

MLRA Newsletter #110

September 2010

MINUTES OF THE MLRA ANNUAL MEETING

August 14, 2010 - 9 a.m. - Ely Memorial Church Hall

In the absence of President Peter Olk, Roy Porterfield called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the August 9, 2009 meeting were approved

Treasurer Jim Reiels gave the Treasurer's Report. The August 2009 beginning balance in checking was Ro\$1263.02; receipts were \$1554.72 and expenditures \$2310.50 = a closing balance as of this date \$582.24. Savings account has a balance of \$2458.89; ANS Fund has a balance of 2411.13. Total assets are \$5452.26. Ed Baeten moved/John Sick seconded approval of report; passed unanimously.

Jim Reiels reported a membership of 45 paid members, plus three who have not yet paid their dues.

Dale Sharpee gave the water quality study. He reported that the average clarity is about 30 feet. The phosphorus test results have been about mid-30's. Lately we've been in the low 30's, probably due to the lower water levels. Chlorophyll-A tests results are in the 30's, indicating a positive quality level for Moon Lake. He reported that the trend line for the past 15 years has been relatively flat. Our current depth level is 1.24; at ice-out it was 1.16. Last year at this time we had 1.60 so we are still lower than last year.

Linda Wheeler gave the loon report. The two loon chicks are now 9 weeks old and are probably old enough to no longer have threats from the eagles. They are beginning to sprout their adult wings. They are able to fish effectively now but still are unable to fly. Hopefully when it is time to migrate they would fly to the Atlantic rather than the Gulf of Mexico, but this has not been their pattern. The DNR is trying to band the loons so as to track their locations and survival. Normally the young loons will not return north for three or four years.

Roy Porterfield gave the report on the MLRA placemat project. He indicated that most have been sold; costs have been covered and that there may be a slight profit if the extras are sold.

John Sick moved/Jean Reiels seconded approval of \$20 annual membership fee. Passed.

The election of board members was opened. John Sick, Jim Reiels and Dale Sharpee were elected unanimously to the board. John Sick was then elected President; Roy Porterfield vice president and Jim Reiels secretary/treasurer. Tom Chase, Linda Wheeler, Bob Turnquist and Roy Porterfield are continuing members for another year. At this point in the meeting John Sick took over the meeting as the new president.

Jim Reiels announced that the Oktoberfest would again be held at Peter Olk's home. This year turkey sandwiches will be served. Jane Shirk will let people know what they are to bring. Cost is \$5.00 per person, regardless of age. Any excess funds above costs will be put in the ANS fund as done in previous years.

John Sick thanked Peter Olk for hosting the Oktoberfest and for serving as MLRA president.

Other items from the floor included:

- A need to work with the DNR and USFS on the boat landing
- Items for the newsletters should be forwarded to Tom Chase, including changes in e-mail addresses
- Requests for local news from the township and general area should be sent to Tom Chase for newsletters; reference was made that the Ironwood Globe is a good source of local news; also notices from Watersmeet Township could be included.
- Mystery snails are still prevalent in Moon Lake; the impact of snails on the lake is not known.
- The Camp Plagens raft was again discussed. It was suggested that it would be anchored (and/or replaced) soon
- Executive Director of Michigan Lake & Stream Assn, Don Winne, passed away this summer.
- Mention was made of long grasses growing in lake (not invasive), probably due to lower water levels

- Tom Chase donated his purchase of \$44.00 postage to the ANS fund.
- Fingerlings were again planted this spring
- Changes in zoning laws have been made, clarifying placement of docks and limitation of areas used for piers.
- Frank Kuchevar announced that there would be no Michigan Lake & Stream seminar at Lake Hagemann this year

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.
 Respectfully submitted by Jim Reiels, Secretary

MLRA TREASURER'S REPORT

BEGINNING BALANCE		\$1,263.02
1-Aug-09		
RECEIPTS		
dues	\$929.72	
lake maps	\$335.00	
oktoberfest	\$365.00	
		.
		\$1,629.72
SUBTOTAL		\$2,892.74
EXPENDITURES		
transfer to savings	\$1,000.00	
postage	\$22.00	
ann. Mtg. refreshments	\$25.00	
annual mtg. rental	\$35.00	
oktoberfest	\$170.81	
transfer to ANS fund	\$169.19	
MI license	\$20.00	
ISCCW membership	\$125.00	
MLSA water tests	\$143.50	
transfer to ANS fund	\$180.00	
lake maps	\$360.00	
MLSA membership	\$60.00	
Subtotal		\$2,310.50
ENDING CHECKING BAL.		\$582.24
ANS FUND		\$2,411.13
SAVINGS		\$2,458.89
TOTAL ASSETS		\$5,452.26

MEMBERSHIP 2010 45 PAID + 3
UNPAID = 48 MEMBERS
 (HIGHEST MEMBERSHIP = 51)

Water Quality Report (expanded)

Dale Sharpe

We have 11 years of results from the testing of clarity, phosphorus, and chlorophyll-a as a result of MLRA participating in the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program. The Tropic State Index (TSI) provides a numerical index to evaluate changes within Moon Lake over time. Values for clarity have been consistently in the low 30's. The pattern of the values for phosphorus has been u shaped over the 11 year period. The numerical values of chlorophyll-a have ranged from 36 (2009) to 46 (2001) but the values for 8 of the 11 years were in a narrow range of 37 to 41. The trend line for the average water clarity reading for the past 15 years has been relatively flat – 22 to 23 feet. The TSI levels and their pattern over the last 11 years appear to indicate that Moon Lake has not experienced lake aging or eutrophication.

Current depth at the water gauge is 1.24 feet; at ice out it was 1.16 feet. Last year at this time the depth was 1.6 feet so we are still lower than last year.

Loon Update

Tom & Linda Wheeler

The Moon Lake loon family is doing well. The chicks are maturing successfully, their flight feathers are nearly developed, and they are adept at diving and fishing. One of the chicks is extremely independent and spends much of its time away from the adults, diving, grooming, and attempting to fly. The other chick is usually with an adult and still begs for food by continuously pecking at the adult, but appears to be developing normally.

LADIES OF THE LAKE NEWS

Judy Chase

It's hard to believe today is the last day of Aug. Where did our summer go? If you are like me, lots of company found their way to our little corner of paradise. July found about 12 of us enjoying dinner at Tipplers in Conover. I brought my mom, Marge, along to enjoy our great conversation/sharing and eating. She really had a good laugh sitting next to Sharon Stone (aka Debbie P). Mom, belongs to a similar group in Mesa AZ. It is known as LEGGS (ladies, eating, giggling, and guzzling society).

This month another "lake lady", Judy Pinkawa, joined us. We all enjoyed meeting and sharing conversation with her. The weather was somewhat cool but we still enjoyed ourselves on the screen porch at Black Oak Inn. The food was delicious and the service top notch.

In Sept. our tentative date to share in conversation/food is Thursday, Sept. 16th, 5:30 p.m. at the Lake Forest Country Store. We have enjoyed ourselves there in the past and appreciate the great food and friendly service. Please let Sally or Elaine know if you will be attending.

One of our ladies, Judy Hill, was recently in an accident. She suffered a broken foot with torn tendons and I think she had to have pins put in. If you would like to send her a "Thinking of You" greeting, her address is: 39841 Long Drive, Antioch, IL 60002. Cheery notes always make a person feel better. Happy Fall!

Upcoming Event

The Land O' Lakes Fish & Game Club program on Tuesday, September 14, is about loons. Dr. Mike Meyer, a loon biologist with the Rhinelander DNR office, will present the program. Mike has been studying loons for many years and is extremely knowledgeable. The meeting is at Ely Memorial Church in the community room, starting at 6:30 PM with refreshments, and the program at 7:00 PM. The F&G meetings are open to the public

Don't forget Monday September 8th at 4:00pm! Peter Olk is hosting this year's Oktoberfest on the south end of Moon Lake. If you haven't made your presence known, please contact Jim Reiles. The cost is \$5 per person that includes food and soft drinks and please bring a lawn chair and alternate drink preference. Don't forget to check with Jane Shirk about a dish to pass.

Observations

Tom Chase

I can't believe the Summer is ready to leave the great North Woods! A friend was correct in saying that once the 4th of July is past, get ready for the Fall to come. We have noticed the ferns are turning brown and the leaves (on the tree tops) are starting to show their colors. One good note to the end of the season is that our lake level is up (inches) from the beginning of Summer!

During our annual meeting, a few web sites were mentioned that might be worthwhile to place in your "favorite" bookmarks:

1. www.watersmeet.us Watersmeet Township web site. Provides information on scheduled meetings, zoning regulations, various hours of operation for town facilities, etc.
2. www.micorps.net Information and analysis on Michigan lakes and streams. This will include Moon Lake.
3. www.yourdailyglobe.com Ironwood Daily Globe newspaper. This will keep you updated on local UP events. This is especially nice if you are away from Watersmeet during the "cooler" months.

Remember, this is your newsletter. Any article contributions you would like to share, please forward to any board member, or myself and we will get them published.