

SHORE LINES

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

Cisco Chain
of Lakes



MAY, 2016

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Summertime... It's Picnic Time And The Sunshine is High

Make your plans to join friends and neighbors at the CCROA Annual Picnic on Sunday, July 17, 2016!!!! The picnic will be held at beautiful Vacationland Resort on Thousand Island Lake. Thank you to Craig and Lisa Hesse for again hosting the picnic at Vacationland Resort. Vacationland Resort is located on Hebert Road just off Thousand Island Lake Road.

The fun begins at 11:30 am. Socialize with your friends and neighbors while checking out the great raffle prizes available. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or \$25 for the "Arm's Length Raffle". Pay \$25, stretch out your arms (or a friend's with really long arms) and receive that length of raffle tickets to put in the various raffle prize buckets. A Keurig coffeemaker and a rustic barnyard table are a couple of the great raffle prizes.

As always, there will also be the exciting 50/50 raffle. 50/50 raffle tickets are 7 tickets for \$5. The picnic is not exclusive to CCROA members only - **Everyone is welcome to attend.**

At 12:30, the Picnic Lunch will begin. The menu includes charcoal-grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, grilled corn dipped in butter, homemade coleslaw, baked beans and yummy desserts provided by CCROA volunteer bakers!!!!

The lunch is only \$6.00 if you pre-register & pay by July 12, 2016. The at-the-door lunch price is \$8.00. *As a bonus for pre-registering, you will receive a raffle ticket for a special "secret" prize drawing.* Last year's prize was a Mini iPad tablet!!!! (See page 5 for the picnic form)

During the social hour, kid's games will be held. In addition, Vacationland Resort has a lovely swim beach and playground. Children are welcome to use the playground and beach; however, there are no lifeguards. Adult supervision is required.

Come rain or come shine, the picnic is always an event you don't want to miss. A large tent with tables and chairs will be set up. We ask that everyone arrive by car. There is very limited boat parking.

We look forward to seeing you at the CCROA 2016 Annual Picnic. Summertime is a very busy time for everyone. The picnic gives you a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and to make new Cisco Chain friends.



Raffle prize donations are welcome and much appreciated. Please contact Helen Hayhurst 906-358-4125 if you have anything to donate. Be a picnic volunteer and not only help make the picnic a success, but have fun and meet new people doing so. It only takes a ½ hour of your time at the picnic. Please call Lois Bates, 906-670-4010 to be a picnic volunteer



Welcome Aboard!!!!

We are pleased to announce that Mamie Lake has a Lake Representative!!!!

Al Knutsen has volunteered his time and energy to be the new Lake Rep for Mamie Lake.

See page 6 for the complete list of CCROA board members & their contact information

CCROA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING – THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2016

The CCROA Annual Business Meeting is July 14, 2016 at 9:00 am at Cisco Lake Resort. Everyone is welcome. It's a great opportunity to learn firsthand about CCROA Business, the Dam purchase and Lake Management including invasive species on the Cisco Chain. You can meet CCROA Board Members and Lake Representatives as well as address topics and questions concerning the Cisco Chain.

Membership can be renewed or member information can be updated at both the annual business meeting and at the picnic. Membership year starts January 1st and ends on December 31st.

The winter months produced a mixed bag of reviews by many folks that enjoyed seasonal activities on and around the Cisco Chain. I received interspersed reports on snowmobiling ranging from superb conditions to miserable, depending on the particular moment during the season. An early thaw brought a sudden end to snowmobiling sooner than many had hoped. In regard to ice fishing, similarly I received reports ranging from great action producing plentiful catches of pan fish and fish too big to get through the hole to nary a bite over the course of days of fishing. Snowshoeing and skiing reports were consistently positive.

Warming temperatures during March brought the first Robins. Swans, Geese and numerous species of Ducks were seen on areas of open water in the area. These seasonal signs, along with the lengthening daylight, produced a genuine sense of spring. April however, brought the usual roller coaster - temperatures in the 60s and 70s and in the next day or so, 4 degrees and 10+ inches of snow. And now, as time marches on we get our first glimpses of the summer just ahead of us.

From the business perspective of the Association, it was far from a seasonal lull. Great efforts were made in the pursuit of grant money. Work continued on finalizing the Comprehensive Lake Management Plans compiled by Northland College, and strategic meetings were conducted to develop action plans to address Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in 2016. I am delighted to report that resulting from a collaborative effort spearheaded by the ISCCW and the Iron County Conservation District, along with numerous other partners we were awarded a grant from the State of Michigan. The total amount of the grant is \$152,857.00! However, this amount will be divided among many partners across the Western UP. The ISCCW share, which our portion is funneled through, is \$58,725. It will be divided between CCROA projects and projects on many other lakes in Watersmeet Township surrounding the Cisco Chain of Lakes. The grant requires in kind matching funds and volunteer hours in order to secure payment.

This grant will enable us to expand our efforts in a much broader context this year than otherwise possible. We will be doing monitoring and surveying on all lakes on the Michigan side of the Chain. AIS treatment permits are funded in this Grant. Over \$5000 is earmarked for removal of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) via hand pulling and diver assisted suction harvesting. It should be understood that hand removal of EWM is our first line of defense in mitigating the invader, but it is not always practical or possible to do so. In those situations we are obliged to utilize herbicide applications under the auspices of the MI DEQ or WI DNR, closely following their protocols with a licensed applicator.

While all grant awards are tremendously helpful in our ongoing efforts of AIS education, prevention and mitigation, matching funds are needed to secure the funds. I must emphasize the importance of member's annual donations to our Lake Management Fund. Please consider this thoughtfully each year when asked to contribute to the fund.

The final process of approval by the Wisconsin DNR of the fore mentioned Comprehensive Lake Management Plan (LMP) will position us to address the EWM in Big Lake. As

you know from previous reports, the EWM in the southern portion of Big Lake has been challenging. Shifting protocols that appear to be emerging from the WI DNR will ultimately determine how we will be able to manage it. We are currently working to seek clarity regarding our options. Upon approval of the LMP, all deliverables in our relationship with Northland College will have been met and we will be working with our Biologists at Many Waters LLC, Barb and Bill exclusively. We are fortunate to have their expertise and guidance in monitoring and maintaining the health of the lakes, wetlands and shorelines of the Cisco Chain.

Another grant award from the WI DNR has enabled us to hire a Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) ambassador to staff the Palmer Bay Boat Landing for the summer. This landing has experienced increased use and CBCW staffing not only helps prevent the introduction of additional aquatic invaders to the Chain but also helps prevent transport of EWM from the Chain elsewhere. If you happen to see the CBCW ambassador, please make them feel welcome. Boat washing and educational outreach will continue to be provided on the Michigan side by ISCCW as in previous years. We are grateful for their support and commitment.

Every issue of *Shore Lines* includes updates on Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). I regularly attend conferences, seminars, and workshops on Invasive Species. The most recent event attended was the annual meeting of Wisconsin Headwaters Invasives Partnership in March. All of these events not only focus on aquatic invaders, but also terrestrial invasive species (TIS). These invaders are land based in contrast to those found in waterways. (article on Page 4) In future editions of *Shorelines*, more information will be provided on TIS and the importance of maintaining and restoring shore line buffer zones as a significant component of lake health.

Collectively, as stewards of the natural resources surrounding us, we have a solemn and rewarding duty to do our part to pass them on to future generations unspoiled.

Ambulance Service for Watersmeet Township

Per James Loeper, Gogebic County Emergency Services Coordinator - As of March 5, 2016 ambulance service requests out of Watersmeet Township will be directed to Central dispatch. Aspirus Medevac Ambulance Service from Iron River, Michigan will be dispatched to Watersmeet. Conover Ambulance Service will no longer be contacted for services in Watersmeet.

In a conversation with Watersmeet Township Supervisor, Mike Rogers, there are upsides to the new agreement...

1. Iron River ambulance has their people at the hospital 24/7 - they respond to a call immediately, no call out.
2. Their response time has been as quick as or quicker than Conover who had to call their people in from outlying areas before the ambulance could roll.
3. Our First responders will still answer all calls in the Township, just like they did before. Our First Responders are EMT'S just like Conover had. They will be first on site.
4. Iron River has Paramedics, so they can administer medicine on site, unlike EMT'S who cannot. That means in addition to being able to administer medicine, there would be no need for an intercept in serious medical situations.

As in the past, call 911 for ambulance service.

Lake Management Update

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

With the spring thaw comes renewed activity from your Association's Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) abatement program. Last year, we surveyed Clearwater Lake, treated and hand-pulled Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) on Thousand Island Lake, and pulled EWM on Morley and the connective channel. We tried to chemically treat Big Lake but again had difficulties getting the EWM beds delineated in time to meet Wisconsin DNR deadlines for treatment.

By the time you read this, you should have received our annual AIS fund raising mailing. If not, please be on the lookout for it in your mailbox. This is a critically important part of our fight against EWM. Without your support we don't have the financial resources to keep this plant from spreading unchecked throughout our chain of lakes. Please support this program with your tax-deductible donation!

This year we will again survey Clearwater Lake in the final year of our 3 year whole-lake treatment protocol. Any plants that are detected will be removed or treated. We also expect to survey and pull EWM on Thousand Island Lake. Our treatment on the north end of the lake was successful enough that we hope we won't need to treat here again in 2016. We will also return to our treatment area on Morley and decide if more work is required here.

We continue to have difficulties in obtaining Wisconsin DNR permission in Big Lake for a chemical treatment on the south end. Our biologists have been working throughout the winter with the WDNR to satisfy their requirements for treatment. We had hoped to get the

permit this year, but it appears that not to be the case. At present, we will continue to map and mark the EWM on the south end while attempting to hand-pull EWM plants on the east and west ends of the lake to limit its spread. Your Board shares your frustration with the lack of progress on Big lake but we will not give up.

In 2016, it is planned that all Michigan Lakes on the Cisco Chain plus Big Lake will be surveyed.

As in years past- please remain clear of our orange EWM marker buoys. They are placed in the lakes by our biologists not only to aid in rapid relocation of the plants when it's time for treatment or removal, but also as a reminder for lake users to keep away from the EWM plants as they can be spread by fragmenting the plant with a prop or lure and having the fragments drift and re-root in a new location.

Please feel free to call or email me with questions you may have. It is my honor to serve such active and informed members!

See you on the Lake!!
Bob McGuffin



Greg Wenzel, CCROA President, and Member of Invasive Species Task Force, pulling the EWM Buoys, Fall, 2015

Aquatic plants are part of a healthy lake. They produce oxygen, provide food and habitat for fish, and help to stabilize shoreline and bottom sediments.

- Insects and other invertebrates live on or near aquatic plants, and become food for fish, birds, amphibians and other wildlife.
- Plants and algae are the base of the food chain. Lakes with a healthy fishery have a moderate density of aquatic plants.
- Aquatic plants provide habitat for fish and other aquatic life.
- Aquatic plants help to hold sediments in place and improve water clarity.
- Trees and shrubs prevent erosion and provide habitat.
- Roots and stones absorb wave energy and reduce scouring of the lake bottom.
- Predator-fish such as pike hide among plants, rocks, and tree roots to sneak up on their prey. Prey-fish such as minnows and small sunfish use aquatic plants to hide from predators.

The shore lines of the Cisco Chain of Lakes are a treasure. There are many ways you can protect them

1. Respect the No Wake areas. Wakes can harm moored boats, docks and shore lines.
2. Maintain or establish a greenbelt which is a buffer strip of land between a lake and upland/lawn area.
3. Remember that what you put on your lawn has a high potential of going into the lake. Consider not mowing your lawn to the water's edge

4th of July Parade, 2015!!!

Milfoil Queen, Helen Hayhurst, along with Barb Aarud and Joan Cavanaugh had great fun representing the CCROA in the 4th of July Parade in Land O'Lakes and Watersmeet. Joan was the driver of the float.

Many thanks to Leonard and Northern Edge Sport & Marine, Land O'Lakes, for the use of his truck and beautiful pontoon boat for the parade.

Thanks go out to Dean Challed for organizing the CCROA float.

Milfoil Queen, Helen & her "court" are making plans for this year's 4th of July float. Thanks ladies for representing the CCROA and helping to spread Eurasian Water Milfoil awareness.

Donate the easy way to the various CCROA funds. Go online to www.ciscochainroa.com. Click on "Donations" in the bottom right corner of the home page. You are able to donate to these 4 different funds - Walleye Stocking, Lake Management (formerly Aquatic Invasive Species Fund), Dam Purchase or the General Fund. All donations are tax deductible.

All processing is secure through PayPal. You are not required to set up or use a PayPal account in order to donate. Donations can be made using any major credit card. You'll receive your tax receipt right away.

Terrestrial Invaders

By CCROA Collaboration

Page 4

Two terrestrial invaders that have been discovered in isolated areas around the Chain are Purple Loosestrife (not to be confused with native Fireweed) and Japanese Barberry. If left to propagate unabated, they have the potential to change the ecosystem they occupy and out-compete native plants. Last year an area of Purple Loosestrife was discovered by our biologists on the north end of Thousand Island Lake. Permission was granted by the land owner to access the area and AIS Task Force member Linda Hammer and her husband John volunteered their time and toil to remove it. Similarly, Japanese Barberry has established colonies in the Maplewood area of Thousand Island Lake. AIS Task Force member Lucy Brundage has spearheaded efforts to remove the invader. Hats off to both ladies for their stewardship!

Japanese Barberry - Maplewood area on 1000 Island Lake has had an ongoing battle with Japanese Barberry. This last summer, the Ottawa Center had a crew come out and work for a day digging and pulling barberry. Any areas that needed spraying were the responsibility of the property owners. This summer, Maplewood has big plans to battle this terrestrial invasive plant!! Plans include having a couple of days of workers spraying and pulling barberry for the residents on Maplewood and Kari-Brooke Lane.

Barberry has also been found at the 1000 Island Lake boat landing. Michigan DNR has worked to eradicate it at the landing; however, it has spread to the private property on either side of the boat landing property.

Barberry spreads quickly, taking over the floor of the woods killing off our natural plants. This impacts wildlife and natural vegetation. Property owners are strongly encouraged to eradicate this invasive shrub. As with many invasive species, it has no natural enemies.

Purple Loosestrife - was found on the north shore of 1000 Island Lake. About 1 ½ dozen plants were removed last September. Removal is quite challenging due to the deep root system and very often the location. The best time for removal is when the plant is in bloom making it easily recognizable. Once the plant has gone to seed, it requires additional steps. Before the plant can be dug, the seeds/seed heads must be contained by bending them over into a plastic bag and cutting them off into the bag.

Purple loosestrife is a very hardy perennial which can rapidly degrade wetlands. Hundreds of species of plants, birds and animals (including fish) rely on wetlands for habitat and survival.



Summer Road Construction

By CCROA Collaboration

Lindsley Bridge -The Lindsley Bridge repair and rehabilitation will be done this summer. Hebert Construction, Iron River, MI has submitted the progress schedule to the Michigan Department of Transportation. Work will begin 8/15/16 and should be completed by 11/1/16. During construction, there will be single lane access across the bridge. Temporary traffic signals will be installed on each side of bridge.

Boat traffic under the bridge may be reduced to single-lane. The intent is to perform work on each pier separately, which will allow boat access under the bridge. However, there may be days during the construction, where traffic may be delayed or closed.

Thousand Island Lake Road - Again this summer there will be repairs on Thousand Island Lake Road. Fifteen culvert replacements will be installed on the roadway. Construction is scheduled to begin around June 1st and should take about 3 weeks. Some road closures will be required in order to replace some of the deeper culverts. The same detours will be in place as last year for the required road closures. The paving of three miles of Thousand Island Lk Rd from US-2 south is scheduled to be done later this fall.

As with all road projects, please slow down and be courteous to both the workers and your neighbors who will be trying to navigate these work areas. Both these projects will enhance the Cisco Chain area and we welcome their improvements.

PICNIC PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Sunday July 17, 2016, 11:30 am at Vacationland Resort

(Everyone is welcome)

Reservation in the Name of: _____

How many Volunteers to work at the picnic? _____ (just ½ hour of your time)

Phone: _____



No. of Meals: _____ X \$6.00 = _____

Mail form & check (payable to Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Assn)

By Wednesday: July, 13, 2016

Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Assn

PO Box 687, Watersmeet, MI 49969

Picnic starts at 11:30 am with social hour, lunch at 12:30 pm

Pre-register by July 13, 2016. Lunch will be \$8.00 at the door.

Lunch features hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, grilled corn, homemade coleslaw, special dessert treats and other picnic favorites!

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

**Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Association
Membership Application 2016**

NEW _____ RENEWAL _____ DONATION _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home 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 ½ hour of your time)

Seasonal Committee _____ Educate at Boat Ramps _____

President:
Greg Wenzel
414-581-5444

Vice President:
Bob McGuffin
630-280-9542

Secretary:
Jessica Ryden
meleeandb@yahoo.com

Treasurer:
David Fauntleroy
906-358-0106

Membership:
Linda Hammer
906-358-0500

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715-547-3283

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Morley Lake:
Tom Krautkramer
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Big Lake South:
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Cisco Lake:
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Lindsley Lake:
Laurie Cooney
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Mamie Lake:
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1000 Island Lake N:
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Visit the CCROA website for
more news & information -
www.ciscochainroa.com

SNIPPETS

Watersmeet "Free Dump" Day – June 11, 2016, 8am to 6pm

This is an opportunity for Watersmeet Township property owners to responsibly dispose of many items such as paint. For information or questions, please contact Watersmeet Township. Please note the following requirements:

Prior to June 11th, the Watersmeet Township property owner who wishes to participate must pick up a sticker from the Watersmeet Township Office. **DO NOT** put it on your vehicle. The sticker **MUST** be turned in at the Transfer Station gate.

Remember "Clean Boats – Clean Water"

Clean, Drain & Dry boats, props, paddles, 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. Use a "weed" bucket or bag for weeds collected on lures, props, anchors, paddles, etc. Please refrain from throwing weeds back into the lake. Help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

Watersmeet and Land O'Lakes Refuse & Recycling Stations will be open on Sundays this summer as follows –

Watersmeet Sunday hours 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon
June 5 through September 4th, 2016

Land O'Lakes Sunday hours 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon
Memorial Weekend through September 30th

The CCROA runs on Volunteers. Thank you to all that volunteer their time and equipment. Volunteer hours are an integral requirement in order to receive the grant money that Greg Wenzel detailed in his President's Report. Grant money is not a freebie, we have to work for it with in-kind hours or cash match

Help is always needed from the annual picnic to something as simple as helping to "stuff" envelopes. Email the CCROA at ccroa49969@gmail.com or contact your lake representative and find out where you can help. To be a picnic volunteer please call Lois Bates at 906-670-4010 (it involves only ½ hour of your time)

Around Town Events-Land O'Lakes

Wisconsin Free Fishing Weekend – June 4 & 5, 2016
For details visit [Wisconsin Free Fishing Weekend](#)

Classic Car Show May 28, 2016 10am – 3pm, Land O'Lakes
Summer Launch, Land O'Lakes downtown 10am – 3pm

Fireworks – July 3, 2016 10:15pm at the Airport
Parade & Picnic July 4, 2016 – Parade starts at noon. Picnic immediately following the Parade at the Town Park Pavilion

Around Town Events-Watersmeet

Michigan Free Fishing Weekend – June 11 & 12, 2016
For details visit [Michigan Free Fishing Weekend](#)

May 30th American Legion Memorial Day Ceremony Schedule
8am at Lac Vieux Desert Indian Village Cemetery
10 am at the Watersmeet Cemetery

Parade & Picnic July 3, 2016 – Parade starts at Noon. Picnic immediately following the Parade at the Watersmeet pavilion
Fireworks July 2, 2016 at 10pm.