

Winter 2013 Newsletter

Long Lake Link

Long Lake Property Owners Association

www.minnesotawaters.org/LLPOA

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Long Lake Link
PO Box 292
Longville, MN 56655
Lake ID: 11-0142-00



UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

Jan. 26	Ice Golf Tournament @ 12:00 pm ~ Anchorage Inn on Lake Inguadona
Jan. 26	Penguin Plunge & chili feed @ 1:00 pm ~ Birch Lake/Hackensack Legion
Feb. 2	Ice Bocce Tournament @ 9:00 am ~ Girl Lake near Patrick's
Feb. 14-17	International Eelpout Festival ~ Walker
Feb. 16	Polar Pout Plunge in Walker ~ Benefits Walker Area Community Center
Feb. 23	Ice Golf Tournament @ 12:00 pm ~ Anchorage Inn on Lake Inguadona
Mar. 2	Chili Cook-off @ the Docksider @ 12:00 noon ~ Sponsored by the Longville Chamber of Commerce
Mar. 2	Fireworks @ 7:00 pm ~ Girl Lake near Patrick's
Mar. 9	Northland Ridge Runners Wild Turkey Banquet @ 5:00 pm ~ Patrick's
Mar. 30	Easter EGGStravaganza! @ 10:00 am ~ Easter Bunny photos & Easter egg hunt
Apr. 13	Firemen's Annual Fish Fry @ 4:30 pm ~ Longville Fire Hall

LLPOA MISSION

The purpose of this association shall be to maintain and improve lake water quality and lake bed health, maintain and continue fish propagation and protect wildlife and its habitat.

It shall also provide education about many issues affecting lake property owners and users through the dissemination of information to Long Lake property owners and their families.

Letter from Dick Loeffler, LLPOA President...

Greetings,

I would like to wish all the members of the LLPOA a new year of good health, prosperity and fun at the lake.

This year will be one of change for the lake Association. My wife, Jill, and I put our home up for sale this past fall not expecting a sale to occur until the spring or summer of 2013. To our surprise, the house sold in less than thirty days. We will be moving out of our lake home in late January. We are moving back to the Twin Cities to the area where our three adult children and their children live. Our grandchildren are the main reason for our move.

To help in making a smooth transition for the Board of Directors, I will be acting as liaison/president until the Association Board meeting in June. At that time, the Board will select an interim president (or approve a shared president position) who will serve until the annual meeting in August. I will be here on Long Lake this spring to get the buoys out, attend meetings and help set up the 2013 treasure hunt. The winter and spring issues of the Long Lake Link will be done by Meg and myself.

The Board of Directors will be looking for a new member to fill the vacancy created by my leaving; that new Board member will not be expected to become the Association president. Please consider volunteering your services and have your voice heard. *(See related article on last page.)*

To the present Board members, I would like to say thank you for making my job so easy and for all of your input. You have helped make Long Lake a wonderful place to own property! And to all LLPOA members, it was an honor to serve you for the past several years. I will miss the quiet beauty of Long Lake, and all the wonderful people Jill and I have gotten to know and call friends.

Wishing you all the very best,

Dick Loeffler



Photo taken by Bob & Joni Quist

*"A lake is the landscape's most
beautiful and expressive feature.
It is earth's eye;
looking into which the beholder
measures the depth of his own nature."*

Walden, Henry David Thoreau

Fun "FYI" about our Minnesota lake classifications:

Natural environmental lakes usually have less than 150 total acres and less than 60 acres per mile of shoreline, less than 3 dwellings per mile of shoreline, may have some winter kill of fish, may have shallow, swampy shoreline, and are less than 15 feet deep.

Recreational development lakes usually have between 60 and 225 acres of water per mile of shoreline, between 3 and 25 dwellings per mile of shoreline, and are over 15 feet deep.

General development lakes usually have greater than 225 acres of water per mile of shoreline, over 25 dwellings per mile of shoreline, and are over 15 feet deep.

Source: A Guide for Buying and Managing Shoreland, MN DNR

If you've ever used the public boat launch on Long Lake, you have driven by this sign on Joan Sifford's property (whether you've noticed it or not). The words are truly meaningful, so we wanted to share them with you .



Prayer of the Woods

(author unknown)

I am the heat of your hearth on the cold winter nights,
the friendly shade screening you from the summer sun,
and my fruits are refreshing,
quenching your thirst as you journey on.

I am the beam that holds your house, the board of your table,
the bed on which you lie and the timber that builds your boat.
I am the handle of your hoe, the door of your homestead,
the wood of your cradle and the shell of your coffin.

I am the bread of kindness and the flower of beauty.
Ye who pass by, listen to my prayer.

Harm me not.

SPEAKING OF WOOD: Locate Fire Pits Away from the Shoreland and Dispose of Ash

Leftover ash from burning wood is very high in phosphorus. If a fire pit is located near the lake, rain can wash the ashes into the lake. Remember to locate your fire pit at least 50 feet away from the lake, and remove ashes from the fire pit to prevent the nutrient-loaded ashes from being blown or washed into the lake. This also means no fires should be built on lake ice - the ashes will end up sinking into the lake when the ice goes out. *(Information copied from the Cass County Shoreland Homeowner's Guide to Lake Stewardship" - Funding provided by the Minnesota DNR Shoreland Habitat Program.*

Please help keep our lake water clear!



The seasons of Long Lake...

Soft water,



hard water.



Photos by Meg Voigtschild

Ranger Rick's Fish Tails

Just like last winter, this year we've had a slow start to safe ice fishing on Long Lake. By Christmas we had between 4 to 8 inches of ice, depending on where you were on the lake. Spear fishing was delayed due to poor ice and didn't start on our lake until the first week of January. One large northern pike - over 15 pounds - was speared, but I promised not to tell anyone where!

The northern pike bite has been very good, but they're all in the 24 inches and under range. Crappie fishermen were on the lake in numerous places; the bite was sporadic, with evening bite being the best. The largest crappies caught were 11" long.

After a short tour around Long Lake on my snowmobile, and after talking to several fishermen, I learned that the walleyes have been biting in places that are not usually known as walleye "hot spots." These same fishermen told me of some great walleye catches late last fall with numerous walleyes in the 14 to 17 inch range. That's good news to my ears!

Let's hope this coming summer brings great fishing opportunities for us all.

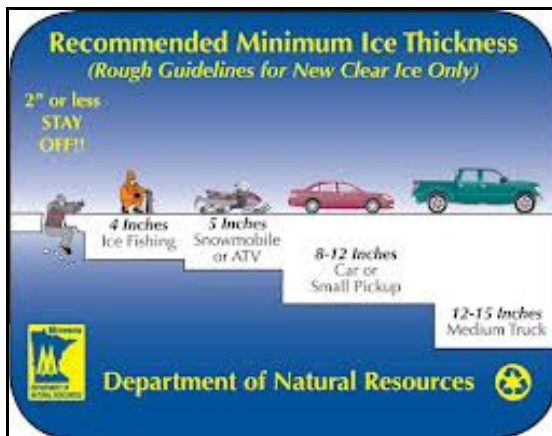


Wolf Sightings!

There have been numerous timber wolf sightings around Long Lake over the past few months. Sightings have been reported on Shepard Road (near the corner of Haskell and Grandview Trail), Suzanne Drive and Fahrenholz Road. A large gray wolf was also spotted in the Longville airport area.

Now that we know the lake has a wolf "presence" around it, perhaps we should offer a little food for thought. Let's keep a watchful eye on our children and grandchildren as they play in the yard or in the woods. Wolves are normally quite shy around people, but it can't hurt to keep our eyes open. And let's be vigilante when we let our pets outside, especially cats and small dogs. You might not want to let them roam too far out of sight.

It's exciting to know such an awesome animal can be seen in our part of Minnesota, but it's always smart to be aware of our surroundings and play it safe.



2013 TREASURE HUNT

The treasure hunt will begin early this year.

Starting on the May fishing opener, the hidden treasure will be lying in wait for those adventurous souls who seek reward.

Clues will give you the information needed to find the golden treasure box that contains coins, plus one year free membership in the LLPOA.

FIRST CLUE: Pieces of eight lie in wait

SECOND CLUE: Look high and low

THIRD CLUE: Find the golden orb

More clues to follow in the spring edition of the Long Lake Link. Good luck!!

Zebra mussel alert from our President.

While driving around Lake Mille Lacs this fall, I noticed a narrow band of white shells, about six to ten inches wide, along the shoreline. I stopped to investigate and was surprised to see that they were zebra mussel shells. Yes, the zebra mussel is taking over in Mille Lacs - and is getting closer to our area lakes.

This proves to me, and I hope to you, that we have to take the aquatic invasive species threat as very real. Please avoid taking your boat to any AIS-infested lake and then returning it to Long Lake. If you do visit an infested lake with your boat, be sure and follow these guidelines:

- INSPECT your boat, trailer & equipment
- REMOVE any attached plants or animals (before launching, after loading and before transporting on a public highway)
- DRAIN all water from boats, motors & equipment
- DON'T MOVE live fish away from a body of water
- DISPOSE of unwanted bait in the trash, not the lake!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Dick Loeffler	rjloeffler@arvig.net
Vice President	Jim Bliss	catalyst@means.net
Secretary	Paul Reinke	pacreinke@comcast.net
Treasurer/Membership	Jean Olson	jjscabin@arvig.net

ZONE DIRECTORS

Zone 1	Rebecca Ryan	deertrailresort@hotmail.com
Zone 2	Bob Coulter	joniq@prodigy.net
Zone 3	Barbara McCuskey	mccuskey@arvig.net
Zone 4	Gary Richmond	richmond.gary@comcast.net
Zone 5	Roger Mitby	rmitby@means.net
Zone 6	Mark Eidenschink	eidensch@yahoo.com
Zone 7	Bob Alley	alleyduo@yahoo.com
Zone 8	Duane Schock	218-363-2211

Webmaster	Tom Sorensen	wave2000@aol.com
Newsletter Editor	Meg Voigtschild	meg@msireresults.com

2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Saturday, May 11th @10:00 am
 Saturday, June 8th @ 10:00 am
 Saturday, July 13th @ 10:00 am
 Saturday, August 10th @ 9:00 am **
 Saturday, September 14th @ 10:00 am

All meetings are held at Salem Lutheran Church in Longville

** Annual meeting

Members are always welcome!

Steve Laraway, new LLPOA Board member!

The LLPOA would like to welcome Steve Laraway as our new member on the Board of Directors. He will be replacing Dick Loeffler as a Board member only, not as President. Steve will be a strong asset to the Board - and has even expressed some possible interest in serving as Board President in the future. Steve will begin his term as a Board member at the first 2013 Board meeting on Saturday, May 11th.

Steve has been coming to Long Lake for over 40 years! What he enjoys most on the lake is pontoon rides and just relaxing; but he does do a little fishing, plus some deer hunting in the fall. His parents and his brother also have places on the lake.

Steve and his wife, Peggy, have been married 35 years. They have four adult children, three daughters and one son, ages 21 to 32.

He is the owner of Laraway Financial Advisors in St. Cloud, but still makes time for multiple volunteer commitments. He serves as Chairman of the Board for St. Cloud Hospital, as a Board member for CentraCare Health System, is Vice President of the Central Minnesota Boy Scout Council and Trust Committee Chair for the Central Region Boys Scouts of America. We thank Steve for volunteering to share his time and talents with the LLPOA.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE LONG LAKE LINK!



The Association will no longer be mailing paper copies of the Link newsletter to non-members; if you would like to continue receiving the Link, you will need to provide us with your e-mail address.

As a non-member, if we don't have your e-mail address, you will receive only the spring edition of the newsletter which contains summer season start-up information. This is being done to reduce postage, printing and handling costs.

If you would like to continue receiving the Link, please send your e-mail address to Meg Voigtschild at meg@msireresults.com or call 612-805-5995. Better yet, join the LLPOA for just \$15.00 per year and continue receiving all four issues of the Link.

LLPOA members will continue to receive all issues just as in the past.

REMINDER:

The membership/dues form (for new members and renewals) is included in this newsletter. Send the form, along with your 2013 annual dues (\$15.00 per year), to LLPOA, PO Box 292, Longville, MN 56655.