



The Voice of Squash Lake

Volume 6, Issue 2

Apr, May, Jun, 2014

Mission Statement

The Squash Lake Association's mission is to preserve and protect Squash Lake and its surrounding ecosystems, and also to enhance the water quality, the fishery, the wild natural habitats, boating safety, and the aesthetic values of Squash Lake, as a public recreational facility for today and for future generations.

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Send your comments & submissions to:
jzappling@gmail.com

SLA ANNUAL MEETING

JUNE 28, 2014

TIME: 9:00 to 12:00

PLACE: Roger Degris' Beach, with the Crescent Town Hall in case of rain.

Pot luck brunch, group committee (AIS, CBCW, membership, fundraising, etc.) Q&A session: 9:00—10:30 and from 10:30—12:00

Introductions, business meeting, elections, guest speaker: Joel Knutson

Lake Management Report: 1:00—2:00

Onterra's Brenton Butterfield will do a presentation explaining the plan with a Q and A session from Squash Lake residents.

The Squash Lake Association proudly participates in the Wisconsin DNR and the UWEX Lakes, Clean Boats Clean Waters Program.



Oneida County To Use Online Zoning Surveys

by Dan Butkus

Oneida County Planning and Development will implement an online survey to better gauge public opinion on various zoning ordinance changes. P&D is working with UWEX to develop the surveys.

The first set of surveys on shoreland zoning is scheduled to be rolled-out this summer. Currently, two issues will be canvassed for resident input: boathouses and docks/piers. At issue for boathouses, the county is seeking input on allowing flat roofs, and altering the setback from OHWM. Regarding docks and piers, the county is investigating whether they should repeal the county ordinance and default to the less restrictive DNR regulations.

The Squash Lake Association Board has opposed flat roofed boathouses because the current ordinance specifies a range of roof pitches that minimize obstruction of the viewing corridor. Flat roofs have two main purposes and that is as a deck, or in preparation for a second story, even though these are currently prohibited by DNR regulations. The proposed setback changes would give a further buffer to prevent runoff from entering area lakes.

A repeal of the docks and piers ordinance would revert back to the less restrictive DNR regulations, allowing docks closer to property lot lines and potentially increasing complaints. It has been suggested by County Supervisor, Billy Fried, that Oneida County's current ordinance is too onerous, clogs P&D with complaints, and makes it confusing for people looking to purchase docks. This writer attended the March P&D meeting to challenge this assertion. As noted earlier, I purchased an "off the shelf" dock, and it met all zoning ordinances. Further it was discovered that P&D receives 8 to 12 dock related complaints in a year. With all the lakes, all the lake lots, and all the resulting docks in the county, this number of complaints is incredibly low.

Often, public meetings are difficult to attend for many of us. The online survey will allow more people to provide input. Regardless of your position on these and other issues, the Squash Lake Association encourages all of our property owners to complete the county surveys. Your opinions and comments matter.

New Largemouth Bass Fishing Regulations Could Help Squash Lake Walleyes

The Wisconsin DNR has changed the largemouth bass fishing regulations so that anglers in the northern zone, including Squash Lake, can now keep largemouths beginning May 3.

Previously, bass regulations limited largemouth to catch and release from the first Saturday in May through the Friday preceding the third Saturday in June. For the 2014 season those dates correspond to May 3 through June 20. The catch and release season for largemouths has now been waived and anglers can keep up to five fish a day with a minimum length requirement of 14 inches.

The new catch-and-keep regulations for largemouth are important for the future of fish populations on Squash Lake. According to the 2009 DNR fisheries survey of Squash Lake, largemouth bass were the dominant species in the lake, surpassing both smallmouth bass and walleyes. The DNR notes that scientific studies have associated high largemouth populations with decreased walleye abundance. Keeping early season largemouths could help improve walleye numbers on Squash Lake.

The recently completed Squash Lake Management Comprehensive Management Plan, which will be introduced to members at the SLA annual meeting on June 26, suggests, "If the lake is to be managed for walleye, encouraging harvest of largemouth bass... may be appropriate." This new early season harvest regulation gives everyone an opportunity to catch and keep largemouths when they are roaming shallow waters and actively feeding.

While many anglers in northern Wisconsin tend to catch and keep walleyes and catch and release largemouth bass, this early bass season gives everyone a chance to eat largemouths harvested from the cold, clear water when bass fillets are firm and the fish a delicacy.

The smallmouth bass catch and release requirement has not been waived and remains in effect from May 3 through June.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



A long cold winter is behind us, so naturally, my thoughts turn to open water. This year, our family will be installing a new dock on the lake. This will be the first time in nearly ten years that we've had a dock. It seems that when we got rid of the old dilapidated one, we just never got around to getting a replacement. It was not procrastination or cost necessarily. We just got used to not having one, until we began to miss it. Soon, year after year passed. Sounds peculiar, doesn't it? Having property on a lake and NOT having a dock! But it's true.

The preparation started last fall, taking water depth measurements at regular intervals to make sure the builder got the height of the legs correct, so that it could be built over the winter. But the process of preparation led to two things I never considered: regularly checking water levels on Squash Lake, and the county's ordinances on shoreland zoning. I thought it might be useful to begin an informal tracking of our lake's water level. That led me to asking the DNR if they had a uniform marker for the OHWM from which I could take measurements. That led to the discovery that the DNR is developing a pilot program to measure lake water levels around the state. The protocols for this project are still under development. But it will likely become part of the Citizen Monitoring Program where volunteers collect and report data to the DNR. Our association is "in the loop" on the DNR's plans and we may join the pilot project.

Not wanting to violate any DNR or county regulations with our new dock, I did some checking. Although the slope of the lakebed in front of our property is shallow (It takes a distance of forty eight feet out into the lake to get to a water depth of thirty three inches!), our dock will comply with all the regulations for configuration, setbacks, etc. But over the past couple of years, I kept running into zoning ordinances that all of us may or may not be aware of. It also got me personally involved in the zoning ordinance debates occurring at the county level. Beginning with this issue of the newsletter, we'll be including informational articles on zoning issues. These articles should not be taken as accusations against any property owner. It's not our place to judge.



Ice-Drag Racing Ordinance Gaining Momentum

by Dan Butkus

The ice-drag racing ordinance adopted by the town of Crescent in the fall of 2013 continues to gain support from neighboring towns. Newbold's Town Lakes Committee is now supporting an ordinance similar to those adopted by Crescent and Pelican. However, the Newbold Town Board decided to refer this to the county for a possible county-wide ordinance. There are questions based on state law, whether regulation of ice-covered lakes can be done at the county level, or if it strictly given to local towns. Nevertheless, the ordinance Crescent adopted continues to gain traction with surrounding communities.



IT IS NESTING TIME

submitted by KIB

Spring is finally here. Many songbirds are master builders. Each species weaves it's own style of nest with it's preferred materials. Mother Nature helps by providing twigs, catkins, tufts (like milkweed), mud, dry grass and moss.

You can help too by supplying human hair cut 4-6 inches and dog hair. String and yarn cut 3-6 inches is a favorite.

Don't put out dryer lint because it soaks up water and is difficult to dry out. It can become moldy.

These tips come from Wildlife Promise by Roger Di Silvestro



GOLF OUTING 2014



As you all know, much of the Squash Lake Association's efforts have been directed at the on going problem of Eurasian Milfoil and other invasive species. Much has been accomplished, but the problem is not going to go away anytime soon. Efforts utilizing divers to hand pick the milfoil have been very successful, but will need to be continued at least at the present level. Funding up to this point has come mainly from grants and Squash Lake residents. It has become clear, however, that additional funding will be needed in the future. To this end, your Squash Lake Association Board has been in discussion about ways to raise additional funds.



One event that will be June, will be a golf **annual event will take** happening this coming **place on Sunday, June 15th at the Northwoods Golf Course. Plans are for a handicapped 4 person, 9 hole event,** starting in the afternoon. A light dinner and presentation of awards will conclude the day. A committee has been formed to work on the details of the event. More people are needed to work on the planning committee, and even more will be needed to work at the event. You do not have to know anything about golf to be involved. The goal is to make this a "fun" event, in addition to raising money to help preserve Squash Lake.

If you would be willing to help in any capacity, please contact Dale Smith at 715-367-0088 or e-mail: dws2621@gmail.com.

Please help promote the first annual Squash Lake Open. The event is open to the public and golfers of all ability levels are welcome.

Additional information and the official "Squash Lake Open" entry form will be available in the next few weeks.



SLA SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER **June 28, 2014**

It is time to start looking for items to donate to the

- June 28th's Annual SLA Silent Auction. We are looking for new (or like-new) items that you can part with:
- Impulse buys, unwanted gifts, white elephants, your art or crafts, etc. Dig down.
- Last year we raised \$777 at the silent auction.
- Because SLA is a 501c3, your donation is tax deductible. Donors will receive a receipt for the dollar amount of the items that they donate.
- Big ticket items for last year's silent auction were: wine baskets, video sets, and canvas wrap photographs.
- The 2013 silent auction earnings paid for 39 hours of scuba diving for the removal of Eurasian Milfoil from Squash Lake.
- This year's goal is to raise \$1,000.

Email kisebrow@gmail.com with a list of your items to be donated. Hold your items until the 6/28

We are in Need of card tables & other collapsible tables to display the Silent Auction Items.

Please Email kisebrow@gmail.com if we can use your table on June 28th.

Thank you



What you think about,
you bring about.

Squash Lake Comprehensive Management Plan to be Unveiled at SLA Annual Meeting

The Squash Lake Comprehensive Management Plan is now complete and will be unveiled at the SLA annual meeting Saturday, June 28.

The Lake Management Plan provides a snapshot of current lake conditions, including water quality, aquatic plant species, shoreland development and fisheries, and outlines a roadmap of how lake residents want Squash Lake managed in the future. Included in the final plan are detailed results of the Squash Lake property owner survey, which residents filled out in the fall of 2012.

Data was compiled and the report written by our lake consultants Onterra with the advice and guidance of the Lake Management Committee comprised of Craig Zarley, Stephanie Boismenu, Greg Nevinski, Marj Mehring and Karen Isebrands Brown. SLA board president Dan Butkus also contributed to the effort.

After the annual meeting adjourns, Onterra's Brenton Butterfield will do a 45 minute presentation explaining the plan with a Q and A session from SLA members to follow. [Please make every effort to stick around after the meeting for this presentation. It's a roadmap for the future of Squash Lake.](#) We are currently in the process of posting the entire report on the Squash Lake website for members to review and reference.

WEBSITE MANAGER NEEDED

With Carol Mustacci Leaving us , SLA is looking for a new Website Manager. We will pay up to \$100 for tuition to take a class in this area and Carol said that she would help whoever takes on the responsibility

Please

**contact Janet Appling
jzappling@gmail.com**

VOLUNTEERING IS GOOD FOR YOUR HEALTH

Volunteering for a cause of just lending a helping hand to a friend in need makes you feel good inside. A "feeling" is one thing, but knowing for sure that something great happens to you when you volunteer is something else. Researcher Alan Luks knows for a fact that volunteers gain tremendous benefits from the act of giving, like a reduction in stress and depression, a decrease in physical pain, and a rush of endorphins that make people literally feel great inside.

One of the most unique things Luks found during his study of more than 300 volunteers was what he coined as "helper's high". This refers to the rush of endorphins the body releases during and after performing an act of volunteerism. Endorphins are a body's natural pain killers, and are often released during acts of great pleasure, like when someone wins the lottery. Once endorphins are released, they help the body experience a sustained feeling of calm that can increase overall emotional health.

* Luk's research, conducted in the late 1980's, was so eye opening that it encouraged a number of other doctors to explore the topic further. Further research found that those who volunteered had significantly increased physical, cognitive and social activity. One doctor determined that volunteering can actually slow the aging process!

So, we're seeing scientific proof that giving to others yields benefit not just for the receiver, but the giver. But, really, haven't we always known that giving is better than getting? Being kind and helping others is as old as biblical times and the story of the Good Samaritan.

So, consider doing something – anything – not just to help others, but to help yourself, too. You'll be glad you did. Volunteering is not just good for the one who gets, but for the one who gives, too!

Article borrowed with permission from CA Home Owners Association.

*Allen Luks was named "Nonprofit Leader of the Year" by Crain's New York Business Magazine. He established the Center for Nonprofit Leadership at Fordham University.



Schedule of Events

SLA Board Meetings

Jun 14, 2014:

Town Hall, 9 a.m.– 11 a.m. This is an open meeting. Anyone interested in the associations plans or business is invited to come. You need not be a member to attend.

Jun 15, 2014: First Annual Squash Lake 9-Hole Golf Outing

Northwoods Golf Course 1:30pm check in

June 28, 2014: Annual meeting

Annual Meeting will be held at Roger Degris' beach as in the past With the Town Hall as back-up if it rains.



Help Your Neighbor

- Contour paddleboat with adjustable and removable back-friendly seats. \$75
Sun Dolphin paddleboat with metal rudder and assembly. Great shape. \$100
70's vintage quality Mirrocraft deep-hull 15 ft. fishing boat, 4 seats, no dents or scrapes. \$700 Call 715-367-0556
- 16 ft sail boat for sale, single hull double sail, good condition : \$400 or OBO call 715-282-5884
- For sale: Used 8' Brunswick Hawthorn pool table, excellent condition - \$1500. Contact Dan Butkus @ 608-628-5151
- Wanted: Used recreational kayak
Contact Barb DeLew, 2801 Bay Dr.
- Wanted: a swimming raft. New resident on the lake on Lake Rest Rd Contact :Julie VandeBerg <vandjul@gmail.com>

Wish List for The Terminator Crew

The items include: **two anchors**, Contact Stephanie Boismenu at stephboismenu.squashlake@hotmail.com

April 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 CBCW	3 CBCW
4 CBCW	5	6	7	8	9 CBCW	10 CBCW
11 CBCW	12	13	14	15	16 CBCW	17 CBCW
18 CBCW	19	20	21	22	23 CBCW	24 CBCW
25 CBCW	26	27	28	29	30 CBCW	31 CBCW

June 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 CBCW	2	3	4	5	6 CBCW	7 CBCW
8 CBCW	9	10	11	12	13 CBCW	14BOD mtg CBCW
15golf outing CBCW	16	17	18	19	20 CBCW	21 CBCW
22 CBCW	23	24	25	26	27 CBCW	28Annual mtg CBCW
29 CBCW	30					

Annual Dues July 2013 thru June 2014

Please support your Squash Lake Association:

\$ _____ Annual Dues \$25

\$ _____ Donation to control Eurasian Water-milfoil

\$ _____ Donation to General Fund

\$ _____ **TOTAL**

Please send your contribution to:

Squash lake Association
PO Box 511
Rhineland, WI 54501



SLA WEBSITE

<http://www.squashlakeassociation.com>

Please visit our website for more up-to-date news and info. If you think something should be listed on our website, contact Carole Mustacci at: scanassi@newnorth.net



The Squash Lake Association is a Member of the Following:

Wisconsin Lakes Association
Oneida County Lakes and Rivers Association



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The Squash Lake Association thanks the following corporate sponsors for their support.

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