

Happy Memorial Day to all!

We salute all those currently serving and those who have served in the past. Be safe and be healthy!

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CLAA is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization.
Membership dues and all donations are fully tax deductible.
EIN #41-1936608



This is the first of a series of articles that will be appearing in the Dockside by Monte Mason.

We hope these readings will bring additional interest and enjoyment to your time spent on Clearwater lake.

Clearwater Lake, its natural history, the stories of the people who have lived here, and more.

Our first article begins from the beginning of the natural forces that formed Clearwater Lake.

In terms of earth-time, Clearwater Lake was formed about a day ago. While 3 1/2 billion year-old rocks are found in Minnesota, we start our time line from the first of the glaciers. Some two million years ago, the first major glaciation of the central U.S. dipped down as far south as St. Louis. This began a long series of glacial advances and retreats that covered most of Minnesota, except perhaps the SE portion. The last glacial event to form Minnesota was the Wisconsin Ice Stage of 30,000 - 10,000 years ago. It had its own series of ebbs and flows, but began its final retreat about 13,000 - 11,000 years ago when one of its major retreats was from Iowa to what is now the Red River basin.

Minnesota lost its ice by about nine thousand years ago. However, the still existing Canadian glaciers dammed up the melt waters, creating glacial lakes. The greatest of these was our own glacial Lake Agassiz. This was larger than all the Great Lakes combined, and the largest glacial lake in North America. It was so big, that when Lake Agassiz finally drained north into the Hudson Bay area, it raised the oceans 3 - 9 feet, leading to probable changes in ocean currents, and a temporary global cooling that may have affected human populations in Europe. Small remainders of Lake Agassiz can still be seen. The nearest of these are the Red Lakes, just to our north. Lake of the Woods, and Lake Winnipeg are additional reminders of what is left of all that water.

I haven't been able to determine whether the Lake Agassiz swamped our area or not, but if not, it came very close, to our near north and west. Beach goers might want to pack their campers and take Hwy. 92 NW out of Clearbrook up to Gully and Trail and beyond. Eventually, you'll find sand and gravel companies, the biggest visible one at the highest ridge. From there the road travels down and before long, the flatness tells you that geologically speaking, you should have brought your PFDs.

Today, Clearwater Lake sits on a bed of glacially deposited material over 200 feet deep, and is surrounded by till and hilly moraines, over-loaded materials dropped by our last glacier. Even though it was from Wisconsin.

All of this goes to say that as time on Planet Earth goes, Clearwater Lake is but a babe in the arms of Mother Nature.

(Note: Time figures vary from source to source and should be read as approximations.)

CLAA dues would normally be due at the fall meeting. Since only one General Meeting will be held this year in July (tentative at this point) please pay in July or Send to CLAA Treasurer Bill Johnson 785 Clearbrook Lane, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127-3512



Do you have a favorite story or photo
you'd like to share with your fellow
Association members?

Maybe you experienced something
memorable from one of your weekends
at the lake.

If so, contact jjchadwick@q.com
and it will be shared in an upcoming
issue of the Dockside.



HELP WANTED

Looking for someone to mow the lawn
at our cabin every other week.

If interested, please contact

Roz Johnson at

952-847-0967 (home)

or 952-776-3525 (lake)

or rjohnson2122@comcast.net



AIS Specialist for our region:

Nicole Kovar, *Invasive Species Specialist*

Ecological & Water Resources

218-732-8960

If anything is looking suspicious...take note of the
exact location; take a photo or keep a specimen;

then call the specialist.