Northern and large Perch favor minnows set out on tip ups. Pan fish are being taken with spikes, mousies and wax worms by jigging.

Remember safety is no accident! Steer clear of potential thin ice conditions, dress warmly and be attentive to the razor sharp blades on ice augers. Keep the guards in place at all times when not in use. Have fun and good luck!

*Bruce Becker*

### Annual CCROA Membership Meeting Notes

The annual membership meeting for Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Association on July 18, 2013 convened at Cisco Lake Resort and was called to order at 9:40 a.m. by President, Kully Rohlen. Minutes of the 2012 annual meeting were read, corrected and approved. The treasurer's report was also accepted. Items of interest covered were:

Dr. Randy Lehr, Northland College, was introduced to the membership and thanked for all his assistance in preparation of the grants and help with the AIS.

Thank you to all of those who helped make the meeting possible. Cisco Lake Resort for the use of the meeting room, Forest Lake Country Store provided the donuts, Miller Coors for refreshments and the CCROA members who worked on the meeting.

Denise Faunteroy read the membership report and reminded everyone that membership dues are due January 1<sup>st</sup> not July 1<sup>st</sup>. Denise also asked the membership for email addresses because the CCROA goal is to communicate with the membership including newsletters through the internet. The average cost of a newsletter mailing is \$1700 per mailing

Deannie Wolbrink gave a "Loon Watch" update and brought some handouts for everyone to look at and how to report a wildlife harassment.

Greg Wenzel gave an update of what has been going on with the AIS and the work being done by ISCCW. He introduced his invasive task force and explained exactly what each member has done to help with this very serious subject.

Greg asked for help on how to handle this business of the "No Wake Zone" that has many of the members upset due to a lot of people not paying attention to the signs.

Greg also reminded us all to be very safety conscious with all the water sports etc, protect our youngsters and don't forget your "PFD'S."

Bob McGuffin thanked everyone for caring and for their willingness to help. He emphasized for the treatments and surveys to be done, we need grants. 1000 Island Lake needs help NOW. We do have some monies coming in but we need more. Bob explained how it is worthy to continue this fight. UPPCO sent a check for \$7500 for AIS. Bob read a Resolution for the CCROA. This resolution more or less allows Bob McGuffin to act on CCROA's behalf when submitting applications to Wisconsin for financial aid for lake planning purposes, sign documents etc. The resolution was approved.

EWM on Clearwater Lake was discussed. Spot treatment is not working and the CCROA will pursue a whole lake treatment for 2014.

Kully Rohlen gave an update on the Dam Project. A letter was passed out to all about where we are at the present moment and who are all the parties involved. FERC's approval is what we are waiting for. FERC is waiting to see if we are responsible enough to manage it. Kully made it quite clear that there is NO partnership with anyone.

Several questions were discussed regarding options and costs pursuant on the Dam Project. Another question was about the recent ballot and what the results were. Our By-Laws needed to be changed to conform to DNR Regulations. Some members asked that there be a separate ballot for each proposal, rather than all on one ballot.

After the current slate of candidates for Board positions and Lake Representatives was approved, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

**\*CCROA Annual Membership Meeting minutes are posted on our website [www.ciscochainroa.com](http://www.ciscochainroa.com)**

### Thank you to Craig and Lisa Hesse

Thank you Craig and Lisa, owners of Vacationland Resort, for hosting the 2013 CCROA picnic! Luckily it was a beautiful day with sunshine & blue skies. Kids' games, lively raffles and a yummy picnic lunch made the day perfect.

The picnic is the perfect opportunity to get together with neighbors and to make new friends on the Cisco Chain. Craig & Lisa Hesse have graciously agreed to host the July 20, 2014, CCROA Annual Picnic so mark your calendars and join all of us for another fun filled picnic. Everyone is welcome.

More information on the 2014 picnic will be in the Spring CCROA issue of Shorelines.



Sauberlich Family  
Enjoying the Kid's Games.

### Many Thanks Gloria!

*CCROA Collaboration*

After years of dedicated service, Gloria Anderson has retired as editor of Shorelines. We are grateful for her valued contributions to the CCROA.

Linda Hammer has offered to be Gloria's successor.

#### THE CCROA IS GOING GREEN!!!

The CCROA is asking your help to save money. The money saved will help fund needed areas. A single issue of Shorelines has cost the CCROA approximately \$1,700.00 per issue. In-house formatting of the newsletter & emailing will save significantly. If we don't have your email address, please email the CCROA at [ccroa49969@gmail.com](mailto:ccroa49969@gmail.com).

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.

Check the CCROA website regularly at [www.ciscochainroa.com](http://www.ciscochainroa.com). The website has a wealth of information, including detailed reports on the dam, Invasive species and what is and can be done, as well as links to other information sites.

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

## Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Association Membership Application 2014

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 \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please add our email address, [ccroa49969@gmail.com](mailto:ccroa49969@gmail.com) to your Safe Senders List, Address Book or Contact List

Lifetime Membership is only \$450.00. Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Vice President:**  
Bob McGuffin  
630-280-9542

**Secretary:**  
Jessica Ryden  
meleeandb@yahoo.com

**Treasurer:**  
David Fauntleroy  
906-358-0106

**Membership:**  
Denise Fauntleroy  
906-358-0106

**Parliamentarian:**  
Wes Kiley  
715-547-3283

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

**Big Lake South:**  
Open

**Cisco Lake:**  
Don Hall  
906-358-4704

**Clearwater Lake:**  
Helen Hayhurst  
906-358-4125

**East Bay Lake:**  
Bobby Warren  
robertfwarren@me.com

**Fish Hawk Lake:**  
Dean Challed  
906-358-4260

**Lindsley Lake:**  
Laurie Cooney  
630-730-4067

**Mamie Lake:**  
Open

**Poor Lake:**  
Kully Rohlen  
906-358-4460

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

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

**West Bay Lake;**  
Tom Wilson  
906-544-2680

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

**Shore Lines Editor:**  
Linda Hammer  
906-358-0500

**Webmaster:**  
Gary Ebert  
906-358-4246

**WE ARE IN NEED OF  
REPRESENTATIVES FOR  
BIG LAKE SOUTH  
AND MAMIE LAKE**

Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Assn.  
PO Box 687  
Watersmeet, MI 49969