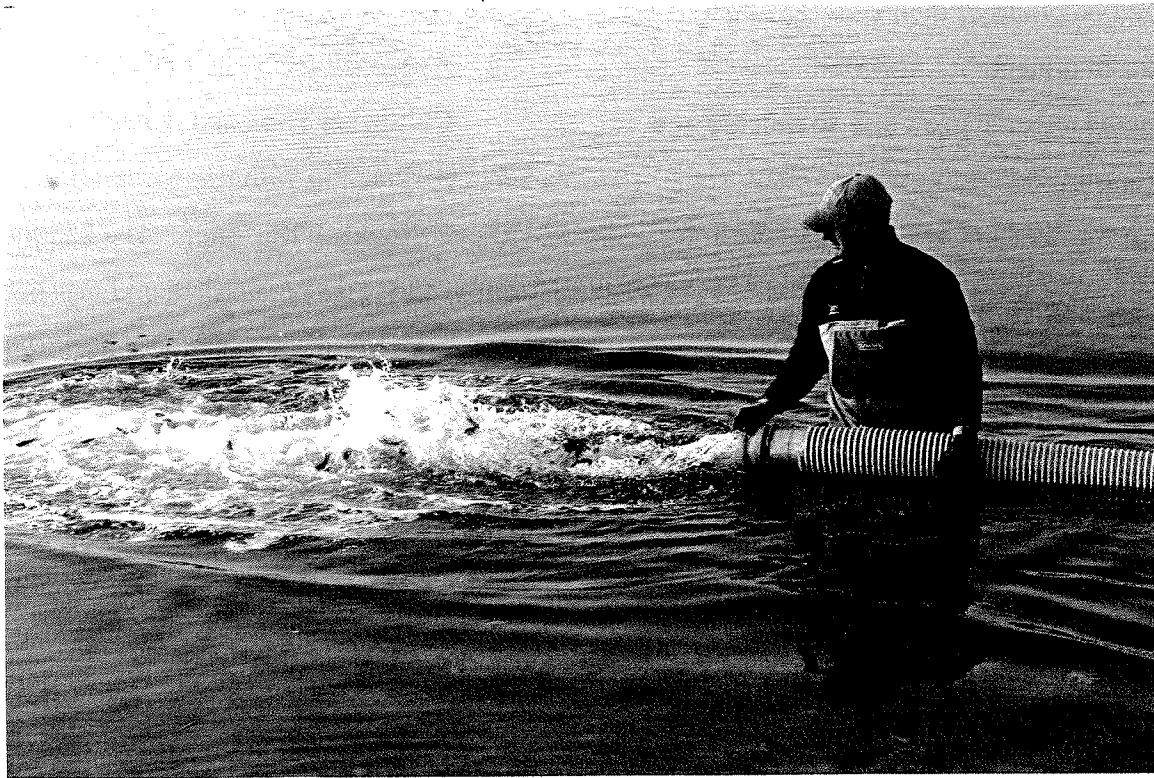


Lake Metonga Association Newsletter

Fall 2007



Stocking Walleye Fingerlings

Happenings The spring, summer and fall of 2007 was filled with exciting Association events.

1. Annual Meeting June 30th.
2. Gun Raffle Kick-off also June 30th.
3. Boat Parade and Cookout July 1st.
4. Kentuck Day Booth & Raffle
July 28th.
5. Art in the Square Booth & Raffle
September 15th.
6. Walleye Stocking Fundraiser Banquet
October 6th.
7. Lake Management Planning Grant
Membership Informational Meeting
October 6th.

8. Walleye Stocking October 26th.

It was a very busy but rewarding season. Our raffles were successful and the fun activities at our boat parade, cookout and walleye banquet were thoroughly enjoyed by all who participated. Watch for these events in 2008. Be involved, have fun, enjoy the Lake; it will make your season complete.

Membership Support Thanks for your continuing support of our Lake Association by renewing your membership or by joining the Association in 2007. In addition to membership fees, your generous donations will give us the financial resources to continue our efforts to

control the spread of Eurasian Water Milfoil (“EWM”) in Lake Metonga by chemical treatment of this invasive exotic weed. Our members can be proud of their concern and involvement in protecting Lake Metonga. Summer seems to come to a close so quickly and possibly you may have forgotten to renew your membership for the 2007 season. Therefore, for those who have missed this opportunity, a membership form is included for your consideration.

Walleye Stocking The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (“WDNR”) has always contended that Lake Metonga has adequate natural reproduction of walleyes; therefore, the Association was not permitted to stock. However, extensive fyke netting, electro-shocking and creel surveying jointly conducted by the WDNR and Mike Preul, the Sokoagon Chippewa Community of Mole Lake Fishery Biologist, has shown a continued decreasing level of walleyes in the Lake.

Based on this data, the Association filed a permit requesting to stock 5,000 fingerlings – 6” to 9” length. The permit was granted on September 4, 2007. The Association contracted with Silver Moon Springs, LLC Fish Hatchery near Antigo, for the walleye fingerlings. Les Schramm and Mike Preul, checked with the hatchery to gain assurance that the fish would be WDNR certified to be free of all designated diseases including the VHS virus recently found in Lake Winnebago. The fingerlings cost \$1.90 each for a total cost of \$9,500.00. The Association needed to raise

funds in order to absorb this expense. Two proposals were considered.

1. Hold a Walleye Stocking Fundraiser Banquet.
2. Approach the Mole Lake Sokoagon Chippewa Tribe and request a funding partnership with the Association.

Walleye Stocking Banquet The banquet was organized by Tim Leonardelli and was held at Mallards on Metonga. The fundraiser included hors d’ oeuvres, dinner, an auction and raffle. Ticket sales were limited to 100 at a cost of \$25.00 each. Tim did a superb job in the selection of prizes and displaying his auctioneering talent. The banquet raised over \$2,300.00 which was used toward the purchase of the walleye fingerlings. Thank you Tim and all who helped for all your efforts. It was a great success and a fun time.

Partnership With the help of Mike Preul and Tom Van Zile, Treasurer of the Mole Lake Sokoagon Chippewa Community, a written request was presented to the Tribal Council. The Association was assured that the Tribe would fund one-half the cost of the fingerlings. A check for \$4,750.00 was received on November 3, 2007. Thanks to the Mole Lake Sokoagon Chippewa Community for partnering with Lake Metonga Association on this project.

Stocking The 5,000 walleyes were delivered in a three compartment tank on the hatchery truck to the City of Crandon boat launch. Before

releasing all of the fingerlings approximately 1,000 were netted from the tanks and placed in holding nets set in the water.



The balance were released through a tube into 4 feet of water. The transfer of walleyes from tank water of 49 degrees into Lake water of 51 degrees was ideal since the fingerlings were not subjected to a large temperature shock. This was evident as they quickly dispersed into deeper water.

A total of 840 walleyes in the holding nets were marked by clipping the bottom left dorsal fin. Vern Dvorak, Scott Yonker, Josh Grimm, Mike Preul and Les Schramm performed this task. Mike also measured, weighed and fin clipped another 54 fish.



The fingerlings are fin clipped to enable tracking their survival and growth rate over a

two to three year period. Fyke netting and electro-shocking data obtained next year will document the survival percentage in the first critical year. Thanks to Mike who will do the follow-up monitoring and analysis at no cost to the Association.

Both the Pioneer Express and the Forest Republican covered the stocking and had excellent articles in their local newspapers. Also, Kelly Larson from WJFW-TV Channel 12 filmed the event and it was shown on their 5, 6, and 10 P.M. news broadcasts. This was excellent public relations for our Lake Association and the Sokoagon Chippewa Community showing how a project can be accomplished when working in partnership.

Lake Management Planning Grant A Membership Informational Meeting was held on October 6, 2007, in the Crandon School auditorium with Lake Metonga Association's consultant, Eddie Heath of Onterra, LLC. Thirty-three members were present at this management planning project kick-off meeting. The presentation included an introduction to aquatic plants including desirable native plants and exotic non-native species. A comprehensive plant survey was previously performed by the consultant. This point intercept survey identified thirty native species and one non-native species which is Eurasian Water Milfoil. It was shown that the exotics compete with and restrict the growth of the desirable native plants, interfere with recreational activities and decrease property values.

A system herbicide 2, 4-D is used to chemically treat the EWM. The clay coated granular particles are spread over the weed bed, settle to the bottom, where they attack the root structure and entire plant foliage causing the plant to die. Typical dosage rates vary from 100 to 200 pounds per acre. The 21.5 acres treated on May 18, 2007, were treated at 150 pounds per acre. Lake charts showing the location of EWM beds and a progressive timeline of pre and post treatment from May 2005 to August of 2007 were presented. The treatment results were summarized. The next step is for the consultant to collect and analyze data about the watershed, the aquatic vegetation and treatment monitoring. The Association is to provide water quality and fishery data. Mike Preul will provide data which will be integrated into this study. Once the data is collected and analyzed, a long-term plan with management goals and actions with specific time tables can be formulated.

Planning Grant Survey On October 16, 2007 a Management Planning Grant Survey was mailed to lake-front property owners and to off-water property owners who are members of the Lake Metonga Association with a requested return date of October 31, 2007. A total of 268 surveys were mailed and 159 were completed and returned. Many of them contained additional comments and concerns. This represents 58 percent response which is excellent. Thank you to all those who responded. All of the responses have been documented and forwarded to the consultant.

Once these are analyzed, the Planning Committee will meet with the consultant to integrate the results into the long-range plan. We will keep everyone informed as this process progresses.

Gun Raffle All 450 tickets were sold prior to the Art in the Square event. A total of 21 prizes valued at \$6,000.00 were awarded to the lucky winners. Again, Dale Huss sold the most raffle tickets. Thanks Dale for all your efforts and to all other members who help with the sale of tickets.

We were fortunate to have good weather for Kentuck Day and Art in the Square. The prizes listed on the signboard for our mini-raffles enticed many to stop and try their luck.

The following is a list of the raffle net earnings.

Gun Raffle	\$3,943.24
Kentuck Day	\$ 743.15
Art in the Square	\$ 512.57

These funds will be used to control the spread of EWM in Lake Metonga.

Boat Parade & Cook-out It is evident that our members and friends really know how to have fun and party. Ten boats participated and each was judged on theme, originality, creativity, decoration and presentation. Gary Mueller's team took first place for "The Paris Hilton". Jim Sommers' team was awarded second place for "Lake Metonga – Our Pot of Gold". Third place went to the Keith Stamper team for "In the Jungle". Thanks to everyone for your creativity and efforts. Start planning your designs for next year.



First Prize



Second Prize



Third Prize

Following the parade, a cook-out was held at Mallards on Metonga. Tim Leonardelli's raffles

for the adults and kids added great excitement to this fun outing. Thanks Tim and all who helped. It was a great success. The raffle income and donations paid all the expenses with remaining net income of \$488.62.

Association Officers The following people were elected as officers at the Lake Metonga Association annual meeting held on June 30, 2007.

President – Richard Czariecki – 2 year term
Treasurer – Roger Cronce – 2 year term
Director – Dennis Klemick – 2 year term
Officers with one year remaining for their term are:

Vice President – Tim Leonardelli
Secretary – Adam & Julie Leisten
Director – Dave Patzlaff
Ex-officio Position – Les Schramm,
Past President

A special thanks to Deward Ison who has served as a director since 2002. We appreciate your dedication and help for all those years.

Enjoy the change of seasons! Good luck to all the ice fishermen. Have a Blessed Holiday and healthy and prosperous 2008.

Les Schramm