

THE CEDAR LOG

The Cedar Log is published by the Cedar Lake Conservancy. The Conservancy is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting, preserving and enhancing the quality of the environment and life experiences in and around Cedar Lake.

Fall
2013



GO PAPERLESS!

Receive all communications from the CLC via email. Send your email address to Debbie Campbell at jackpine@aol.com. The email database is for the convenience of the Cedar Lake Conservancy and will not be shared.

Become a member of the Cedar Lake Conservancy! Annual dues are \$20 and should be mailed to:

Cedar Lake Conservancy
P. O. Box 152
Aitkin, MN 56431

Your participation keeps us strong!

FISHIN' ON CEDAR

By Lovin Radec

According to Aitkin Area Fisheries Supervisor, Rick Bruesewitz, Cedar will have its next fish population survey done in August, 2014. This survey is done every three years. Based on past surveys, northern pike and large-mouth bass have increased but the walleye population had been down. Rick states there's no particular reason for the drop. He'll have a better sense of things after next year's survey.

His department stocked the lake this fall with 400 lbs. of walleye (12,000 fingerlings). Muskies were stocked at a much lower level (400 fingerlings).

Channel catfish have been found in the Mississippi River and may just find their way to Cedar Lake. If you catch one, please contact Rick at 218-927-3751 or rick.bruesewitz@state.mn.us

Where have all the bullheads gone? Rick says Cedar is still host to the black, brown and yellow varieties. The last year bullheads were relatively abundant in Cedar's assessment was 1992. Northern pike and bass feed off these delights.

Word on the lake was that fishing was good overall in the summer for crappies, bass and northern pike. Good luck this winter; be safe on the ice!

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

By John Menge

Boy, oh boy!!! What a great second half of summer and fall it's been on Cedar Lake. Here at the farm the hay and corn sure made a great comeback. Boating on the lake was delightful through the middle of September, and the fishing was wonderful all summer. Fall colors have been spectacular! Our family shared several bonfires and tasty fish fries. And, today as I write, our first snow is falling. Sheri and I hope you all had another memorable season on Cedar Lake.

Our last newsletter, The Cedar Log, was a grand success. Consequently, many new members joined. The cost of producing the newsletter (and mailing) is approximately \$475. Please consider receiving all communications from the CLC via email. It's an easy and inexpensive way to communicate. Our goal is to have 100% participation!

Have you seen the Facebook page? Lots of dialogue is being exchanged on it. In the future it should be easier to get "the word out" about anything from picnics to variance requests, etc.

Volunteers are always needed to serve on various committees. In addition, there is a need for trained participants to monitor the public access for invasive species hitchhikers. And, don't forget helping with the roadside cleanup each spring and fall.

This may be my last article for the newsletter as President. My term is up. We have a new and energized Board of Directors with computer skills and knowledge that will make communicating with each other much easier.

Thanks to all who participated in helping make Cedar a wonderful place to enjoy life. It's time now to follow the loons!

2013 CLC Board of Directors

John Menge, President
john.menge@jemtechnical.com
Jim Spaeth, Vice President
jim@sunsetbayresortmn.com
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lespinemartin@yahoo.com
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Committees

Communications	Debbie Campbell jackpine@aol.com
Membership	Katie Kraft kdgofish@aol.com
Highway 28 Cleanup	Jim Spaeth jim@sunsetbayresortmn.com
Shore Land	Susan Nielsen cedarlakesunset@gmail.com
Social	John Menge John.menge@jemtechnical.com
Water Quality	Les Martin lespinemartin@yahoo.com

Volunteers Always Welcome!

DONATE!

The Cedar Lake Conservancy is a nonprofit organization and as such has 501(c)(3) tax status. Contributions to help preserve the lake's beauty are tax deductible and should be mailed to:

Cedar Lake Conservancy
P. O. Box 152
Aitkin, MN 56431

"LITTLE CEDAR" - A FAMILY'S STORY

By Steve Haasl

In 1961 Ed and Florence Haasl's dear friends, Ralph and Verna Hollenbeck, had a cabin on "little" Cedar on one of the lots created by the farmer on the hill, Mr. Perkins (his first name lost to memory). It seemed like a great idea so the Haasls bought one of the lots and began to clear it with the help of daughter Pam, son Steve and Grandpa Ed. They felled pines from the hill above for foundation supports, cut oaks, used Grandpa's bark-stripper and hauled them to Aitkin to be cut into boards. In the process they discovered the remains of a sawmill from the old logging days, and the wooden skids are still buried in the shoreline by the boathouse. Ed, Grandpa and Steve drove the well pipe by hand after Grandpa used his dowsing rod to find the perfect spot (though it turned out that the spring-filled land had water everywhere).

The first structure was the outhouse and shed, which remained a redolent fixture until 2007. The family built the cabin by hand. For the first few years kerosene lamps and wood stoves were used for light and heat. Water was carried in buckets from the well by the lake. Luxuries like electricity, heat and indoor plumbing were added over the years. When the electricity went on, the family discovered space between the walls and windows as moths streamed in toward the bright light. The next days were spent using butter knives to stuff itchy fiberglass insulation into the gaps. Cherishing, protecting and updating the little red cabin is a joyful legacy for the family today.

Back in the '60s the Nelson boys were the hot-shot water skiers, the Wilkies lived on Wilkie's point and Samuelsons had their yellow cabin. Ralph Hollenbeck had the fastest boat on little Cedar during this time (a 75 horsepower Scott outboard). He and Ed Haasl took great delight in scaring their passengers, racing each other and spraying neighbors' docks.

Kids from the Haasl, Hollenbeck, Ernst, Stephens and Moselle families spent countless hours exploring the shoreline, rowing into little streams and fishing. There were old, abandoned homesteads to explore back then, and the bachelor farmer's cows traversed a wooden bridge (later a railroad car) over the narrow channel into big Cedar. Teenagers drove to dances in Deerwood and Nisswa on Saturday nights with more hope than success. Families enjoyed fireworks in Crosby, Moonlight Madness in Aitkin, wild motorcycle rides in Crosby's open pit mines and countless fishing openers - - including some in the snow.

Although neighbors have come and gone, families continue to experience the magic of life on the lake we love and protect. Let us know your own Cedar Lake story!

Share your favorite anecdote!
Email it to Debbie Campbell for publication at
jackpine@aol.com
All submissions will be reviewed by the CLC Board
and may be edited due to space considerations.

WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS IN 2013!

Bruce & Carla Adams
Mark & Sandra Anderson
Darlene Arneson
Joan & Frank Autrey
Noah & Alma Bailey
Stephen & Beth Birke
David & Jeanne Bjerke
Jerry & Sandy Blackledge
Bruce & Rebecca Bogema
James & Cher Bowe
Jerry & Mary Braton
Diane & Leslie Bursey
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Beverly & Alan Gray
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Korrine Heinen & Kellie Lentz
Donald & Jean Hicks
Dar Heino & Katie Kraft*
Allison & Dennis Hippen
Julie Hollenbeck
Marvin Jewett
Greg A. Johnson
Jean & Kurt Johnson

Ardith Kane
Joyce & Donald Koch
Dan & Doug Mackaman
Julie Mackaman & Rick Dovey
Margaret Mackaman
Paul & Paulette Manemann
Marty & Les Martin
J. Erick & Candace Menge
Shari & John Menge
Mike & Linda Menth
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Lyndon & Lisa Minks
Ted & Judith Myers
Jim & Karen Nelson
Dan & Diane Ness
Brian Newton
Dennis & Susan Nielsen
Walt and Linda Parsons, Jr.
Judith & Michael Patterson
Jennifer Phelps
Jerome & Meredith Poland
Linda Reed
Renee & Robert Rodenborn
Pete & Sue Rowland
Richard and Linda Salden
Scott & Michelle Schnobrich
Herb & Barbara Schoon
Phyllis & Raymond Sigurdson
Frank Simon
Elaine Smoter
David Strand
Bill & Terry Stein
Florence Tarr
Darin & Andrea Tysdal
Jack & Sally VanVelkenburg
John & Eunice Voorhees
Barbara & Lee Watkins
Lowell & Elaine Wegner

*Each paid membership

COMMITTEE NEWS

The roadside cleanup scheduled for Saturday, September 28, was canceled due to rain and has not been rescheduled. Spring cleanup will be May 3, 2014 (first Saturday).

Jim Spaeth
Highway 28 Cleanup

The membership committee had its first meeting on September 24. Brainstorming and lots of great ideas were exchanged. Thank you, Mary Braton, for your efforts in the past and your willingness to share your thoughts on growing the membership in the future!

Katie Kraft
Membership

Twice a year (around July 4 and Labor Day) 25 shore land stewards comb Cedar's entire shoreline looking for Eurasian milfoil. I am happy to report none was found this season but an unusual amount of native growth was noted. Thank you, stewards, for your efforts and reporting back to me!

Susan Nielsen
Shore Land

Water clarity has remained very good throughout summer and fall. There are many reasons this can occur such as lower algae levels from reduced phosphate being washed into the lake. Another reason can be the result of a zebra mussel invasion. The CLC has done additional water testing and found phosphate levels are running about half what they were six years ago. These reduced phosphate levels are great news. The efforts by many of you to put in shoreline buffers and water gardens seems to be paying off. Keep up the good work.

Les Martin
Water Quality

TIDBITS

Many thanks to CLC member, Lee Watkins, for working with the DNR to update the signage at the public landing.

Don't miss the 23rd Annual World Famous Fish House Parade on November 29, 1 - 2 p.m., in downtown Aitkin.

Stroll around Crosby, Deerwood and Ironton while enjoying the sights, sounds and smells of the holiday season and taste samples of soups from participating sponsors at the Annual Soup Walk, December 14, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Looking for holiday gift ideas? Give a CLC 2014 membership to a family member or neighbor!



CHECK
YOUR
NEIGHBOR'S
PLACE IF THEY ARE
SEASONAL
OR AWAY ON
VACATION!

**REMODELING OR BUILDING?
KNOW THE CODE!**

Aitkin County	218-927-7342
www.aitkinpz@co.aitkin.mn.us	
Crow Wing County	218-824-1125
www.crowwing.us	

JOIN TODAY!

Preserving the quality of Cedar Lake is paramount to future generations enjoying the lake as we do now. Please consider becoming a member of this vital organization.

Annual dues are \$20 and should be mailed with this application to
Cedar Lake Conservancy, P. O. Box 152, Aitkin, MN 56431

Name(s)

Mailing Address (street, city, state, zip)

Lake Address (street, city, state, zip)

Preferred Telephone Number to Reach You

I/We are the property owners ____ Yes ____ No

I prefer to receive any information via email ____Yes ____No

Email Address - please print clearly

I/We would serve on a committee: ____ Board Member ____ Water Quality ____ Membership ____ Shore land

____ Loon Counting/Nests ____ Roadside Cleanup ____ Boat Inspection ____ Social ____ DNR Liaison



P. O. Box 152
Aitkin, MN 56431



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