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Moon Lake Riparian Association Newsletter  
Moonlake.org

June 2019

**VERY HIGH** water levels on Moon Lake this spring! Many pieces of floating debris have been found floating. Please take care to secure any unused dock sections and lumber that may be used with your dock to prevent lake hazards.

### From the President

Bob Turnquist

As you likely know there have been some problems with the video CAM this year.

During April near ice out time the camera went down. I was traveling during this time and the router had problems and needed to be reset. Eric Zorr came over and reset the router, putting the camera back on line, but a couple of days later the router needed resetting again, but we were not able to do it. We will investigate improving the reliability of the system as I will likely be gone during ice out again next year.

This spring I moved the camera to the loon platform. Unfortunately, the camera did not function in this location. Tom Wheeler and I spent a day trying to get it going to no avail. Our observations indicated the cable running to the platform was damaged which was later confirmed after removing the cable from the lake and testing it. I elected not to try to install a new cable without making the

system more robust by running the cable to the platform through a conduit or some other solution. We will discuss further at the next board meeting. With the loons sitting on the nest again (for more on loons see the loon report) the camera was moved back to the lake location on June 17 and is functioning.

Thanks, Bob

### Mark Your Calendars!



### Moon Lake Riparian Association Annual Meeting and Social

**Saturday August 17, 2019**

Land O'Lakes Pavilion

Meeting at 4pm with social immediately following

Bring a dish to pass and your favorite beverage. Plates/utensils/napkins will be provided. We hope everyone can attend and get caught up on lake news and neighbors! Also, this is a great time to pay the annual association dues of \$25.00 if you have not done so already.



## Loon Report

By Carol Youmans

Hello Moon Lakers!

First of all, a BIG thank you to those who were on loon watch "look out" early on this year. Without all your eyes keeping notes with accuracy this article would be impossible. We all make a great team!!!

With that here is the latest scoop on our loon pair so far this Spring 2019:

**April 30th - Loons sighted, they're back!**

**May 2nd - Finally the ice is out!**

The loons have been up on the nesting platform but not sitting for any length of time.

You can catch them swimming and feeding together along the lake most every day. On occasion there has been other loons (called floaters) flying in and creating much activity with our residential pair. Some of you may have heard and seen this commotion as it took place, loons are very territorial and fight.

June 1st (or so) there were two eggs on the nest, but loons were not sitting on them, they had abandoned the eggs. It is hard to tell why, and no, the black flies didn't seem to be the case this time. They just may have been uneasy about something.

All is not lost because 9 days later, June 10<sup>th</sup>, there is a new clutch of eggs (assuming 2) on the nest again. As of this morning, June 17<sup>th</sup>, the loons are still sitting on the nest!! Let's be optimistic for a successful hatching due in 26 to 28 days, July 9th!!! We will keep you posted.

Since this is such a late date, I'm surely not the only one that is worried about our upcoming chick or chicks. Just so you know there have been some chicks on other lakes have left within a week of ice over. I did some calculations and found our future "hopeful" hatchlings to be within the "safe" time to leave. Parents will feed chicks for about 6 weeks. The chicks learn to fly in about 12 weeks which puts the date around October 1st.

Wings crossed!!

### **Reminders on Moon Lake loon safety:**

- ✓ Watch for loons! Especially closer to shoreline or as they cross the lake
- ✓ Don't fish next to a loon (loons can mistake lures and jigs for live prey)
- ✓ Do not leave fishing hooks in lake overnight they can become tangled or hooked. Keep a respectful distance when viewing loons (200 feet if possible)

### **LOON TRIVIA:**

Did you know that Loons only have their famous red eyes during the summer? In winter their eyes are grey. A possible reason for this is to attract other loons during mating season. The second is said to filter out blue and green light to help see underwater.

Enjoy your summer!

Carol



## Be on the Watch for These Guys!

Multiple bear sightings have been reported around Moon Lake, most recently by Sue Stephens on the North side of the lake. Thanks Sue and hope your hummingbird feeders are still in-tact!

(p.s. This is not a moon lake bear...just a regular bear picture from the internet 😊). If you have any good photos, please share!

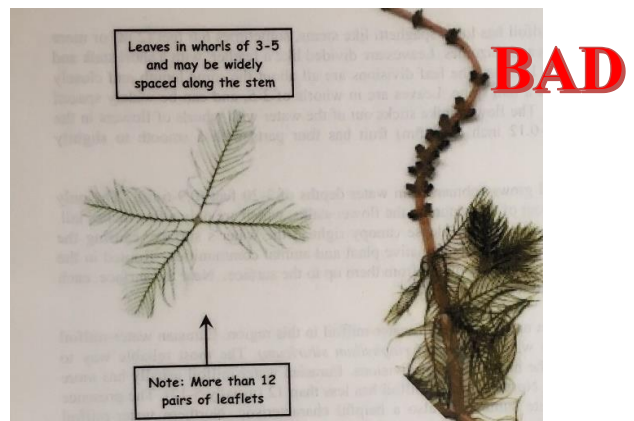
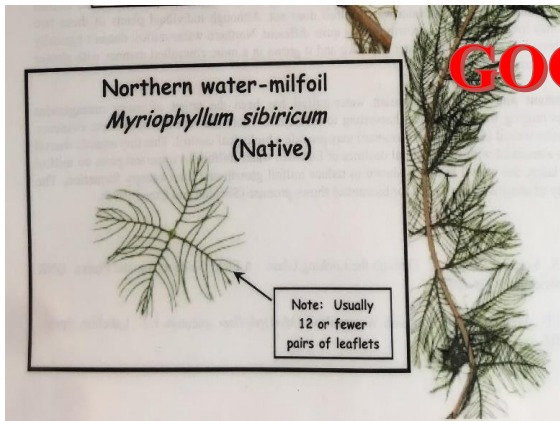
### FUN FACT:

Black bears are only found in North America and live on average for 18 years. They are thought to have the best sense of smell of any animal on the planet, at least 2,100 times better than humans.

### Invasive Species Refresher

As we get out on the area lakes, stay up on the current boating and fishing laws at: [https://www.michigan.gov/invasives/0,5664,7-324-68071\\_91899---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/invasives/0,5664,7-324-68071_91899---,00.html)

And remember how to tell the Native from the Invasive Milfoil:



**FEWER (than 12 leaflets) is our FRIEND (the native)**  
**MORE (than 12 leaflets) is the MONSTER (invasive)!**

## LAKE NOTES – JUNE 2019

By Dale Sharpee

### Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP):

The 2018 CLMP results have been released. The average Trophic Status Index (TSI) for Moon lake was 31. TSI numbers indicate the level of nutrient enrichment in a lake. The score of 31 was based on the Secchi transparency, chlorophyll-a, and summer total phosphate. The TSI numbers are grouped into general categories to provide a way to indicate the general enrichment level of any lake. Moon Lake has again been rated as an oligotrophic lake. Oligotrophic lakes are generally deep and clear with little aquatic plant or algae growth. An average TSI score of 32 for the last 5 years has meant that Moon Lake has been rated as an oligotrophic lake during that time period. The 2018 Data Report summary stated that while the trends for individual parameters (transparency, phosphorus and chlorophyll-a ) are mixed, the overall nutrient levels in Moon Lake are largely unchanged since monitoring began in 1995.

2019 is the 25<sup>th</sup> year that sampling and measuring have been undertaken on Moon Lake. This spring 4 readings have been taken of the water clarity using the Secchi disk. The earliest reading on May 31<sup>st</sup> was 20.0 feet and the latest was 17.5 feet on June 17<sup>th</sup>.

### Ice Cover for 2018-2019 Winter Season:

This past winter season was the 13<sup>th</sup> season that ice over and ice-free dates as well as number of days of ice cover have been recorded, Moon Lake was covered with ice on November 18<sup>th</sup> and did not become ice free until 165 days later on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The longest time that the lake has been covered with ice in the past 13 seasons was 167 days during the winter of 2013-2014. For 2 of the past 4 winter seasons the lake became covered with at the end of November and then partially reopened in December. November 18<sup>th</sup> was the earliest date in the last 13 winter seasons that the lake has become covered with ice.

### Lake Level – May

Last year the level of the lake exceeded the level that could be read on the water gauge located in the southwest bay. Bob Turnquist added an extension to the gauge so the water level could be recorded in this era of high water. Shortly after ice-out Bob reported that the level of the lake was **7.7 feet**. This is **5.2 feet** higher than the lake level reported at the time of 2008 annual meeting.

When you are out on the lake with your motorized watercraft, be aware of the impact of your waves on the shoreline as well as the piers that are at or barely above the waterline. Michigan boating law does provide for “no wake within 100 feet of the shoreline, any watercraft, pier, person, raft, swimming area or person”.



# Useful Information for Your Summer Enjoyment and Safety in the Northwoods



## Watersmeet Township Police

Chief Paul Runcie has provided the procedure to contact the new police department:

**8am-5pm Monday thru Friday call (906) 358-2048**

**Weekends and evenings for non-emergencies call Central Dispatch (906)875- 6669**

**For ALL emergencies call 911.** The transition is going well. Since April 1st there have been 13 complaint calls and 1 arrest.



## Watersmeet Transfer Station (dump) Additional Open Time!

The transfer station is also open from **8:00am to Noon on Sundays** beginning June 2 through September 8, 2019.

## Ottawa Visitor Center 2019 Summer Program Schedule

Click here:

<http://www.ottawainterpretive.org/summer-program-schedule/> for the summer program schedule put on by the US Forest Service Ottawa Interpretive Association. Location is in Watersmeet at the Ottawa Visitors Center.



## 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebrations:

### ➤ In Watersmeet **JULY 6<sup>th</sup> that's Saturday!**

Parade - Noon

Picnic - Immediately following parade

Fireworks - dusk

### ➤ In Land O' Lakes

Fireworks - **JULY 3<sup>rd</sup>** 10:15pm at the airport

Parade - **JULY 4<sup>th</sup>** Noon

## Don't Miss Out on These LOL Annual Events



- **Art Impressions-** July 27th, 9am-3pm. A “Summer Classic” Northwoods art fair. Held in a park-like setting at the Land O’ Lakes Town Hall grounds. Showcases a wide variety of fine art and quality craft for show and sale.
- **Land O’Lakes Public Library Annual Book Sale and Auction** – July 27<sup>th</sup>, same day as Art Impressions. Browse hundreds of books on sale and be sure to place your silent auction bid for local business gift certificates, artwork and much more. Raffle with great prizes too.
- **Community Garage Sale** - August 3rd, 8am-4pm. Up to 50 garage sales or more for your shopping fun! Maps available at the Land O’ Lakes Chamber on Sat. morning at 7am.

### Congratulations on these new LOL Businesses!

#### Charlie’s Up North Market – Grand Opening held June 18<sup>th</sup>



#### Dawson’s Pier – (next to the BP) Open for breakfast and lunch + Friday Fish Fry



Continued on page 7

**“OPUS” (Our Pop-Up Stores)** – A co-op of small business owners located between Charlie’s grocery store and the laundromat. Every day may bring something new so stop in often. Currently the businesses range from baked goods, jewelry, custom women’s wear, artwork, fabrics & yarn and much, much more!



### **Ladies of the Lake Make Summer Plans – Don’t miss out!**

What a great way, Ladies, to meet up with Moon Lake neighbors and friends! Dates are scheduled whenever a group can go out, communication is via email, so if you are not on the distribution and would like to be, send an email to the editor and we’ll make sure you get included. Our next event:

#### ***Pirate Ship Excursion on the Eagle River Chain!***

July 15<sup>th</sup> 3pm  
RSVP to Prudy Caudill at  
906-544-2346



### **Moon Lake Memories...**

By Steve Sunderland

#### **“The Trip Up North”**

When I was just a youngster in the 1960’s our family home was in Waukegan, IL, about an 8 to 9-hour car trip to Moon Lake. (It’s a much quicker journey these days but back then our family treated the day-long trek as an adventure - and necessity - for my parents!)

My parents were both teachers and my youthful impression of the very best perk they had as teachers was having the summers off. This meant heading to the cabin at Moon Lake and to start it off right, the car trip getting there. I’m not sure my parents felt the same about a long ride in a station wagon with three rambunctious boys and a large collie dog but to us boys it was great fun.

The day would begin early with the car

Continued on page 8

packed to the gills with all that would be needed for a couple months in the Northwoods. Our route was always the same, US 94 north to Milwaukee, then US 41 to Oshkosh, then US 45 to Moon Lake. Having the same route certainly provided familiarity and to young kids it contained all the fun places we'd come to love.

The first stop was between Milwaukee and Fond du Lac at the **Stuckey's** roadside store. In those days it really was a roadside store. No off ramps, just pull over and park. We'd head in for the first of many bathroom breaks but the best part was my parents would allow each boy to buy one treat. This was the way to say the summer had arrived. I'd normally pick something with chocolate but inevitably one of us would pick the pecan roll which Stuckey's made famous. It always looked so good but my memory reminds me it wasn't as good as chocolate.

Next stop was the **Lakeside Park** on Lake Winnebago in Fond du Lac for lunch. We loved this park. We'd have a good hour to run, skip stones and just be young boys in a big park. Lunch consisted of egg salad sandwiches, chips and a can of Shasta soda (orange, grape or cream soda). It was our family standard.

After lunch it was time to hit the road for a while. This was still enjoyable as we'd see again all the little towns that felt like old friends. **Winchester, New London, Clintonville, Wittenberg** and many others. I'm always a little sad as I head north these days as we miss so many of them due to the bypasses. We have gained time but have lost something too.

**Wayside road stops.** Now these were the all-time best stops. The river wayside just north of Clintonville and the boulders wayside just south of Monico where my favorites.

It's like they had our family in mind when they built them. Rivers to cross, boulders to climb and woods to wander in. I remember my parents standing near the car and just letting us go free. I'm sure at this point, they were just as happy with the break.

Now we've passed **Antigo**. We're getting close now. Antigo was always, in our minds, the beginning of Northwoods country. Each little town with its own personality and each getting us closer to Moon Lake. **Summit Lake, Elcho, Pelican Lake** (always love seeing this lake), **Monico, Three Lakes** and onward north.

Then came **Eagle River**. What new stores had opened and what's playing at the movie theater (outdoor and indoor) were questions in our minds. But no stopping now as the anticipation was killing us. We are so close. Just through **Conover** now and we're there.

We see the **Land O' Lakes sign, the golf course, the Michigan sign, the roadside park on the right and finally South Moon Lake Road.**

It's been a long day but none of us could be any happier. We arrive at our driveway and turn in. We see the cabin in the distance.....ahhh, it's going to be another great summer!

Regards, Steve



p.s. This guy is actually from Moon Lake! He came by for a visit last week.





## Moon Lake Family Recipe Corner:

Here are a couple of quick and easy dishes for your busy summer! Thanks to Sheila McConaghy for the noodle recipe, and the Cherry desert is a favorite of my mother's. Happy Eating! Carleen

### Sheila's Ramen Revival

2 packages ramen noodles, any flavor, (noodles only, reserve the flavor packet for something else)  
1 bunch green onions, sliced  
Sesame oil  
1 - 2 Tbsp soy sauce  
1/2 cup cooked meat (beef or chicken)

Cook the noodles till still firm and drain. In a skillet, sauté onions and meat till slightly browned. Add noodles and stir fry adding in sesame oil as needed. add soy sauce and quickly stir. Serve. Serves 2 generously. Add extra veggies if you like.

### Theresa's Cherry Pineapple Surprise Parfait

1 can (20 oz) crushed pineapple with juice  
1 can (21 oz) Cherry Pie filling  
1 pkg yellow cake mix  
1 c. butter, melted  
1 pkg 7 oz flaked coconut  
1 c. chopped Macadamia nuts (optional)

Spray 9x13 pan with non-stick spray, layer pie filling over pineapple. Sprinkle dry cake mix evenly over top. Drizzle with butter. Sprinkle coconut and nuts. Bake at 350 degrees for 50-60 minutes until browned and bubbly. Dish up with whipped cream or ice cream. Serves 12

### Your 2019 MLRA Board:

- President: Bob Turnquist  
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- Vice President: Steve Sunderland  
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Respectfully submitted,  
*Steve and Carleen Sunderland*