



SPRING
MAY 2009

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- Fred Luckerth, Chairperson
- Ken Shepard, Vice-Chair
- Dan Simms, Secretary
- Pam Harvala, Treasurer
- Ann Simms, Director
- Larry Kavolak, Director

New Dock at Public Access

The DNR has provided a dock for the public access on Boot Lake. This will make it easier to launch and pull out boats – especially in the spring and fall when that lake water is numbing!!

Our thanks to Dave Schotzko, DNR Trails and Waterways Bemidji for making this happen.

Tick Borne Illnesses

Most everyone is aware of Lyme disease and the small deer tick. The Minnesota Department of Health issued frequent warnings urging people to take precautions against ticks because of an unusually high number of ticks carrying Lyme disease this year.

But Lyme disease is not the only tick borne illness. **Anaplasmosis** is a tick-borne disease caused by a species of bacteria called *Anaplasma phagocytophilum*. It was previously known as human granulocytic ehrlichiosis (HGE) and later as human granulocytic anaplasmosis (HGA). Both of these names refer to the same disease now known as human anaplasmosis. Anaplasmosis is transmitted to humans by tick bites primarily from the Black-legged tick, the larger species of ticks commonly found in our area.

The majority of people with anaplasmosis experience headaches, fever, chills, and muscle aches that can be confused with common diseases such as influenza. Onset of anaplasmosis generally begins within 3 weeks (5-21days) of a tick bite. The symptoms tend to be most severe in aged and or those with a weak immune system. Some individuals who become infected do not become ill or experience only very mild symptoms and do not seek medical treatment. Accurate diagnosis of anaplasmosis is often difficult because of the non-specific nature of the symptoms. An initial diagnosis is based on the patient's symptoms and a possible history of tick exposure. The diagnosis can only be confirmed by use of laboratory tests.

It is unreasonable to assume that a person can completely eliminate activities that may result in tick exposure. Therefore take the following precautions to protect yourself when exposed to areas where ticks are likely to be present:

- Wear light-colored clothing which allows you to see ticks that are crawling on your clothing.
- Tuck your pants legs into your socks so that ticks cannot crawl up the inside of your pants legs.
- Apply repellents to discourage tick attachment. Repellents containing permethrin can be sprayed on boots and clothing, and will last for several days. Repellents containing DEET can be applied to the skin, but will last only a few hours before reapplication is necessary. Use DEET with caution on children.
- Conduct a body check upon return from potentially tick-infested areas by searching your entire body for ticks. Use a hand-held or full-length mirror to view all parts of your body. Remove any tick you find on your body. Check children for ticks, especially in the hair.
- Ticks may also be carried into the household on clothing and pets and only attach later, so both should be examined carefully to exclude ticks.

Finally, call or see your doctor if you are unable to remove the tick, or if significant amounts of the head and mouthparts remain after removal. And most important, you should go immediately to a hospital's emergency department if you know you have been bitten by a tick and you have any of the following symptoms: Fever, Headache, Confusion, Weakness, Numbness, Vomiting, Difficulty breathing, Palpitations.

4th of July Boat Parade

Decorate your boat and join us as we parade around the lake with our flotilla. We will gather at 11am at the north end of the lake near the public access. The parade should take about an hour. Afterwards join us as we tie up together and enjoy some beverages, snacks and "patriotic" camaraderie.

Reminder

Sunday, June 14, 2009 – 1pm – Potluck at Jim and Judy Theisen's

Sunday, Aug 9, 2009 – 12 noon – Annual Meeting with potluck to follow at Jim and Judy Theisen's

(Editor Note: Below is the third article in what will be a regular feature in our newsletter on how life was around Boot Lake "way back when". George Thelen grew up on a farm just north of the intersection of County 46 and East Boot Lake Rd.)

A LIGHT IN THE WINDOW -- By George Thelen

Roy Randolph was a seasoned Spanish-American War Veteran, with over 20 years in the US Army Cavalry. He lived with his wife, Blanche, in a house that was in the area where Ron Scholz now lives. Roy was an avid walleye fisherman. Every night he would row up and down the north end of Boot Lake seeking another stringer of walleye.

One night in the dark hours of WWII, Roy noticed a dim light glowing in the upper bedroom of the old Shubert house on the north east tip of Boot Lake. He noticed the light on several occasions and became very suspicious. He suspected that a draft dodger might be hiding out. After fishing one night, he walked in the dark to our house across the road from the north end of the lake. He had seen the light again, so he and Dad discussed the situation at length. Could it be a draft dodger?

Or maybe...that Minneapolis mobster, Kid Can! He was wanted for multiple murders, extortion, racketeering, bootlegging, etc. He was widely known to be on the run, armed and dangerous! This, of course, all scared the dickens out of us kids!

It was decided to contact Dad's brother-in-law, Ed Churchill who was the Sheriff of Hubbard County before further action was taken.

To be continued.....

Lake Water Testing

Our Association is participating again this summer with the Becker County Coalition of Lakes Association and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in testing our Boot Lake water. Samples will be taken six times this summer and tested for phosphorus and chlorophyll-a as well as using the Secchi disk to measure water clarity.

Loon Nests

The pair of loons that hatched and successfully raised a young loon in 2008 are back and have nested on the same man-made platform again on the north end of the lake. Two new platforms, financed by our Association, were constructed this spring. Because loons are territorial, these platforms have been placed in strategic locations on the southeast and southwest end of the lake.

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