

LAKE METONGA NEWS



Fall 2016



Setting a Loon nesting platform earlier this year. Photo courtesy Kayla Reed.

LoonWatch Report

Kayla Reed

Throughout this summer, loon activity has been excellent! The loons in both Peterson Bay and Farmers Bay have each had a set of chicks and they have done very well.

I had a little bit of a scare the weekend of July 9th when I went to Peterson Bay to check on the chicks and I couldn't find them.

Continued on page 5.

**Save the Date
& Don't be Late!**

LMA Annual Meeting

**July 1, 2017
Crandon High School
8:00 AM — Doors Open
9:00 AM — Meeting**

The Lake Metonga Association Has Moved!

Well, sort of...

Effective this fall, the association now has a Crandon post office box as its official address for all correspondence. Please take note of the change:



Lake Metonga Association
P.O. Box 32
Crandon, WI 54520

Among all the other things he's done for the organization, Les Schramm deserves our special thanks for using the Schramm home address as "corporate headquarters" and taking care of all our mail for these many, many, many, many years. Thanks, Les!

Association Update

Gary Mueller

Consider this your first Holiday Letter of the season. I know it's mine...

With 2016 almost in the book, we have an opportunity to reflect on what the Lake Metonga Association accomplished this year and make plans for 2017.

2016 started off with several DNR conversations and meetings attempting to develop a EWM (Eurasian Water Milfoil) treatment strategy that might reign in some of the high density colonies developing around the lake. Three areas ultimately received treatment approval totaling about 55 acres. Les has a article in this newsletter outlining the preliminary results.

The effect that wind seems to play on the treatment strategy is significant. For years, we treated the area east of Farmers Bay with limited results. This year, the area east of Farmers Bay, was noticeably reduced, apparently a result of the treatment application that took place south and east of this area.

Future treatment protocol needs to include wind in our treatment strategy instead of a limitation. So far, the DNR hasn't responded to our inquiry as to who might be our contact person for 2017. They are busy trying to fill several vacancies including this position.

Continued on page 2...

Lake Metonga News

Mueller continued...

Lake Metonga had enjoyed a good working relationship with the area Fishery Biologists. The Musky planting controversy that took place this spring probably stressed that relationship and may take some time to heal. The results of the DNR Spring Fish survey will be on line when available.

We moved the annual meeting away from a congested July 4th weekend and appreciate all those who attended. The 2017 annual meeting will be held on July 1st at the Crandon High School.

The 4th of July Boat Parade and Picnic was well attended on a beautiful sunny day. Thank you for your support and to Gary Goeman and others for organizing the event.

Tammy Kegley was the lucky winner of the 4th of July Picnic Meat & Freezer prize



Looking to 2017, we will be offering more "FUN" raising and a little less "Fund" raising. We have a great cross-section of friends and neighbors on the lake, and it is nice to have the opportunity to "just hang out together". Stay tuned for more information on our 2017 events.

Gift Certificates

We have some extra certificates from the WEEDSnWALLEYES Banquet that make great gifts or stocking stuffers. Please call Chris and Gary Mueller at 715-478-2049 so we will get them in the mail before Christmas.

- \$20.00 On Deck Platter
- \$20.00 B.C. Cakes
- \$50.00 Adams Mobile Marine (3)
- \$50.00 Jansen Septic Service
- \$50.00 She's all that
- \$50.00 Wilson Septic
- \$100.00 Beachside Restaurant
- 1 Year Subscription to the Forest Republican



Kentuck Days and Art in the Square did well. Thank you to Deb Gauerke and all who worked to make these events a success. We are scheduled to participate in both again in 2017, but will be canceling the Sportsman Raffle portion of the Art on the Square event. Please contact Deb to get involved with next year's events. The Association needs your volunteer assistance!

Our Lake Metonga Clothing styles, colors and logo are all in the works for 2017. We hope to showcase the new look at our next annual meeting.

The City of Crandon installed a new launch ramp on the east lane of the city ramp. The new incline should eliminate the power prop wash problems. Thank you Crandon!

The Clean Boats program went smoothly this year, including the transition with Gary Mignon taking over much of Les' responsibilities. (The +2000 boat launches at the City Beach garnered only \$1,100 in the donation box and the sale of just 17 Ice Shanty raffle tickets.) But, money aside, our effective CB-CW program along with our stepped-up lake study and planning efforts will help with our DNR treatment consideration. It didn't take much studying to see this summer's intense algae bloom. With almost forty feet of light penetration, Lake Metonga can store a lot of nutrient for an event like this!

WEEDSnWALLEYES was a blast and raised enough cash to cover our share of the 2016 treatment cost. Thank you for your support to this event and to all Lake Metonga Association activities and programs. Have a wonder great New Year on the water... or maybe ice! At this rate, we can only hope that it will be frozen by then...

Gary

LMA on the Web

if your not familiar with the Lake Metonga Association website, please take a look! Our WebMaster, Rebecca VanZuiden, has put together a very user-friendly site that deserves our input and support. Here's some of what's available:

- Sign up to receive the newsletter on-line and save our printing and postage cost
- Check out the lake on our WebCams
- Event photo gallery (please send your pictures!)
- Board member contacts
- 2017 event and meeting schedule
- Directory of our area business sponsors
- Lake related links

EWM 2016 Treatment Program

Les Schramm

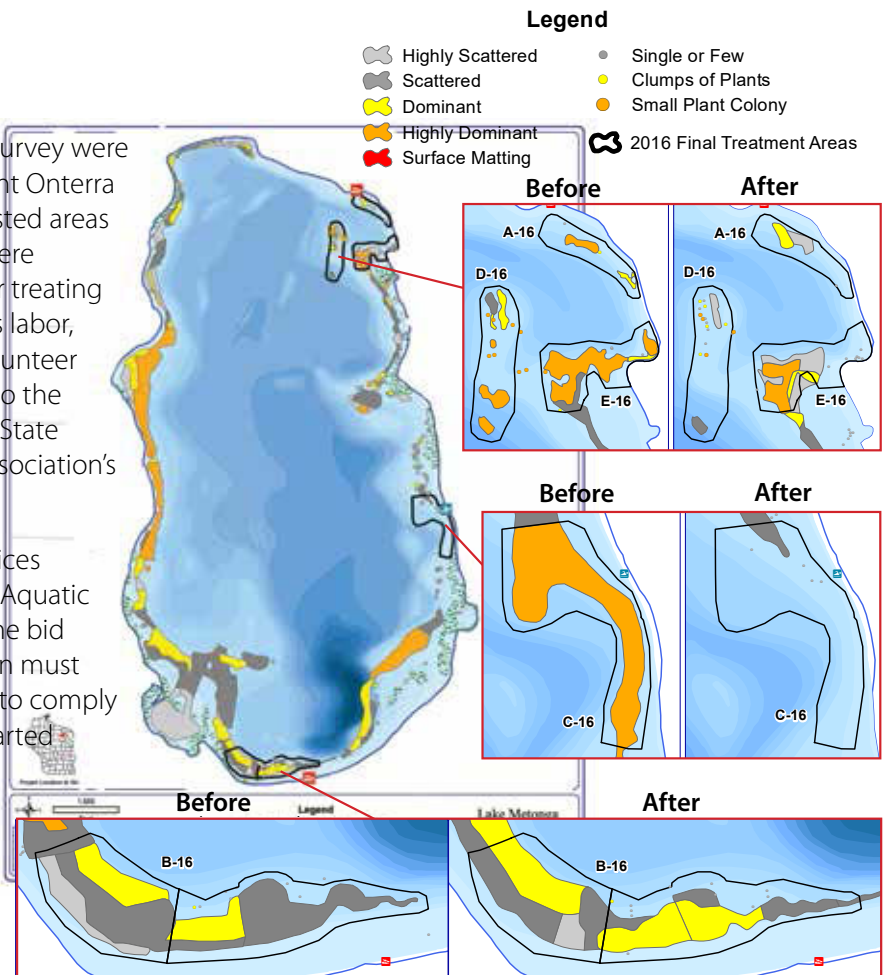
Preliminary results of the post treatment survey were received from the Association's Consultant Onterra LLC, on 11/10/16. Some treated EWM infested areas were exceptionally effective and others were marginal at best. The EWM project cost for treating including, liquid herbicide and applicators labor, consultant's pretreatment survey, and volunteer labor by the Lake Association vouchered to the EWM grant, was a total of \$58,817.51. The State Grant funded \$30,421.26 and the Lake Association's portion was \$28,396.25.

Bid requests were sent to 5 applicators. Prices ranged from \$71,051 to \$51,096. Schmidt Aquatic was selected for their bid of \$51,096.25. The bid request required that herbicide application must not occur if winds exceed 5mph. In order to comply with this requirement Schmidt Aquatic started treating at 5:00 AM.

For example: EWM bed C-16 was treated at 5:00 AM. The wind was 1.2 mph out of the NW this was a definite advantage as it held the herbicide in EWM bed area and this treatment was highly effective.

The north end beds, A-16, D-16, and E-16 were treated when the winds varied from 1.2 to 2.1 from the NW. Again the wind favorably held the herbicide in that north treatment area. Some treatment definitely affected the bed density.

The last treatment was at the south end at EWM beds B1-16 and B2-16 with winds at 3.2 and 4.1 respectively. However the wind was now out of the SE. It was evident that the wind and generated water currents carried the



herbicide toward Farmers Bay and a decrease in EWM density was observed in that location. Therefore the treatment was not effective in this area.

In planning for 2017, it's now realized how important it is to not only monitor the wind speed, mph, but the direction as it relates to the herbicide contact time at the treated bed. The Association board is considering various methods to improve contact time.

WebCam Update

Check the Lake Metonga Association website and watch your lake in real time. The Association has three cameras on the lake. Two cameras are currently on-line. The Beachside camera faces the lake from the east towards the west — GREAT sunsets! Thanks Jason for your support. Lloyd Kanzenbach, AKA Lloyd Dale, has the second camera overlooking the City Beach launch. Smile and wave to the camera the next time you get a soaker when trying to launch.

The third camera, located in Mark Truymen's tree, is referred to as the Eagle Tree Cam. This camera is mounted about eight feet above an Eagles nest located 70 feet off the ground. Final connections to this camera will be complete before the eagles return next spring.

Northern Lake Services has been a key player in helping us navigate the camera connection challenges. Thanks R.T. Krueger and their guys, Troy and Chris.

2017 Membership Application

Lake Metonga Association

Membership Period January 1 – December 31, 2017

Name(s): *Please list both names for joint membership*

Email:

Phone:

Mailing Address:

Lake Metonga Address: (If different than above; list fire number & street)

2017 Membership Fee

\$ 25.00

Donation for Lake Metonga Protection & Preservation \$

Total Donation Enclosed \$

Payment Method:

- ☐ Cash
☐ Check (payable to Lake Metonga Association Inc.)
☐ MasterCard/Visa — complete the following (please print clearly):

Name on Card:

Phone Number

(if different than above)

2017 Business Membership

We welcome businesses as members of the lake association. With the website advertising option, we will list and promote your business on our Business Members page.

2017 Business Membership Fee \$ 25.00

Website Advertising Option (enclose your business card) \$ 25.00

Donation for Lake Metonga Protection & Preservation \$

Total Donation Enclosed \$

Please make check payable to Lake Metonga Association Inc.

- ☐ Yes, I'm interested in offering a special promotion to Lake Metonga Association Members. Please contact me to discuss.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!!!!

Thank you for your membership and financial assistance to support the Lake Metonga Association! Are you also interested in donating a small portion of your time? There are lot's of ways to get involved — big and small — that will suit your interests and your schedule — from your home — or out in the community.

Having a membership that is involved in the organization by volunteering is the only way the Lake Association can remain an effective grassroots non-profit organization, dedicated to protecting Lake Metonga. Help the lake by getting involved!

YES! I'm interested in and want more information about:

(Please check all that may apply)

- ☐ 4th of July Picnic/Boat Parade
☐ Kentuck Days
☐ Art on the Square
☐ Weeds N' Walleye Banquet
☐ Fundraising/Grant Development
☐ Lake Quality/Management Programs
☐ Membership/Development
☐ Newsletter
☐ Lake Metonga Sportswear and Accessories
☐ Other:

Check the web!

www.lakemetongawi.org

- Stay up-to-date with information about Lake Metonga and the Association...
- Be sure to subscribe to our email list for updates

Please mail completed membership form to:

Lake Metonga Association
Attn: Steve Parks, Treasurer
P.O. Box 32
Crandon, WI 54520

Lake Metonga Association, Inc.
is a 501(c)(3) corporation.
Your donations are tax deductible

LoonWatch continued...

The next week while I was out on the boat, doing lake mapping, I saw them between Peterson Bay and Beachside Bar and Grill. I was ecstatic that they were still alive, given they were only a couple weeks old and couldn't dive down like the adults.

Around May is when floater loons (rogue loons) started to appear on Lake Metonga. By August 1, a total of six floater loons were spotted; four out from Strawberry Bay and two by the north end.

In July, I saw for the first time, a floater intrude on the territorial pair in the Farmers Bay area. When loons fight, they fight with the same gender; male vs male or female vs female. The two territorial loons circled the floater while the chicks swam away to a safer part of the bay. The circling continued for about five to ten minutes. When the territorial pair scared the floater off, it was neat to see the floater loon take off from the water, since they need a lot of room to take off because their bones are more like a humans rather than the hollow bones of birds. One of the two loons that had a nest in Farmers Bay stayed back with the chicks. It took quite a while for the other loon to come back.

If the trespassing floater loon had engaged in a fight and won, the loser would have been "kicked out", and the floater would typically mate with the remaining territorial loon. Contrary to what most people think, loons do not mate for life. Loons are basically married to the land, not to another loon. So, in a territorial dispute, the winner mates with the remaining loon. In a territorial dispute, about 30% of males and about 7-8% of females die in the fight. Disputes can last from 20 minutes up to several weeks.

People love watching the loons. They are very graceful creatures, except when trying to take off of the water! When the loons go underwater, people sometimes worry waiting for them to come back up. Time seems to slow down, and it makes it feel like forever until they resurface. Loons can breathe underwater for up to five minutes and can dive down to depths of 200 feet!

There are five different types of loons. The smallest is the Red-Throated Loon; the Common, Arctic, and Pacific Loons are all about the same size; and the biggest of is the Yellow Billed Loon. Wisconsin houses Common Loons. Many people get loons mixed up with a couple species of birds that look similar. Some of these birds are the Common Merganser, Western Grebe, and the Double-Crested Cormorant.

If you're not sure if you're too close to a loon or not, don't risk the loons comfort and stay farther away. If you do get too close, watch for their defensive postures. One posture is called the hang-over position (top picture) and another is called the Penguin Dance (bottom picture).



If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at:

jomaemae.reed@gmail.com

Please Someone! HELP!

The Association Board is in serious need of a Secretary. Former Secretary, Judy VanZuiden, has graciously volunteered her service through this summer, long after her six-year board term expired last summer.

Judy provided us with a comprehensive "duties packet" which is easy to follow and just waiting for someone to take up the call and fill this board position! Call Gary (715.478.2049) to discuss if you'd like to help.

Lake Metonga Association
P.O. Box 32
Crandon, WI 54520



Don't miss out next year! Mark your calendar now for October 7, 2017

Our WEEDSnWALLEYES event played to a sold out audience of over 300. We again owe a debt of gratitude to the 200 Sponsored guests, who paid \$1,000 per table in cash or in-kind prizes to help make this event a huge success. *This event covered our share of EWM treatment cost for 2016! Thanks to everyone for your support!* Gary promises an even better program for next year! How can he top this year? We'll see! Get your tickets early because they're sure to sell out again. Early Bird Specials will be available again at our annual meeting next July.

Lake Association Contacts:

4th of July Boat Parade & Picnic

Gary Goeman 414-940-8873
garygoeman@hotmail.com

Kentuck Days & Art in the Square

Deb Gauerke 715-574-9100
d_gauerke@yahoo.com

WEEDSnWALLEYES

Gary and Chris Mueller 715-478-2049
mueller@newnorth.net

Website/Membership Contacts:

Rebecca Van Zuiden 815-509-0694
ravz1995@gmail.com

CB-CW

Gary Mignon 920.422.3999
lesschramm@gmail.com

Membership Dues/Donations

Steve Parks 715-793-4103
sparks@longrenparks.com