

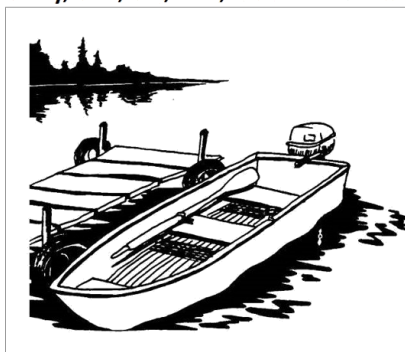
THE LAKE LINK



Volume 32, Issue 1

Spring 2022

Baby, Kerr, Kid, Lost, Man & McKeown



Lakes Association

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - *BY RANDY TURNACLIFF*

Welcome to another addition of the Spring Newsletter! The last few years have been exhausting for most all of us as we deal with the new normal in regards to Covid. Thankfully, all of us have an oasis here within Our6Lakes to use as a respite from those ever-changing problems. I also hope this newsletter finds you and your families well and I hope you're looking forward to spring and summer as much as I am here in the lake country.

The board has gone through some additions and subtractions as acting board members have changed, but be assured we continue to work on your behalf with the programs implemented over the last decade or so.

Attention: As you can see from our current open board and committee member vacancies we're in great need of additional people to help out and

become part of the lake association. The time spent is well worth the effort and really only takes a few hours a few months a year. If you're interested please get in contact with myself or another board member regarding the opportunities and needs we have.

On to business - We're continuing to tweak our 501(c)3 processes and procedures, but as of now we're a full-fledged 501(c)3 organization. We're continuing to take action to reduce our risk of AIS within our lakes by educating ourselves and our members and running our I-Lids monitoring station at the Baby Lake public boat landing. We are renewing effort in our fisheries group and have a new member heading that activity up. I'm personally excited to see where that leads. We also will continue to take water samplings every other year to ensure our watershed's health stays intact.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Association News, page 2

Neighborhood News, page 3

It's Good to Know, pages 4-5

- Get To Know Your Lake Buoys
- Clean, Drain, Dry
- Fire Prevention

Feature Story: Dangerous Weather, page 6

Who Ya Gonna Call?, page 7



Help! Volunteers Needed!

The lake association desperately needs your help in order to stay productive and relevant in managing our six lakes. We're looking for anyone with any interest in helping as a Board Member, Lake Representative, AIS Team Lead/Members or Fisheries Team Members. Quite honestly if you're interested and have some time during the year/summer and would like to be involved we'll find a spot for you so please reach out to the current lake association president (see page 10) by phone or email and ask about volunteering to help.

I'd like to thank all our members who graciously support the Our6Lakes organization and the activities we undertake on everyone's behalf. I hope you all enjoy your summer and continue to make wonderful memories as you play at the lake, relax by a bonfire or go for a hike. The beautiful clear water of our lakes and boundless nature await you!

Questions?

If you have any questions or concerns about your lake, please contact your lake representative listed within this newsletter.

Association News

Your Incoming President: Randy Turnacliff

As most of you are probably aware, I'm the other half to the previously fabulous president who was an amazing guide and steward for the lake association over the last two years (Did I state that correctly honey? ;-))

Here's a little about myself: I was born in Wisconsin and raised in the Twin Cities for most of my life. When I was young, I spent many summers and some part of winters in a rural Wisconsin farming community and my fun was mostly developed around farming endeavors like driving farm equipment, bailing hay, milking cows, etc. Looking back those were wonderful times but way too much work, and I still can't figure out where I got the energy to do all of those chores (sure could use a little of that energy now)! Some of my summers were spent in Idaho working for my uncles learning the carpentry trade. So, I guess you'd say I'm well rounded when it comes to working with my hands. My professional career started with Control Data Corp in 1980. For the most part, after the big split or break up of CDC in the early 90's I've remained as part of the CDC family as my unit (CDSI) was purchased exclusively by British Telecommunication (think of red phone booths). I've continued my career with them as a System and Network Designer analyst to this day.

My early love for the North Country and lake community came from spending time with friends at either their cabin or a family cabin, which built in me a desire to own my own cabin someday. I've owned 2 lake properties in my life, one in Aitken County on Lake Esquagamah, and now our current home on McKeown Lake. During the initial years we used it as a year-round weekend retreat as we like to fish and snowmobile with friends and family. However, since the pandemic we've both been allowed the privilege to work from home, so we now live here full time. The only negative I can think of to this change in our lifestyle, is that most neighbors who live here full-time are retired, which makes it difficult to get together for some fun since we are often busy working it's difficult entertaining when family comes to visit, as you can imagine. But all in all, I think we'll find a way to enjoy the fresh air, nature all around and the calm and quietness of living here full-time!

I've enjoyed spending the past 5 years being part of the Lake Association board/committee working as one of our Water Quality Team members and helping drive the installation and maintenance of the ILIDS system. I am excited to be your current President and plan to continue to move our Lake Association forward towards the next chapter. I look forward to meeting everyone and getting to know you!



Randy and Laura, Our 6 Lakes present and past-presidents

2022 Board of Directors Meetings, 7:00 PM - open to all members

Due to COVID-19 restrictions and concerns, please check the Our6lakes.org website often for meeting changes and notifications. We will most likely continue to host these in the Zoom virtual platform. Members of the public are welcome to attend. Please submit your name through the "Contact Us" page to ask questions or request a meeting link and login instructions. Thank you.

June 14, 2022	Board Meeting	Virtual (Zoom)
July 12, 2022	Prep for Annual	Virtual (Zoom)
July 30, 2022	Annual Meeting—9AM	Union Congregational Church, Hackensack
August 23, 2022	Board Meeting	Virtual (Zoom)

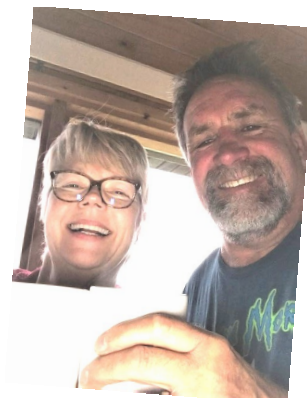
Agenda items due to the president one week prior to board meetings or bring to meeting.

Neighborhood News

Welcome to the Neighborhood! Sharon and Bruce Hoes

Our cabin is on Evergreen Drive NW, it was formerly the Cline property. We live in Glencoe MN. I (Sharon) am retired, but I work a few hours for my sister and brother-in-law. Bruce is a driver for ACC Midwest, transporting clients to where they need to go - mostly medical appointments, but occasionally the airport, or an event, etc. In addition, he drives school bus.

Bruce has lived on a lake before, I have not. We are looking forward to pontooning and fishing and relaxing. We also plan to do a bit of rental business for a few years until we can both retire. This photo is of us with our "Baby Lake" coffee mugs the first morning we stayed at our cabin.



Man Lake Pizza Party

Saturday, JULY 9, 11:30 AM

All Man Lake lakeshore owners are cordially invited to our annual June Pizza Party which is happening this year in JULY! After a hiatus of two years we are

delighted to be able to once again get together at Gary and Linnea Dietrich's at 4405 Buxton Road NW for catching up, sharing information, and enjoying each other's company. The party will go on rain or shine. Bring lawn chairs and your favorite pizza toppings including cheese. We will supply plates and utensils, pizza crusts, tomato sauce, water, lemonade, salads, and desserts. You will create your own pizza and Linnea will bake it in the wood-fired brick oven for you. Lois Anderson, Man Lake rep, will conduct a brief informational and social meeting. Please RSVP to Lois at (612) 275-8806, or email at loiseveritt@gmail.com or Linnea at (612) 810-3407 or email at linneadietrich@tds.com to let us know how many will be coming. We so look forward to seeing you!

2022 4th of July Boat Parades

Baby Lake—Partridge Point @ 11:00 am

Man Lake —Location @ 3:00pm

McKeown Lake—Culvert @ 11:00 am

Kid and Lost Lake—Interlachen Resort @ 11:00 am

Feel free to decorate your vessel but it's not required. This is always a fun event and we love seeing it grow!



Linda Mikota, 1947-2022

On April 19th, the world suddenly lost a beloved wife, mother, sister, and friend. Linda passed away peacefully with family by her side at St. Cloud Hospital. Linda was born to Kurt (Rothmeyer) and Marie (Cremer) on December 5, 1947 in Decorah, IA. She married Gerald (Gerry) Mikota on

June 27, 1970 and had three sons. They raised their boys in Brooklyn Park, MN where Linda enjoyed cheering them on in hockey. Later they enjoyed retirement life on Baby Lake in Hackensack, MN. Linda enjoyed spending time with all of her children and later with her grandchildren. She enjoyed

everything life had to offer whether it was trips with her sisters, aka the Golden Girls, or to lunch with Ladies of the Lakes. She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Hackensack MN.

Linda is survived by her husband Gerry of 51 years, children Mark (Amanda) Mikota, Ryan (Nicole) Mikota, and Chad (Amanda) Mikota and her darling grandchildren Elyse, Abbey, Anna, Harper, Kelsey, Geoff, and Natalie. She is preceded in death by her mother Marie and her father Kurt.

Services were held in Spillville, IA at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church on April 29. There will be an open house to celebrate Linda at her lake home this summer. Dates to be determined.

It's Good to Know

Get To Know Your Lake Buoys

by Rob Chapman, Baby Lake rep

The buoys on our lakes are placed to preserve our lakes and to ensure safe boating experiences for all. The following buoys are located at various points on our 6 lakes.



Slow/No wake buoys are located in Tussler's Bay starting at the Public Access. The positioning of these buoys are to preserve the shoreline in the narrow part of the bay. Definitions/Meanings of No Wake Zones are as follows:

A "No Wake" zone means that boats must reduce to the slowest speed they can travel at while still maintaining the ability to steer and make forward progress.

The speed of a watercraft when underway that does not cause water action that disturbs another watercraft at rest, docks, shorelines or swimmers, and the speed of the watercraft should not exceed five (5) mph.

In Land Waters Obstruction Buoy: White with black vertical stripes and indicate an obstruction. You should not pass between these buoys and the nearest shore.



*Do not Pass
between
buoy & shore*



Open Diamond Buoy: A white buoy or sign with an orange diamond warns boaters of danger: rock piles, shallow peninsulas, dams, rapids, etc.

Please follow the rules of our placed buoys to ensure a safe time with your families and friends on our 6 lakes. If you have any

concern about an area that you feel should be marked please reach out to your lake rep.

We all can help stop the spread of aquatic invasive species. Take these steps **every time** you leave a lake or river - whether or not it's infested.



**CLEAN
DRAIN
DRY**

- **Clean** all aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other invasive species from boats, trailers, and water-related equipment. Spray with high pressure water.
- **Run motor or personal watercraft** for a few seconds to discharge water before leaving the water access.
- **Rinse watercraft** with very hot water. Hot water temperatures will kill zebra mussels and some other AIS according to the MN DNR: 120°F for at least 2 minutes; or 140°F for at least 10 seconds.
- **Drain** water from your boat, ballast tanks, motor, live well and bait container. Remove drain plugs and keep drain plugs out while transporting equipment.
- **Dry your watercraft** for at least 5 days before re-launching in another lake
- **Dispose** of unwanted bait in the trash. To keep live bait, drain the water and refill the bait container with bottled or tap water.
- **Transport fish on ice** – be prepared, bring a cooler.

If your watercraft has been in one of these infested bodies of water recently, please do not launch your watercraft in one of our six lakes without taking the proper precautions.

Thank you!

(Source: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/preventspread_watercraft.html)



Share your lake memories! Post to the [Our 6 Lakes Association MN](#) Facebook group!

It's Good to Know: Fire Prevention

FIRE PREVENTION TIPS: Make Your Home & Property Fire-Wise

by Laura Palmer-Turnacliff

A cabin or lake home is a great family retreat and a large investment. Every year more and more lake homes are being built or renovated. This challenges us to do the best we can to prevent forest fires, and support our local fire departments, by doing our part!

Over the past 2-3 summers, you may remember the hazy smoke-filled air from the Canadian wildfires blanketing our lakes region and state. Not being able to see the lake from your front porch, due to wildfires raging hundreds of miles away, causes some concern. Homes built close to evergreen trees are at most risk, according to the Minnesota DNR. Minnesota has adopted the National Fire Wise program which is loaded with information on how to keep your home safer if there were ever a fire.

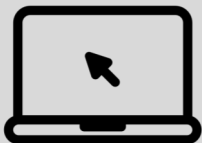
CREATE A DEFENSIBLE SPACE:

- The Intensive Zone is a 30' perimeter around your home. This space should be cleared free from pine trees and conifers.
- If your home is sided with wood, logs or other flammable materials, adding decorative rock can create an attractive, easily maintained non-flammable barrier.
- If your home has noncombustible siding, widely spaced panting for low growing shrubs or other "fire resistant" plants are acceptable. Otherwise plant nothing within 3'-5' of your home.
- Do not store firewood or other combustible material (or fuel tanks) within this zone.
- Remove any branches that are within 20' of the roof or chimney.
- Clean your roof and gutters of leaves and pine needles.
- Put a hose (at least 10' long) on a rack and attach it to an outside faucet.

- Make sure your house number (fire number) is visible from the street.
- Maintain a green lawn or gravel perimeter for 30' around your house
- Make sure your driveway is accessible, at least 12' wide, with 14' vertical clearance for fire trucks.

OTHER SMART ACTIONS:

- Install fire extinguishers in the kitchen AND garages, outbuildings.
- Clear dead/damaged trees and brush from your property.
- Purchase a NOAA Weather Alert Radio. Many types of emergencies are announced through this service, not just weather.
- Replace vinyl gutters and downspouts with nonflammable metal gutters and downspouts.
- Install a spark arrestor or heavy wire screen with openings less than ½" on wood burning fireplaces and chimneys.
- Build a gravel turnaround near your house big enough to allow a firetruck to turn around.
- Treat flammable materials (wood roofs, decks, siding, etc.) with fire-retardant chemicals.
- Have a home risk assessment done.



TAKE THE ONLINE ASSESSMENT & ORDER YOUR FREE KIT

Online Risk Assessment: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/firewise/homerisk_form.html

Order your free Fire-Wise Homeowner's Kit: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/firewise/homekitform.html>

Feature Story: Dangerous Weather



Dangerous Weather

by Lois Anderson, Man Lake Rep
assisted by granddaughter Evie Clelan, age 6

As the weather turns warmer we all look forward to getting out on the lake. We need to remember to keep an eye on the sky and pay attention to danger signs. To illustrate how *not* to proceed, here is a story of what happened to me and some relatives a couple of summers ago on Man Lake.

The sunny July morning had turned gray in the afternoon and thunderstorms were forecast. I was disappointed because I had looked forward to taking my guests out on the lake. But then about three in the afternoon the forecast changed, no more thunderstorms predicted, and the sky, still gray, lightened. So we happily went out in my 14' Alumacraft to the sunken island where we anchored and three of us got out and swam and waded for about 15 minutes. We heard what sounded like a big truck far in the distance, but the sky was a bit brighter. All seemed good.

Then eight-year-old Sage looked at me and said, "Why is your hair sticking out funny?" Huh? The two still in the boat had hair that looked as though they had rubbed a balloon over it. I knew what that meant and it scared me. "Get Sage in the boat!" I yelled to her dad. We threw ourselves in the boat, pulled the anchor and headed for shore as fast as my little, old 9 1/2 horse motor could go. I headed straight for the nearest shoreline so we wouldn't be the tallest thing nearby. As we paralleled the shore heading for the dock, lightning struck up on the ridge about 150 yards from us. The flash and sound were simultaneous. Too close! As we got to the dock it started to pour. As we dried off in the cabin it took a while to process how close we had come to being struck by lightning - our hair standing on end was caused by the pre-strike building of electricity in the air.

Later I researched lightning strikes and found out just how dangerous they can be. According to numbers kept by FEMA, about 300 people a year in the US are injured by lightning and 35 die. Minnesota has averaged over a death a year (Florida is much more dangerous.) Lightning hits land more often than water but water is an excellent conductor. Fish near the surface are sometimes killed by a lightning strike. Stay out of the water if there is a danger of thunderstorms. According to the CDC, lightning can strike up to ten miles from any rainfall, ahead of or behind a storm.

The CDC recommends avoiding the use of electronics (cell phones that are not on chargers are safe), showering or washing dishes (metal plumbing can conduct electricity), or being near windows during a thunderstorm. Some years ago a friend near Walker had his landline phone blown off the wall by a lightning strike. If outside, don't take shelter under a tree - the second leading cause of death. Instead get to a fully enclosed building, but avoid concrete floors or walls. Apparently they have sometimes conducted electricity.

If you are out on the water, as I was, get to shore and shelter as fast as you can. Metal boats like mine are dangerous, but fiberglass boats are vulnerable too, since a lightning strike can punch a hole right through the hull and sink the boat. I have seen fishermen out on Man Lake before a storm until it starts pouring. I worry because a friend's son lost a buddy, an inveterate fisherman, to a lightning strike as a storm approached.

I can't wait to get out on the lake again, but I will be much more careful about watching the sky and listening for any distant rumblings. I was very lucky but I don't want to push it. Enjoy our beautiful lakes and stay safe!

Paws+Claws
RESCUE & RESORT
2949 State Hwy 371 NW
PO Box 175
Hackensack, MN 56452
218-675-7297

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Owner

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Who Ya Gonna Call?

2022 Board Members & Lake Representatives

Lake Representative Board Members

BABY LAKE

Rob Chapman

Lake: 218-682-3461

Home: 651-463-4720

rjgbcha@aol.com

Greg Olund

952-836-4953

gpolund@gmail.com

KERR LAKE

Open Position (as of 9/2020)

KID LAKE

Jim Miller

612- 423-9922

millhawk@aol.com

LOST LAKE

Gary Rueter

218-513-3684

girueter@tds.net

MAN LAKE

Lois Anderson

612-275-8806

loiseveritt@gmail.com

MCKEOWN LAKE

Norm Wieland

218-682-2352

wielandloon@tds.net

Executive Committee of the Board

Randy Turnacliff - President

612-709-2248

lodge.life@outlook.com

Vice President - OPEN

Laura Palmer-Turnacliff - Past President

320-248-4907

laudenbachbrian@gmail.com

Connie Johnson-Schmitt - Secretary

515-490-3265

ConnieKJohnson0330@gmail.com

Karla Lutterman - Treasurer

651-214-5827

lutterman20@gmail.com

Our6lakestreasurer@outlook.com

Jdee Rueter - Membership Chair

507-398-9648

Our6lakemembership@outlook.com

Send Mail to:

Lake Association

P. O. Box 86

Hackensack, MN 56452

Standing Committees

AIS Team Leader

Open Position (as of 9/2021)

Mike Gulbrandson - Historian

218-682-2760

gulbrandm@aol.com

Bob Kirchberg - Fisheries Team Lead

507-645-5220

bkirchberg5220@yahoo.com

Stan Kumpula - Lakes Mgmt.

Plan Leader

218-682-2026

skumpula@tds.net

Mike Schmitt - Water Quality

Team Lead, Co-Webmaster

952-334-0234

mschmitt00@gmail.com

Charley Ready - Co-Webmaster

218-682-2562

ready_c@hotmail.com

Sue Ready - Newsletter

suready@yahoo.com

Our 6 Lakes Mission Statement

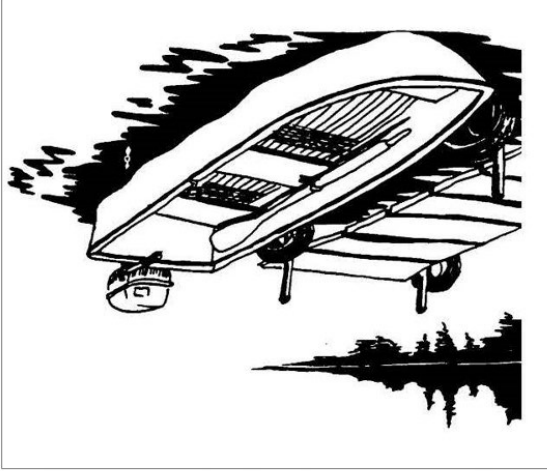
- To preserve and improve water quality, fish habitat, and the well-being of wildlife in our lakes and the watershed of which our lakes are a part.
- To encourage and participate in activities intended to prevent the emergence of aquatic invasive species in our lakes and the watershed and, if such emergence occurs, to control the growth and expansion of such species.
- To educate our members and other members of the public on proper conservation practices relating to the above purposes.

The Lake Link Submittal Policy

Stories, articles and comments submitted by members are strongly encouraged and welcomed. They may be printed in the newsletter depending on available space and the appropriateness of the subject matter and content. The submitted material may be edited to fit the available space and will be attributed to the person submitting the material. The editor makes the final decision as to whether or not the submitted material will be published in the newsletter. No politically oriented content will be published. Opinions or positions contained in submitted articles do not reflect the association's policies or points of view.

Remember to Renew
Your Membership!

Lakes Association



Baby, Kerr, Kid, Lost, Man & McKeown

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