

The Ripple

Newsletter of the Fifty Lakes Property Owners Association



Photograph by Roy Toft

For the Love of Loons

Fall Finds Us Missing Their Familiar Call...

The leaves change to bold colors. There is a crisp coolness in the air. And, there is a new sense of quiet on the lakes, as the loons leave us for the winter. This summer on Mitchell Lake, I had the privilege of spending many evenings listening to the loons call. As the lake becomes less and less populated, it makes me question

why the loons leave, and wonder where they could possibly go that is better than Northern Minnesota?

Loons are unique, diving birds, which use their underwater eyesight to catch every-

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President's Post

Meet the new President and learn about future plans for the Fifty Lakes Property Owners Association.

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Fall Family Fun

Spend some family time reading a classic by the fire and find yourself inspired to make a meal together.

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FLPOA Membership

Are you interested in joining FLPOA? Is your membership current? Find out what FLPOA has to offer.

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FLPOA Mission

It is the mission of the Fifty Lakes Property Owners Association (FLPOA) to:

1. Promote responsible stewardship of our land and water resources by all property owners in the city of Fifty Lakes.
2. Provide information to our members on best management practices of lands and waters.
3. Coordinate and work with other associations, organizations and agencies of government to share experiences and opinions.

Please join us for the next board meeting on **Saturday, November 16th, 9am**, at the Old Fifty Lakes City Hall. All are welcome! 📍

President's Post

By Fred Strohmeier

I would like to introduce myself as the newly elected President of the Fifty Lakes Property Owners Association, but first and foremost I would like to extend our thanks to our Past-President, Ken Neihart. Ken has put in countless hours on behalf of FLPOA and it's members for the last few years and has done a great job; so much so that it will be a hard task to fill his shoes. I look forward to continue working with Ken as he remains with us as a board member. He is a valuable asset with his knowledge and contacts. I would also like to thank our new board members who have stepped up to volunteer their time and effort. Finally, I want to thank all our members for their support through dues and additional contributions.

My name is Fred Strohmeier and I have been a full-time resident of Fifty Lakes since 2006 at Kego Lake. I have served on the FLPOA board the past three years and most recently, the post of Treasurer. I am also on the board of the Whitefish Area Property Owners Association as Water Quality Director. I look forward to continuing the Association's goals and visions for the stewardship and betterment of our local area properties, which is important to protect our land values and revenues.

I hope to continue the coordination with the local government units, the DNR and other Lake Associations to achieve this goal.

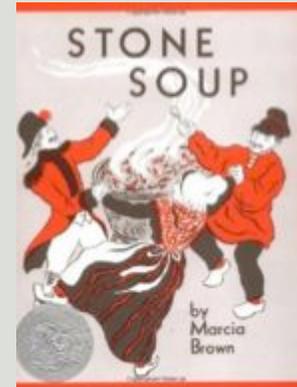
My key objectives for my term are:

- 1) To continue the fight to slow the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) through awareness and education and by manning our boat launches with trained inspectors to the extent our budget will allow.
- 2) To continue to promote shoreline restoration and good land practices and keep an open channel to Grant monies to assist in these efforts.
- 3) To promote more community participation, primarily through memberships to give us more financial clout to address the most important issues.
- 4) To continue to monitor water quality and AIS in our area lakes.
- 5) To help local residents with other concerns should they arise.

As I said before, I have large shoes to fill, but I will do my best.

Sincerely,

Fred Strohmeier,
FLPOA President



First published in 1947, the picture book classic, Stone Soup, has remained one of Marcia Brown's most popular and enduring books.

🍂 Fall Family Fun 🍂

Make fire, gather family, read story, enjoy life

Reading a story by the fire with a cup of hot cocoa or apple cider can make for a perfect afternoon on a chilly fall day. But, it is even more fun when that story is also the inspiration for a family-made meal.

Stone Soup, by Marcia Brown, tells the story of three hungry soldiers who come across a quiet village. The soldiers cleverly teach the people of the village about sharing by making a lavish soup out of seemingly nothing but stones.

Like the soldiers' soup, this recipe turns whatever vegetables you have on hand into a hearty meal. Make sure you have the two key ingredients though: a stone and family to share in the preparation and the fun! 🍷

Stone Soup Recipe

Ingredients

1 cup barley
 8 cups chicken broth
 1 large onion, finely diced or thin sliced
 4 carrots, diced or sliced as you like
 4 stalks celery, diced
 6 cups other vegetables - of potatoes, corn, peas, etc.
 1 Stone (Quartz so it doesn't break down in soup)
 Salt/Pepper/Garlic/Season to taste

Directions

1. Place barley and broth in a small pot and bring to a boil over low heat. Stir, lower heat to a simmer, cover, and let barley cook while you prepare the other ingredients, about 20 minutes.
2. Pour barley into the pot with its broth, and add another teaspoon of salt, 3 cups of water, 1 stone, and vegetables. Simmer covered until all the vegetables and barley are tender, about 45 minutes. Season to taste.

For the Love of Loons...continued

thing from panfish and perch to suckers, bullheads, and minnows. They also eat frogs, leeches, crayfish, mollusks, salamanders, amphipods, and insects. Amazingly, loons can dive more than 200 feet below the surface to find food. Since our lakes are ice-covered in the winter, there is no way for the loons to find the food they need. This makes it essential for the loons to migrate.

In September, the loons leave us to spend the winter on the southeast coast of the United States, from North Carolina to Florida. The loons look for lakes that provide clear water and healthy fish populations.

It is hard to imagine the next seven months without the familiar call of the loon, but how does the saying go? Absence makes the heart grow fonder. 🏡

Thank You!

FLPOA would like to thank the following members that have made contributions in 2013 above and beyond their dues.

Brian and Carrie Determan
Eagle Point Home Owners Assoc.
John & Becky Ferkinhoff
Paul & Peggy Fetch
John Goodrich
John & Berny Hagaman
Marvin & Patricia Hannon
Mike & Julie Hasslinger
JA Wedum Foundation (\$1,000)
Robert & Margery Johnson
Mark & Linda Johnson
Rich & Jana Keller
Andy & Diane Levesque
Ron Mitsch
Ken & Barb Neihart
Walter & Jeanne O'Malley
Gary & Kay Paul
Ed & Wendy Resler
Roy & Delores Srp
Fred & Ruth Strohmeier



Judith K. Miller

Judith Kay Miller, age 70, of Fifty Lakes, passed away on September 10, 2013, at her home.

Judy was a member of the Immaculate Heart Catholic Church in Crosslake, the Minnesota Citizen Concerned for Life and a former Crow Wing County Chairperson. She was a retired postal clerk at the Fifty Lakes and Manhattan Beach Post Offices. Judy was an avid gardener both at home and at Our Ladies Garden at the Immaculate Heart Catholic Church and the Nisswa Garden Club.

Judy was also a member of the FLPOA Board. The Association could always count on Judy for support, and she was always very concerned about the water quality on Mitchell Lake. We are grateful for her amazing contribution to FLPOA, and she will be deeply missed by us all.

FLPOA Membership

The Fifty Lakes Property Owners Association (FLPOA) was created for you, the property owners on and near the lakes in the Fifty Lakes area. FLPOA acts as a voice for concerns about the quality of our lakes through monitoring the activities of the city and county and by working with other property and lake associations in the area. FLPOA also provides information to its members on issues that are central to the DNR.

Your membership and support are more important than ever as aquatic invasive species (AIS) encroach closer and closer. Infected lakes include: Pelican, Gull, Mille Lac, Margaret, Round, Roy, Nisswa, Ossawinamakee, Kimble, the entire Whitefish Chain, Ruth, Bay, Washburn, Mission, Little Pine & Daggett and The Mississippi River. A complete list and description is available at the DNR website keyword "infested waters".

If you are not yet a member of FLPOA, please consider joining. The stronger the membership, the more we can achieve on behalf of our lakes. If you or a neighbor would like to become a member, or if you

need to renew your membership, please complete the form found on the last page of this newsletter, or go to the FLPOA web site and download the form. Then, make payment to FLPOA and mail to:

FLPOA
P.O. Box 206, Fifty Lakes, MN 56448
 Thanks for your support!

FLPOA Board Members

President, Fred Strohmeier
 Vice President, Michael Bury
 Secretary, Ken Neihart
 Treasurer, Bob Stancer
 Webmaster/Newsletter, Carrie Bell
 Member, Al Cote
 Member, Mark Johnson
 Member, Andy Levesque
 Member, Roy Srp

Newsletter Stories

We hope you enjoy the new look of the FLPOA Newsletter, The Ripple. Your comments and story ideas are very welcome! Submission deadline for the next edition is January 15, 2014. Please send stories to Carrie Bell at carrie@twintown.com 📧

Recommended Minimum Ice Thickness
(Rough Guidelines for New Clear Ice Only)

2" or less
 STAY OFF!!

4 Inches
Ice Fishing

5 Inches
Snowmobile
or ATV

8-12 Inches
Car or
Small Pickup

12-15 Inches
Medium Truck

Department of Natural Resources

When is the Ice Safe?

General ice thickness guidelines for new, clear ice

- 2" or less - STAY OFF
- 4" - Ice fishing or other activities on foot
- 5" - Snowmobile or ATV
- 8" - 12" - Car or small pickup
- 12" - 15" - Medium truck

Remember that these thicknesses are merely guidelines for new, clear, solid ice. Many factors other than thickness can cause ice to be unsafe. 📧

I am interested in helping the FLPOA with the following projects/activities/events:

Email: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____ Lake Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

Membership Fee/Dues are \$20 per year. Please make checks payable to FLPOA,
and mail to: P.O. Box 206, Fifty Lakes, MN 56448



Fall 2013

FLPOA • www.minnesotawaters.org/group/fiftylakes



Fifty Lakes Property Owner's Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 206

Fifty Lakes, MN 56448

www.minnesotawaters.org/group/fiftylakes