

LAKE METONGA NEWS



Spring 2017



It's our very own Truymen Show! Live on LMA...

The EagleCam at the Truymen's eagle tree is now up and running! A pair of young eagles have taken up residency and are busy "sprucing" up the place in preparation for their (hopefully) soon-to-be extended family. Watch them during daylight hours on the LMA website (scroll down the home page to the "Live View of Lake Metonga" section).



**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**

Association Update

Gary Mueller

It's finally official — "Spring has Sprung". (We hope it stays around for a while this time.) The spring-like weather we experienced in February, March and April were all followed by snow. For ice fishing on Metonga, it's good that most shanties are portable as they were on and off the ice frequently this past season. (See page 3 for more on this).

Ultimately, the mild temperatures and heavy rain made for a very uneventful ice-out in mid-April. The cold, windy conditions we had for the fishing opener were followed by calm and sun. Being on the lake, it's nice knowing that even if today is cold and rainy, tomorrow can be a special day...

We have a pair of Loons in Peterson Bay doing their spring calling and nesting thing. Can't wait for their 2 AM calling: "Your Turn To Sit On these d _ _ eggs. (Sorry Kayla, Lake Metonga Loon Ranger, I meant "dear" eggs.)

All three WebCams are now operational: Beachside, Truymen Eagle Tree and North Boat Launch. Check them out on the website. The webcams are there for everyone's enjoyment, and add a new dimension to our organization's charter to preserve and protect Lake Metonga and its surrounding habitat. A major shout out needs to

Continued on page 2...

Lake Metonga News

Mueller continued...

go to Beachside, Lloyd Kanzenbach and Mark Truymen for providing the camera sites and internet service. Northern Lake Service had their computer techs, Troy and Chris get the systems up and running. Dan from Up-Rooted Tree Service ran up and down that tree more times than we can count (or probably more than Dan wanted to, too!) We still need to bury the cable between the tree and the house. Anyone have a ditch-witch connection in the family?

Thank you, City of Crandon, for installing the new concrete launch ramp at the City Beach. The east ramp is in place, and we are hoping the west side gets done this year.

There are a lot of new faces on the lake this year. The lake is almost "sold-out" for the first time in many years. Please, when you meet your new neighbor for the first time, be sure to invite them to the annual LMA meeting on July 1st at the Crandon High School. Also ask them to join you for the Boat Parade and Picnic on July 2nd at Beachside, or see if they'd like to reserve a table at the 2017 WEEDS"n"WALLEYE banquet at Mole Lake Casino on October 7th. *Remember how long it took to meet your neighbors on the Lake? Don't let the same thing happen to your new neighbor!*

EWM (eurasian watermilfoil): The DNR is currently reviewing our EWM Treatment Plan for permitting. The treatment areas outlined in the permit will cover the North and South Boat Landings and adjacent traffic areas.

Les Schramm and Gary Mueller were part of a teleconference between our lake consultant, Onterra LLC, and three DNR officials. Preliminary conversation seemed to indicate that our plan was within the state guideline and should be eligible for grant funding. The state promised an answer before May 19th. However, securing the herbicide while water temperature is favorable for treatment will be challenging.

The state reiterated their position that the EWM acreage and density may have plateaued and alternative harvest and treatment options should be outlined in a 2017/18 Lake Study that we must undertake ASAP.

In an effort to expedite this year's treatment it was necessary to extend last year's contract with Schmidt Aquatics to perform the 2017 treatment.

NEW MEMBERSHIP is important to an organization like the LMA as a matter of survival. The founding fathers and mothers of this organization must have felt that they could make a difference in maintaining the viability of this beloved lake resource. When you look at the LMA roster, it is refreshing to see the next generation is getting involved and are as invested in the future of Lake Metonga as anyone. Keep up the good work and invite your neighbor to join us. Let's make our goal to have every riparian owner be an LMA member.

WEEDS"n"WALLEYES 2017 will be held at Mole Lake Casino on Saturday October 7th. The format will be similar, and the gift baskets and prizes will be even more over the top than last year. Our guests will play a major role in this year's entertainment. But, you won't know how unless you're there to see. Banquet ticket prices will be the same as last year, and we plan to have an "Early Bird Special" available at the annual meeting — so be sure and bring your check book!

CB- CW (Clean Boats - Clean Water) program is in full swing again this summer. Gary Mignon, under the tutelage of Les Schramm, navigated the DNR, 2016 reimbursement and 2017 Grant application procedures. Gary will administer the program again this summer. The LMA has purchased temporary shelters for each site and is working with the High School to assemble the units at both boat launches. The young people working the launch ramps need our support in their effort to help control the spread of all invasives.

BOAT PARADE AND PICNIC, Gary Goeman will be in charge again this year. The Boat Parade start time is 1:00 PM Sunday July 2 in front of Beachside with the picnic at Beachside to begin at 2:00 PM. For activities at the picnic, there will be a few less raffles and a few more "challenge" activities like the water golf for young and old alike. Volunteers are always needed. Please contact Gary to see how you can help.

FUND RAISING has been Deb Gauerke's responsibility for as long as I can remember. She makes the job look easy, but she needs our help to pull off all the events. The LMA Board has agreed to cancel the Sportsman Raffle this year and plans to focus on a lighter agenda for Kentucky Days and Art in the Square. Help is always needed securing raffle prizes as well as manning the booths at the event. Deb will have a sign-up sheet at the Annual Meeting.

More news to come at the Annual Meeting. I'll look forward to seeing you all there!

Gary

Paws on Patrol

Les Schramm

The Minnesota DNR has deputized K-9s to sniff out and locate invasive zebra mussels on boats and trailers in places human inspectors could easily miss. The trained dogs are German Short Hair Pointers now used on a number of Minnesota lakes. Even the baby zebra mussels, called veligers, some of the microscopic size, present in water in bilges, live wells and motors, are sniffed out by these dogs. The K-9s are also helpful in educating people about where to inspect to prevent the spread of invasives to other water bodies.



When it Comes to Walleyes, We all Want a Big One...

Kayla Reed recently did some work with the Silver Moon Springs Hatchery in Antigo as part of her Pulaski High School walleye research project. Her study is focusing on the growth rates of male and female juveniles. Kayla put electronic tags on 100 walleye fingerlings, that she then released into the research pond at her school, where she will be monitoring their growth into adulthood. Let's all wish Kayla well with her research, and hope it eventually "pans out" for the walleyes here in Lake Metonga!



The Winter that Wasn't (eNewsletter edition that is)

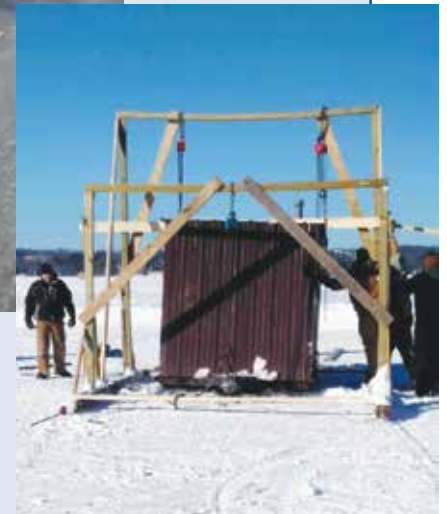
We were planning to have a winter eNewsletter, but couldn't solicit enough input. Below is one scene from the winter that a lot of our members probably missed.

For this summer's eNewsletter issue to be successful, please send us your lake activities news, pics and tidbits. Email them to info@lakemetonga.org or to our website.



"Ooops! That wasn't supposed to happen. Maybe need to add a flotation device in the next design?..."

February's weather was something of a blessing and a curse – changing from thaw to sub-arctic temps, and back again. But, where there's a will, there's a way for these ice fishermen: "Now, can we please get back inside and do some fishing? My fingers are frozen out here!"



Photos courtesy Gary Mueller

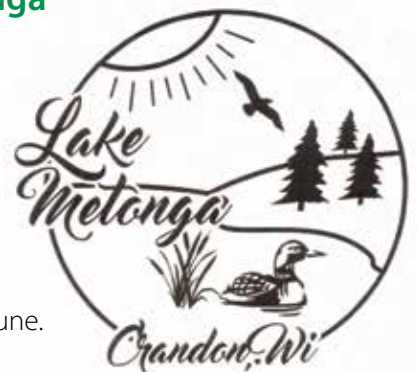
Please! Someone has to Help!

The Association Board is in serious need of a Secretary. We have gone the entire fiscal year without a Secretary since Judy VanZuiden term-limited out at last year's annual meeting.

We really do need someone to step up and fill this position for our association to stay a viable organization. Please someone, take up the call and fill this board position! Call Gary (715.478.2049) to discuss if you are able to help.

Make a Fashion Statement with Apparel from Lake Metonga

Our new line of Lake Metonga apparel is in the works, and will be available at the annual meeting. Be on the lookout for sneak peeks on the website sometime in June.



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)



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 lots 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

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.

LoonWatch Report

Kayla Reed

The thawing of Lake Metonga finished as the ice finally sunk on April 12, 2017. Not a day later, on April 13, loons were seen on the lake.

I was not up in Crandon at this time, but one my family members was. He was initially the one who reported the loon sighting. After hearing this news, I gladly put in the loon nest in Farmer's Bay on April 21. As I was putting the nest in place, the pair of loons in Farmer's Bay paid me a visit. There was one point where each loon got within five feet of the canoe I used to put the nest in.

It is very unlikely that a loon will ever get that close to a person, so I was very happy. If a loon would ever get this close to you, take in the colors of their head. Metallic-like green.

Days after putting the nest in, the loon pair started to sit on the nest and customize it to their nesting needs. This past fall, all of the chicks were able to fledge (grow wings big enough for flight), which is really exciting! As the weather got colder, I counted a total of 16 loons on Lake Metonga. This is because all loons north of Crandon start to migrate south and take a rest on the lake.



Loons returned to Farmer's Bay on April 13 just after the ice was out.
"Come on in, dear, the water's fine!" Photo courtesy Kayla Reed



April on Lake Metonga also witnessed some special seasonal visitors — a pair of Trumpeter Swans spotted on Farmer's Bay (above), and on Peterson Bay (right). Trumpeters are the largest bird in North America. Once considered destined for extinction in the 1930s with fewer than 70 known birds, their numbers have increased to over 46,000 as of 2010*.

Photos courtesy Kayla Reed and Gary Mueller



have any questions, concerns or
s, please feel free to email me at:
emae.reed@gmail.com

*https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trumpeter_swan

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



*Not quite swimming
weather yet —
not even close —
although that won't
stop the kids soon!*

*Regardless of weather
or water temp, it's
always another
beautiful day on
Metonga. Enjoy!*



Photos courtesy Chris & Gary Mueller

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