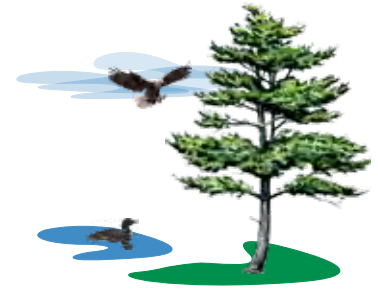


# LAKE METONGA NEWS

Volume 2023: No. 2



## Association Update

Mark Truymen



Photo by Mark Truymen

Summer is in full swing with the lake full of activity and the area buzzing with tourists and guests. As time goes on, it seems like winter gets longer and longer. "Ice out" for 2023 will officially be May 3rd, which isn't unusually late but it sure feels that way.

LMA will again have a busy summer with the Bullhead Removal Program, Annual Meeting, Boat Parade and picnic and booths at Kentuck Days and Art in The Square. We will not be treating eurasian milfoil this summer as we'll be testing the last years treated

area for residual results and determine future treatment from there.

As we continue our membership drive, we had a few volunteers who were out, around the Memorial Day weekend, to contact nonmembers to ask them to join. To be perfectly frank, we just can't understand why people who have property on and around and use the lake will not contribute \$25/year to help preserve the lake and it's property values. If you haven't yet joined or renewed your membership, please do now as LMA is a completely volunteered organization.

Lastly, we'd like to thank the families who have contributed to our Memorial Fund this year. This fund was started a few years ago with the passing of Donna Schramm, wife of Les, who was an integral part of the Association. The donations to this fund are in memory of past members who loved this lake. Monies from this fund are not spent on fixed expenses but rather given to causes as improvements on the lake such as the parks, boat landings, other structures as well as scholarships to youths who have volunteered for the benefit of Lake Metonga. If you have a loved one who enjoyed the lake as you have, please consider a donation, just note it to Memorial Fund. 🦅

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Truymen".

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Saturday, July 1

Annual Meeting Crandon  
H.S. Auditorium Doors open  
at 8:00 am; meeting starts  
promptly at **8:30 am**  
*earlier than previous years*

...

### Sunday, July 2

Boat Parade 1:00 and  
Picnic 2:00 at Charlie's  
Lake Metonga Resort

...

### Early July through Mid-August

Volunteer Bullhead Harvest  
Collection Center Public  
fishing pier Saturdays —  
Details to come

...

### Saturday, July 29

Kentuck Festival Day  
Courthouse Square  
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

...

### Saturday, September 23

Art in the Square Courthouse  
Square 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

...

### Saturday, October 7

Weeds 'n' Walleyes Banquet  
Mole Lake Convention Center  
Doors open at 5:00;  
Dinner at 6:00

## Weeds & Walleyes Update

Michelle Bauer



There are so many ways you can help support all the important work done to keep our lake clean and safe.

- **Save the Date:** Saturday, October 7th, Mole Lake Casino (Invites to come)

- **Volunteer:** Help set up, tear down, work the auction or work check out

- **Donate Auction/Raffle Items:** Do you have a connection that could donate an item or a basket? Here are a few ideas...vacation home, gift cards to businesses, sporting tickets (Packers, Brewers, Badgers, etc), Tools, Spa Getaways, guided fishing trips - or put together a themed basket such as "A Day at the Beach," "Family Game Night," UTV rental with gift cards to businesses along the trails. You get the idea!

Thanks to so many of you who have already offered up your vacation homes and auction items already. Since Chris Ebben and I are new to running this event, we may not know if you have donated an item in the past, so please do not be shy in reaching out and offering to help with a donation once again. Let's make this a great event! 🐦

"... Please do not be shy in reaching out and offering to help with a donation ... Let's make this a great event! "

## Get Your Lake Apparel ...



**Long Sleeve T-shirts**  
*(Lake Metonga printed on left sleeve)*

**Woven Shirts**  
*(Lake Metonga printed on left chest)*

**Varsity Sweatshirts**

Support the Lake Association with these choices of apparel: long sleeve t-shirts, woven button shirts, full-zip, no-hood jackets, hooded sweatshirts or varsity sweatshirts.

See the clothing choices at Charlie's Lake Metonga Resort, Tamarack Outfitters LLC, or visit our website [www.lakemetongawi.org/](http://www.lakemetongawi.org/) apparel. For more information, contact us at: [lakemetongaclothing@gmail.com](mailto:lakemetongaclothing@gmail.com). 🐦

## Eagle Nest

Mark Truyma



**A**s this article is being written in mid May, the nest camera has not been cooperating again, so we're not sure of the status of the two eaglets that were hatched in mid April. We do know there's much activity, as the parents have been bringing fish and other critters into the nest, so we assume the eaglets are getting plenty to eat. The other day an immature eagle got a little too close and both parents made sure he wasn't welcomed with some in flight battling. Hopefully by now, the camera has decided to let us see what's going on in there. If not, we'll post pictures on our Facebook page when the eaglets come out and prepare to fledge, which should be early July. 🦅

"...We'll post pictures on our Facebook page when the eaglets come out and prepare to fledge, which should be early July."



## July 4th Weekend - Annual Meeting

Mark Truyma

**T**he July 4th weekend will again be a busy one on Lake Metonga. To start with the **Annual Meeting** will be held on **Saturday, July 1st** at the Crandon High School auditorium. A change this year will be the doors opening at 8:00 am with coffee and cookies, **meeting to start at 8:30 am SHARP**, so to get you out around 10:00 am. We know it's a busy time but hope you can sneak away from friends and family for an hour or so to hear what your Association has been doing and what may be in the future.

On **Sunday, July 2nd**, we will be having our annual picnic and boat parade. The **boat parade** will start with **registration** at 12:30 in front of Charlie's Lake Metonga



Resort's dock, and parade will **start** at 1:00. The route will go **CLOCKWISE**, so you can decorate your boat accordingly, and prizes will be awarded for the first 5 places. There is no particular theme to allow for your creativity.

As the parade goes around the lake, the **picnic** will be starting at **2:00** under the tent at Charlie's. There'll be brats and hot dogs donated by Don LeMaster, beans, chips, beer and soda all for a \$5 donation. We again will have Jack Kloss and his crew running the paddle wheel with a ton of prizes as well a freezer/meat raffle. There will also be the full inventory of our newest clothing line for sale. Everyone is invited, so we'll see you there. 🦅

# Lake Metonga News

## Bullhead Removal Back Again in 2023

Kayla Reed

In 2021, we learned that the bullhead population exploded on Lake Metonga due to no harvests occurring during 2018-2020. This population explosion began to threaten other native fish populations within the lake. With this awareness and data to back the concern, the Fisheries and Habitat Committee began tackling the problem by setting up and implementing a very successful Bullhead Reduction Program jointly with Mike Preul, Mole Lake Fisheries Biologist, and Greg Matzke, WI DNR Fisheries Biologist. For a summary of the 2021 and 2022 program details, feel free to read previous newsletters and postings on our website: [www.lakemetongawi.org](http://www.lakemetongawi.org).

With the previous years' success and intent to have a positive, long-term impact on fisheries in Lake Metonga, we will once again be implementing the same program. Mike Preul will start electrofishing for adult bullheads after lake ice-out, in hopes to reduce the spawning population.

Once again, LMA is recruiting volunteers (Lake Metonga property owners and recreators) for the follow-up work



of netting and disposing of bullhead eggs, minnows, and adults. Volunteers will need to complete and submit the WI DNR Volunteer Agreement following directions in the Volunteer Letter with copies found on our website and included in this newsletter if you wish to participate (please do)!

This year we are urging everyone out on the lake to capture bullhead adults, minnows, and eggs when they see the opportunity. The adult bullheads will be in shallow, easier to catch locations during June for spawning. During this time, it is easier to catch the adults before any eggs may be laid. However, if anyone sees eggs, net those up! It is way easier to catch non-moving eggs than hundreds of minnows. But, if you see minnows, grab those too. We want the bullheads gone.

To help incentivize this capture program, on Saturday's following 4th of July (approx. July 8 through August 12, 2023) bring your bullhead harvests to the north fishing pier, where volunteers will be collecting the captured bullheads. In return we will be handing out Gift Certificates to Palubicki's Eats and Treats and Yeti's. For every time you bring in a load of bullheads, you will get one entry into a larger raffle at the end of summer.

Thanks, and please do help us better our lake ecosystem for everyone's enjoyment! 🐟

**ATTENTION ALL FISHERMEN ON LAKE METONGA**

**If you catch any bullheads, don't throw them back!**

- Please remove all bullheads you catch from Lake Metonga
- If you catch an adult bullhead, please take it home to eat or dispose of properly on land — don't throw it back into the lake!
- Bullheads compete for food with our prized walleye and perch game fish, and eat their young — when bullhead populations go up; walleye and perch populations go down significantly
- Thank you for your cooperation and support!

**Lake Metonga Association** [www.lakemetongawi.org](http://www.lakemetongawi.org) and us on Facebook





### Volunteer Agreement

Volunteer Name		Position Title <b>Volunteer</b>	
Address		City	State ZIP + 4
Daytime Phone No.	Cell Phone No.	Email Address	
Emergency Contact		Emergency Contact Daytime Phone Number	
Dates of Agreement (mm/dd/ccyy)	Scheduled Hours/Week	Schedule (e.g., every Friday, Wednesday through Saturday, varies, etc.)	
From 5/15/2023 To 11/30/2023	N/A	N/A	
<b>Volunteer Location</b>			
Name of State Agency Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources		Site/Program/Activity Lake Metonga/Fisheries Management/Bullhead Removal	
Address 5631 Forestry Drive		City Florence	State ZIP + 4 WI 54121
Volunteer Supervisor Name Gregory Matzke		Title Fisheries Biologist	Phone Number 715-528-4400 5

This agreement for volunteer services is entered into by and between the volunteer and the State agency named above. The volunteer and the State agency mutually agree to the following responsibilities:

## For Bullhead Removal on Lake Metonga Only

Volunteer

1. Will be under the supervision, direction and control of the supervisor named above.
2. Shall be available for scheduled service time(s) listed above.
3. Understands that s/he is a volunteer and NOT an employee of the State of Wisconsin or the State agency named above and is not eligible for any benefits, including Worker's Compensation.
4. Understands all duties expected to be performed that appear on the Position Description and that additional duties may be added as needed.
5. Understands all work rules that are to be followed.
6. Understands that the State agency named above will provide no compensation.
7. If volunteer will be driving a State vehicle as part of his/her assigned duties, s/he will only do so after completing a Volunteer Driver Vehicle Use Agreement (DOA-3685), receiving and understanding the statewide Fleet Driver and Management Policies and Procedures, meeting the minimum driving standards, receiving proper authorization to drive a State vehicle, and, when driving a vehicle, will strictly follow the route designated by the agency.

State Agency Named Above

1. Will provide the volunteer with a Position Description describing duties to be performed.
2. Will provide training required to perform the agreed upon duties.
3. Will educate volunteers on safety awareness in the workplace.
4. Will provide necessary volunteer safety and equipment related items.
5. Will subsequently and periodically review work performance with the volunteer.
6. Will regard the volunteer as an agent of the State as provided in s. 895.46, Wis. Stats. As an agent of the State, the volunteer will be entitled to all the protections provided by s. 895.46, Wis. Stats.
7. Will review and update this Volunteer Agreement on at least an annual basis.

**Either the volunteer or the State agency named above may cancel this agreement at any time.**

Volunteer's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date (mm/dd/ccyy) \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized State Agency Representative Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date (mm/dd/ccyy) 05/15/2023

This document can be made available in alternate formats to individuals with disabilities upon request.

**LMA Volunteer: Be sure to take a picture or scan of completed form, keep original and send copy to: Grant Reed at 6670 Wintergreen Trail, Sobieski WI 54171 or email (preferred) to gmreedi@gmail.com**

# Lake Metonga News

## Welcome to the 2023 Lake Metonga Clean Boats Clean Waters Crew!

Kim Reed



Training Day 2023

*Pictured – Inspectors: Rachel, Aryanna, Ella, Adessa; Coordinator: Kim*

The Clean Boats Clean Waters program is important to help keep invasives from entering into Lake Metonga. We'd like to introduce you to our summer crew, who will be working at both the north and south boat launches at various time during the week.

The Clean Boats Clean Water program attempts to reduce/eliminate the spread of invasives to our beautiful lakes. Our inspectors are tasked to inspect for any type of plant life, zebra mussels, etc on boats, boat trailers, boat motors, etc and make sure they are removed before entering the lake and after leaving the lake. The inspectors educate the boaters about draining all water from boats and equipment, drain live wells and containers holding any catch, and using live bait.

When you put your boat in and take it out, please say "Hi" to our workers who all excited to help the lake and association this summer. Please do your part and make sure to follow these tips, as well.

**Meet Rachel** - I am excited to begin my journey with CBCW. I enjoy the lakes around northern Wisconsin for kayaking and fishing. I think it is important to protect our beautiful lakes so future generations can continue to enjoy them. I am currently the Reading Specialist at the School District of Rhinelander, and I believe education is extremely important. Not only is academic learning important, but it is also important to educate yourself and others about the environment, nature, etc. I am looking forward to spending my summer at the lake and helping others learn how to keep our lakes clean!

**Meet Aryanna** - I am so excited for another season with a Clean Boats Clean Waters project. I'm especially excited to see

all the locals and visitors back for another summer of fun. After summer, I plan on heading to UW Oshkosh, to pursue a degree in business and psychology. Thanks to the clean boats clean waters project I have been able to learn so much about Metonga it has just been an overall great experience and I can't wait to get back out there!

**Meet Ella** - I am beyond excited to continue with the CBCW project for a third year! Educating not only the locals, but especially the visitors is one of the best ways to protect our great lakes. I remember growing eager to start my experience as an inspector for variety of reasons, but especially wanting to become a Marine Biologist. At the beginning this was on top of my list, but I soon grew a passion for Medicinal Chemistry. Looking out for my future I knew this would be a fantastic opportunity to learn and grow from anyway and I have truly learned a lot. Now I get to take this credible experience as I pursue my bachelor's degree in Chemistry at Northern Michigan University.

**Meet Adessa** - I attempt to give good vibes every I go, even if I'm having a bad day someone may have one too. The most interesting thing about me is the most interesting thing I learned about myself this year. I am a Type one diabetic I found this out not too long ago but have been struggling with it for a while. I want others to learn about diabetics as much as I need to as well. I first wanted to be a CBCW inspector when I knew I would be outside in the summer without a doubt. I love mother nature, and everything in it. I love how shallow Lake Metonga is I can go snorkeling without even holding my breath. I personally feel like my school is too easy but I'm grateful I have the education I have. I'm hoping to become a flight attendant or someone who works with animals in any way, (vet). I found out that since I am diabetic I have benefits for jobs in my future I have yet to learn about those benefits but I am glad that I have that opportunity. 🐦

## Shoreline Stabilization

### Additional Fisheries & Habitat Committee Focal Point: Educating Lake Metonga Property Owners on the Benefits!

Julie Janquart

**T**he configuration of our lake shorelines in Wisconsin have been constantly changing over the last few thousand years. Soil erosion is a natural process that is part of that configuration. Unfortunately, when the rate of erosion speeds up due to loss of vegetation, physical disturbances, changes in water levels, or increases in wave action the increased soil loss and removal of native vegetation is bad for the health of the lake. Soil eroding into the lake can reduce water quality and increase the growth of algal blooms and aquatic plants. Eroding soil also has a damaging effect on fish and wildlife habitat. The negative effects of shoreline erosion are a concern for landowners who care about the health of their lake and their property."



lake edge, provides habitat for wildlife, and stabilizes slopes. The loss of native shoreline habitat contributes to those indicators of poor lake health such as cloudy water, more algae, increased plant growth including invasive plants and loss of habitat for frogs, fish, and other wildlife." . . . Quote from Page 3 of this handy guide.

In addition to the already established bullhead removal program directed at improving walleye and perch fishing, the Fisheries & Habitat committee has decided to additionally focus on educating property owners toward the benefits of Shoreline Stabilization. As part of this education program, we have arranged for Steve Kircher, Forest County Land Conservationist to attend the annual meeting to answer questions before and

"The native plant community that makes up a lake's shoreline buffer helps filter water and pollutants before they reach the

after the meeting and distribute this handy free educational guide pictured above. 🐾

## "Loon Fallout"

### A Natural Phenomenon of Iced Wings

Kayla Reed

I hope many of you enjoyed the "spring" weather we had, even though it was a bit of a roller coaster ride. While I can say we went through the spring relatively unscathed, the same may not be said for our beloved, lake-dwelling bird the common loon. Between the weeks of April 19 and 26, 2023, many loons were making their way north while migrating when they encountered a unique weather mix that made their flight quite bumpy. The combination of ice, rain, and unstable air currents made the perfect conditions for a phenomenon called "loon fallout." This can happen when loons are flying in the atmosphere, and when certain conditions are right, the birds can develop ice on their bodies. This can cause them to crash land on small ponds or on land.

Now, many of us most likely heard about this event, but may be unsure why this is such a big deal. Loons have their legs on the back end of their body, which are made for swimming and diving, and because of this placement, they are unable to walk on land. They also have solid bones, which makes them much heavier than other birds we encounter. Due to this bone density, among other factors, loons need longer



distances of water to take off. They need at least a quarter mile of water runway! So, when these loons were crash landing into small ponds and on land, this causes a large problem for them. Raptor Education Group, Incorporated (REGI) stated that they had several injured loons brought in due to this fallout. Many of these loons were able to be released onto larger, open water lakes and were able to continue their flight, while some are still in recovery.

So, if in the future you see a loon on a smaller pond or on land, call your local wildlife center for advice, as loons can be difficult to handle. Although this fallout did occur, it seems that the loon pairs in **Peterson Bay and Farmer's Bay have returned, so make sure to keep an eye out this summer for all loons!** 🐾

## Lake Association Contacts:

### 4th of July Boat Parade & Picnic

Gary Goeman 414-940-8873

[garygoeman@hotmail.com](mailto:garygoeman@hotmail.com)

### Apparel

Chris Ebben

[lakemetongaclothing@gmail.com](mailto:lakemetongaclothing@gmail.com)

### CB-CW

Kim Reed 920-639-4332

[kmsreed@gmail.com](mailto:kmsreed@gmail.com)

### Facebook Admin & Outreach Chair

Michelle Bauer 608-235-3857

[michellebauer5587@gmail.com](mailto:michellebauer5587@gmail.com)

### Membership

Julie Janquart 920-676-5764

[lmasecretary21@gmail.com](mailto:lmasecretary21@gmail.com)

### Newsletter/Website

Winnie May 715-889-4923

[wintrav@newnorth.net](mailto:wintrav@newnorth.net)

### Weeds'n'Walleyes Banquet

Michelle Bauer 608-235-3857

[michellebauer5587@gmail.com](mailto:michellebauer5587@gmail.com)

Lake Metonga Association

P.O. Box 32

Crandon, WI 54520



Photo courtesy Mindy Samz