

JESSIE LAKE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION



JESSIE JABBER

VOL.9, NO. 2

FALL 2006

GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT HAROLD GOETZMAN:

As we look forward to the start of a new year for the JLWA, I have agreed to remain as President and hope that we will continue to have success in doing what is best for our members and the Jessie Lake Watershed. The continued growth in membership and your supportive comments have made it a rewarding experience. This year we have a new Director joining the Board and I look forward to working with Ardie Sheplee from Peterson Lake. He will take on the task of measuring water clarity on Peterson Lake, which will provide useful data that we don't have currently. Ardie takes the place of our long time Director, Gloria Dallas who has provided many years of dedicated service – thanks Gloria. She will continue to serve as our public relations person as she has done a great job this year of getting some Association publicity in the local papers. Many other people have helped in various ways this year, but a special thanks to Jim and Rita Anderson for a great job of hosting our fourth annual picnic. It continues to be our social event of the year so put it on your to do list next year. Thanks again to Ken and Carol Woods for hosting our second annual Share the Lake Day to share a little bit of what we all take for granted. We all know that living on a lake or going to the cabin is a real blessing. Just getting out to have a picnic on the shore and taking in the natural beauty of our area is something our visitors from the Deer River Nursing Home and Day Stay really enjoyed.

I also continue to be impressed by how our members have responded to giving monetary contributions with their dues. This year we had twenty-nine members contribute and many have also given in previous years. This indicates to me that our members care about the future of our Watershed and a tribute to the continued success of JLWA. It allows us to continue being an effective association and helps us carry out some extra projects in addition to our annual water quality monitoring. This year you probably noticed that we experienced some severe algae blooms later in the year. We also had a period with many dead tullibees and suckers that were a victim of the reduced oxygen and warm water caused by higher than normal summer temperatures together with the low water conditions. This problem was also evident in other area lakes and in the Brainerd area (Gull Lake).

Our support of the new alternative shoreland standards is a proactive way we can use the tools available for improved lake management and still allow good development. As our County Commissioner Catherine McLynn recently said “the proposed standards are good for all of us if we all agree to abide by them.” The information included on updating the shoreland standards is a brief summary of important changes that could be adopted. Any changes will of course need to go through the public hearing process so you will have a chance to have input on this issue. One of my concerns is that the three small lakes we have in our watershed could be very sensitive to improper development and need the rules in place to protect their water quality and the downstream effect on Jessie Lake.

We all need to continue to think about the changes we can make that will have a positive impact on the lake to maintain that balance of our being there. Good stewardship is still the best thing we can do to preserve our natural resources for the future. A good place to start is the top ten list of things lake residents can do from our state organization, Minnesota Waters (formerly MN Lakes Association).

I hope you all have a good winter, a great Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year! Wherever you spend the winter just remember, the ice will be gone come next spring.

ANNUAL MEETING

By Betty Steinbrenner

After calling the meeting to order at 11:00 am on September 2nd, President Harold Goetzman introduced the Association officers and directors and asked any new attendees to stand and be recognized before the 42 people attending the meeting.

BUSINESS ITEMS - The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Dale Hertle reported the Association treasury has a balance of \$3,708.81 with 95 members.

PROJECT REVIEW

Picnic – The annual picnic in July held at Jim & Rita Anderson's was attended by 31 people. Next year's picnic will be at Skip & Lynn Olson's on the south end of Jessie Lake.

Lake Levels – Bill Nelson reported the Jessie Lake water level is currently 1 inch above the all time low in 2003. Bill has the official DNR measuring device on his dock.

Loon Survey – Jim Anderson reported that there were 9 resident loons on the lake and that two chicks hatched with both surviving.

Share the Lake Day – Our second Share the Lake Day was held at Woods Resort on August 23rd and was a great day – weather was perfect with excellent participation by JLWA. Good turnout from Deer River Nursing Home and Day Stay – enjoyed storytelling and karaoke music.

Logo merchandise – Harold reported that logo items will be ordered once a year and that Kathy Dinkle will continue to handle the ordering until their house sells.

Water Quality 2006 – Due to low lake levels and high temperatures, the water sampling showed poor quality. There was discussion on what can be done to halt further deterioration and slow down the phosphorous in the lake. The MPCA put Jessie Lake on the Impaired Waters List in 2004. State law requires that septic tanks should be pumped every 3 years; however, there is no enforcement. It was suggested there should be something put in the Jabber on septic education.

TMDL Grant – Study is underway and should be completed in 2007. The TAC (Technical Advisory Committee) including JLWA Board, MPCA, Soil & Water, Forestry and DNR has been reconvened. Bill Nelson has been asked to participate since he was heavily involved previously.

Tilly's Creek - Study on erosion has been finished; results will be released after landowners are contacted for a meeting.

Beaver Trapping – Beaver are still present in creek and have rebuilt the dam. We will continue to trap beaver where needed and remove the beaver dam in early spring before the spawning run.

Roadside Cleanup – Monday, September 18th has been set for roadside cleanup on Co Rd 35 and we need 10-12 people to help. Skip Olson will coordinate.

NEW BUSINESS

Alternative Shoreline Standards – New standards have been set by a multi-county committee. Counties can adopt standards individually. The new standards would apply only to new developments. Catherine McLynn, County Commissioner, recommended that our Lake Association appeal to our County Board to adopt the new standards for at least District 2 including all of Jessie Lake.

Soil & Water – A new County Waters Plan is currently being updated. Harold also mentioned that Soil & Water has a plant sale in April for plants that are beneficial for shoreline planting.

Pet Crematorium – It was reported that an individual has applied for a Conditional Use Permit to put in a pet incinerator on land along Co Rd 134. The County Board recently approved the need for an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW). Jim Schlemmer spoke on concerns related to this permit application.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the recommended nominations. The members approved the following slate of officers: Harold Goetzman-President, Marn Flicker-Vice-President, Dale Hertle-Treasurer, Betty Steinbrenner-Secretary, and Directors Ardie Sheplee and Jim DeConcini for two year terms and Skip Olson for a one year term.

Tim Onraet and Bob Lewis are continuing 2nd year of term. Harold thanked retiring director Gloria Dallas for her dedicated service over the past 8 years. Gloria will continue as public relations person.

DOOR PRIZE DRAWING – Skip Olson – Book by Jim Deconcini.

BENEFIT DRAWING - Bob Lewis Painting – Sharon Hertle; Marlys Burton Doll – Barb Lewis; Diane Goetzman Pillow – Denise Zaske; Harold Goetzman Pictures – Marilyn Russell and Lynn Olson; Jackie Calin Mugs – Lynn Olson; Aspen Springs Book – Harley Steinbrenner, Note Cards – Rita Anderson; Jessie View Vest – Rhonda Nichols, Sweatshirt – Gloria Dallas, Visor – Jerril Madsen and John Horsch.

NEXT MEETING – The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 and all enjoyed a delicious potluck.

MEET YOUR NEW DIRECTOR

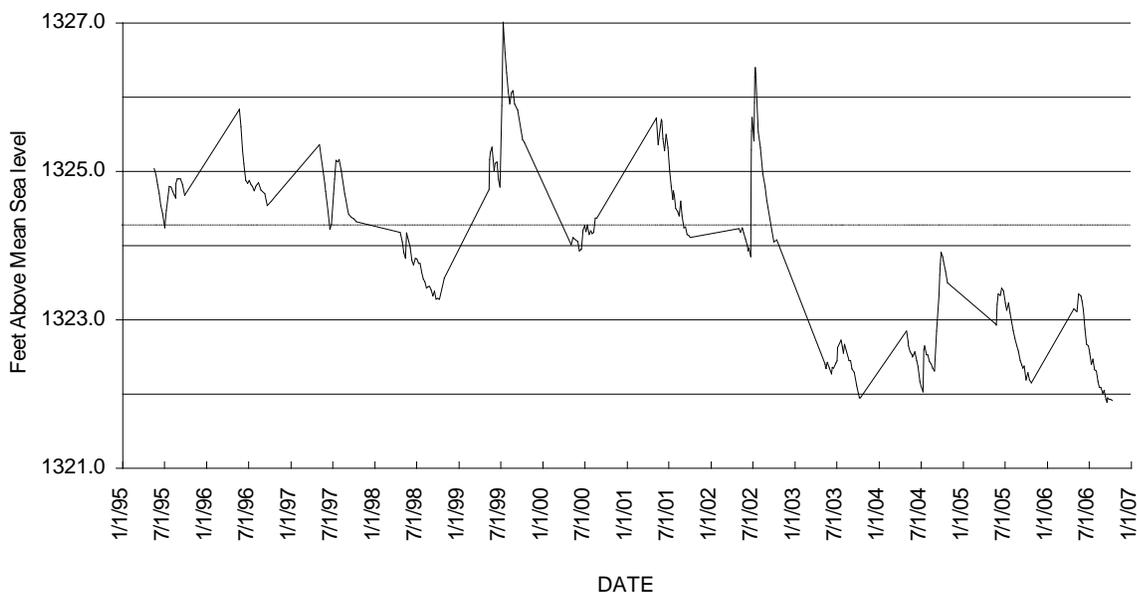
Arden (Ardie) Sheplee: Ardie and his wife Fran live on a farm in southern MN near a small town by the name of Huntley. They have been in the farming business all their married lives, but due to the economics of running a small farm it was necessary to also work off the farm. Ardie worked several years for United Foods as a field-man responsible for contracting-to-harvest for peas, sweet corn and carrots in that area. The past several years he worked as a loss supervisor for NAU Crop Insurance Company and was responsible for determining the losses for the Federal crop insurance program.

Ardie and Fran retired last summer and in the future will spend most of the summer and fall at their cabin on Peterson Lake. They purchased their cabin almost ten years ago in the spring of 1997. Their three married children and nine grandchildren (1-20 yrs) live in MN and spend time at the cabin.

RECORD WATER LEVELS

By Bill Nelson

Water levels on Jessie Lake reached a record low level of 1321.89 feet above mean sea level (msl) on September 16, 2006. Water levels undoubtedly attained lower levels prior to when record keeping began in the spring of 1989, but this is the lowest level recorded since that time. The lake started this year at 1323 feet (1.3 feet lower than average) and ended 2.4 feet lower than average. Last year in 2005 the maximum level was still one foot below normal. The water levels observed from 1988 through



1994 (omitted from the graph for the sake of clarity) and the levels from 1995 through 2002 were similar and generally fluctuated between 1324 and 1327 (msl). Therefore, during those fourteen years

the water levels were generally above the average of 1324.26 obtained from over 380 readings (indicated by the dotted line in the figure). However, since the summer of 2002 the water levels have been below the long-term average and the levels reached in the last three autumns were similar to this year's record low. Historically, you can see that Jessie Lake has about a 5-foot swing from the low to high levels. The ordinary high water mark (OHW) is considered to be at 1325.4 feet so there are not many times when we have exceeded that level.

Jessie Lake certainly was not the only lake in the area with low water levels this summer. Our area was classified as being in a severe or extreme drought. Precipitation this summer in the watershed was only about 12-inches, or just over half of normal. So we were not the only people struggling to get our boats on and off our boatlifts or trying to load our boats in the shallow water at the boat ramps.

YEAR OF THE FOX

By Harold Goetzman

Even though we don't use a Chinese calendar we often refer to some years by the events that took place. If you recall last years article on the bears, I think we could call that the 'year of the bear'. This summer we did not hear much about bears and most animal reports I heard were about the red fox sightings on the west side of Jessie Lake. I often see a fox while bowhunting or crossing the road when out walking on Co Rd 135, but this year they were often down at the cabin. Part of the reason may have been the abundance of dead fish on the shore for a few weeks, which was a good food source. Our particular fox was great at dragging them up in the yard where he left the bones and he would also dig up the ones I buried in the sand. One evening he followed Diane out on to the dock while she was getting water for the flowers. We couldn't believe it when he curiously came within 10 feet of the grandkids playing on the beach. He also does a nice job of cleaning a deer hide.

I suspect that the ones sighted roaming the Jessie View campground and looking up at Nelson's on their deck were different animals although a few mile range is not unusual. The DNR data says they tend to live in the gaps between coyote territories (the main predator) and prefer some open area within the forest habitat. The red fox remains the most common predator in the state even though trappers and hunters harvest about 100,000 per year. The red fox is well known for its rusty-red coat, white-tipped bushy tail, and black legs, ears and nose.

I think the first close encounter report was this spring when Marn Flicker set a live trap to catch a skunk and ended up with a young fox pup in the trap. He took a picture and released it as he had seen a mom and two pups earlier. Donna, next door, had seen them some mornings in their front yard and on the deck, also. Fox pups are born in late April and families are usually 4-5 pups that emerge from the den in May. They are on their own at seven months. Red fox tend to be solitary animals and always hunt alone. The fox may be active day and night, but appears to hunt most during twilight and evening. It is an opportunist that eats rats and mice, rabbits, ground squirrels, birds, snakes, fish, insects, berries nuts, and seeds. A fox will often hide uneaten food under litter or bury it in a hole to be eaten later. The fox is one of the few predators that store food items for future use. An interesting fact is they can run 30 mph and leap 15 feet in a single bound, which is farther than a kangaroo.

Foxes, especially red foxes, commonly live in close association with human residences and communities. They frequently inhabit yards, parks, and golf courses, especially areas that adjoin suitable, undeveloped habitat. Healthy foxes pose virtually no danger to humans. Foxes can grow accustomed to human activity, but are seldom aggressive toward people. This reminds me of my favorite fox story this year while talking to my neighbor who plays golf on Pokegama near Grand Rapids. He said there is a fox on hole number 2 that often sits by the fairway waiting for people to hit their ball and then runs out and takes off with it to a den in the bank nearby. As people got tired of this game with the fox, the groundskeeper finally dug into the den and found over 500 golf balls. I have heard of water hazards, but a fox hazard is a new one. It definitely was the 'year of the fox' in 2006.

SHORELAND STANDARDS UPDATE PROCESS

Minnesota DNR Waters Information Bulletin

Editor's note - The information below is a summary of the project to update the shoreland standards that were first developed in the early 1970's. Increased development pressure around lakes has raised concerns about water quality and impacts on lake use. The state's existing shoreland standards do not adequately provide new tools to address those concerns based on local resource conditions and needs. That project has reached the final stages and it is now time to move into the implementation stage. At an Itasca County Board meeting in September, Catherine McLynn (our Commissioner for District 2) proposed that the County adopt some of the alternative standards in District 2 as a pilot initiative and it was approved by the Board to proceed in that direction. On Oct. 10 the JLWA Board met and agreed to support the initiative and that it should also include the portion of Jessie Lake in Dist. 1.

The effort to develop Alternative Shoreland Management Standards began as part of Governor Tim Pawlenty's Clean Water Initiative pilot project in the north-central lakes area (Aitkin, Cass, Crow Wing, Hubbard, and Itasca counties). The first phase in 2004 identified key issues through 12 public input meetings. Phase 2 in 2005 was devoted to developing an alternative set of shoreland management standards through the work of the 34-member Shoreland Advisory Committee. This phase was completed on December 12, 2005. The advisory committee reached general agreement on the issues originally identified and developed a set of alternative standards that address them. Phase 3 is devoted to providing information and assistance to interested local governments on the alternative shoreland standards.

The shoreland standards developed by the Shoreland Advisory Committee are not new shoreland rules; they are alternative standards, which local governments may consider including in their existing shoreland ordinances. For example, if a county chooses to adopt all or parts of these alternative standards, it is still required to conduct a public review and comment period for any proposed ordinance changes. These standards focus on new development and construction along lakefront property. The alternative standards provide additional tools for local governments to address increasing growth and development that can negatively affect water quality and habitat. The Shoreland Advisory Committee believes development is possible without jeopardizing natural resources, including lakes.

The alternative standards include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Advanced subdivision controls, including promotion of conservation subdivisions over conventional (lot and block) subdivisions.
- Multiple shoreland lake classifications on a single lake; for example, a natural environment bay of a general development lake.
- Sensitive area districts for lakeshore segments where development standards follow natural environment lake class standards.
- New special protection lake classification for lakes where there is considerable wetland fringe, shallow depth, and/or unique fish and wildlife habitat or endangered species.
- Improved planned unit development (PUD) standards, including residential densities for all PUDs, increased setbacks, clustered or grouped docking, and no density bonuses.
- Special resort standards that allow for expansion and improvements while addressing water quality concerns with provisions for shoreland revegetation and compliance with stormwater and wastewater treatment standards. (If converted to a residential development, the resort must then meet residential standards.)
- Better water quality standards achieved by improved management of stormwater runoff, increased drainfield setbacks, and higher shoreline vegetation standards.

- Larger lot sizes for new lots on general development lakes, and no lot size bonuses for sewered areas in any classification.
- Back lot access to water for nonriparian lots not allowed.

The voluntary alternative standards are “tools in the toolbox” that local government may choose to adopt to deal with issues identified through the pilot project. For more information on the alternative shoreland management standards, see the following DNR website: www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters

MINNESOTA LAKES ASSOCIATION’S TOP 10 LIST FOR LAKE RESIDENTS

Taken from Minnesota Lakes Association Website

1. Keep it natural—Restore your shore
2. Know your lake rules
3. Appreciate aquatic plants
4. Reduce your lawn
5. Maintain your septic system
6. Reduce roofs and roads
7. Properly dispose of animal waste
8. Be considerate of all lake users
9. Support land conservation
10. Show up—Speak up—Write a check

Keep it natural - restore your shore. Preserving or installing a shoreline landscape that is rich in native species allows water to soak in rather than run off. Plants absorb nutrients that would otherwise end up in the lake, causing algae blooms and excessive growth in aquatic vegetation. Vegetative buffers along shorelines also trap sediments that fill in wetlands and lakes. As an added benefit, natural shoreline erosion controls are more consistent with an “up-north” look than unnatural shoreline erosion treatments such as riprap.

Know your lake rules. Shoreline areas provide important habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds and fish and are crucial for maintaining healthy populations of the native species that Minnesotans cherish. It is unlawful in Minnesota to knowingly alter shoreline, fish habitat or aquatic vegetation without a permit from the Minnesota DNR. Upland permits are often required by the county or city—check local ordinances. It is also important to make yourself generally informed about all the rules that govern lake use—from boat and water safety, to installing permanent and floating docks, to hunting and fishing regulations.

Appreciate aquatic plants. Those aquatic “weeds” everyone seems to be trying to get rid of are actually a critical life support system for our lakes. With their amazing filtering abilities, native aquatic plants such as cattails and bulrush are natural water purifiers—taking up nutrients and allowing sunlight to penetrate into the lake and create the base of the food chain. The rooted aquatic vegetation is also a veritable fish nursery, which provides critical refuge habitat for young fish. Do your part by minimizing the removal of aquatic vegetation along your shoreline.

Reduce your lawn. The fertilizers and clippings from traditional suburbanized lawns contribute to poor water quality in our lakes. Install a native landscape and mow less. Once established, natural landscapes are less expensive and easier to maintain than traditional lawns. If lawn is desired, use only phosphorus-free fertilizers and maintain a lawn that is at least 30 feet from the lake. Keep native trees and vegetation, with their extensive root systems, as they will help stabilize the landscape, aid in groundwater recharge and reduce runoff.

Maintain your septic system. A well-maintained septic system saves money, headaches and the environment. To keep your septic system in good working order: 1) pump at least every three years (more if you use a garbage disposal); 2) conserve water; 3) properly dispose of harmful paints and

household chemicals; 4) fix leaky faucets; and 5) consider service agreements with regular maintenance.

Reduce roofs and roads. Roofs, sidewalks, paved driveways and roads all increase the amount of water that runs off into our lakes—carrying with it fertilizers, household cleaners, paints, solvents, pesticides and motor oil. Decrease the amount of hard surfaces on your property to allow water to soak into the landscape and keep pollutants out of lakes. Consider installing a raingarden or use newer, more pervious materials or pavers for sidewalks, driveways and patios.

Properly dispose of animal waste. Controlling pet and livestock waste not only makes you a courteous neighbor, it also improves the quality of our waters. Pet and livestock waste can travel into our waters more easily than human-produced wastes, because they are not subject to the same wastewater treatment that human wastes are. Dispose of such wastes in a septic or far from the water's edge to help ensure that bacteria, phosphorus and nitrogen from these wastes don't end up in our lakes.

Be considerate of all lake users. Lakeshore owners and users value Minnesota lakes in many different ways. Consider some of the many different ways we use our lakes: jet skiing, boating, tubing, water-skiing, fishing, hunting, canoeing, wildlife watching and swimming. Part of being a good lake steward and neighbor is being considerate of everyone's values. Follow local watercraft rules and noise ordinances to help ensure a positive experience for everyone who uses Minnesota's lakes for recreation.

Support land conservation. The donation or purchase of conservation easements is one of the most cost-effective ways to protect sensitive shorelines from development. Lakeshore owners and users can help in these efforts by maintaining records of changes to shoreline; keeping a watchful eye out for upcoming land sales or transfers; and encouraging donations (land or financial) to conservation easement programs, projects, committees or land trusts.

Show up—Speak up—Write a check. Decisions are made by those who show up and speak up. Join your lake association. Give money, time, input and feedback to support organizations working to protect Minnesota's lakes for future generations. Share your knowledge with your neighbors and with those elected and appointed officials who represent you. Be vigilant.

POTPOURRI

By Harold Goetzman

Jessie Lake Watershed Association Logo. We will go to one order per year after the spring meeting. So if you have an interest in purchasing logo sweatshirts, polo shirts, T-shirts or hats please let Kathy Dinkel or myself know.

Shocking Results. This fall, one night in early October, you may have seen a boat with strange lights moving slowly along the shore around 10:00 pm. Our DNR fisheries people were doing the annual walleye fingerling assessment by electro shocking to determine the relative strength of the 2006 walleye year class. This strange looking boat has a generator on board that sends an electrical current through the water to temporarily stun the fish that are in front of the boat so they can be netted. Similar assessments have been done annually since 1995. The same stretches of shoreline are done each year to make the results comparable. Walleye fry were stocked this spring and it was also the year with a record number of fish using our rock spawning beds. Apparently, the conditions for survival were good this year as a record number of fingerlings were counted. By shocking and counting the walleye fingerlings, they can estimate their survival by comparing the results to other years where the values have been correlated with gill-netting catch data. This year the catch rate was about 246 fish per hour, which is only for two and a half of the five areas normally tested due to equipment failure. (The three stations that were sampled normally have the highest catch rates, so if the assessment had been completed, catch rates surely would have been lower.) However, even though the testing was incomplete, the data still indicates that the 2006-year class will likely be very strong in

coming years. In comparison to the past stocked years, it is much higher than the 1996, 1999, 2002 and 2003 values of 63, 60, 72 and 5 fish per hour, respectively. In the non-stocked years of 2000, 2001, 2004 and 2005 the values were 0, 3, 0 and 0 fish per hour indicating little natural reproduction. One shortfall of fall electro fishing is that it is only conducted on one night, and therefore is subject to fish activity on that night, which can greatly be affected by weather and other conditions. For example, the low catch rate in 2001 appeared to suggest a very small year class, yet in the 2004 population assessment, the 2001 year-class was the third most abundant in the gill nets, nearly as strong as the 2002 year-class, which had a much higher fall electro fishing catch rate. Unfortunately, there is no way to determine what percentage of the fish that were sampled were stocked fish versus those that resulted from natural reproduction. Other fry stocked lakes in the area also showed excellent fry survival so it appears that the warm weather and low water levels provided good growth conditions. Overall, it looks like the 2006-year class should provide good fishing in years to come.

Drought. This year we all saw the results of a drought on our lake levels. According to the Minnesota State Drought Team, portions of Beltrami, Itasca, Hubbard and Cass counties were among the driest in the state. On August 17th, portions of northern Minnesota were placed in the 'Extreme Drought' category. Looking at a precipitation map for the area shows that we were 9 to 10 inches below normal for mid-May to September. Historically, our area averages one inch of moisture each week during this period. This year we had relatively little rain and this was coupled with the hottest July on record. The impacts were reduced flows in streams and lake levels' dropping to record lows. In October we continued the below normal rainfall as we had 1.11 inches less than the 30-year average. After months of above average temperatures, however, we found October to be one of the coldest on record. Predictions by the DNR indicate it could take years for the area to recover from these drought conditions.

New Chippewa Supervisor. Robert Harper will become the 18th forest supervisor of the Chippewa National forest, beginning in October 2006. Harper has been the District Ranger on the Lolo National Forest in Superior, Montana for the last 4 1/2 years. He is originally from the Escanaba Michigan area and glad to be back in the lake states.

Share the Lake Day. This was the second year for our lake association to host a day of sharing with those not able to live on a lake. Thanks to Ken and Carol Woods we had a great place to host 26 guests from the Deer River Nursing Home and Adult Day Service on August 23rd. Carol, Marn Flicker, and Jim Deconcini did a good job of getting things organized and we had 19 JLWA volunteers to help out that day. This year we had Oliver Juntunen from Suomi tell stories and karaoke music by Rob Larson for a program. The guests and our members enjoyed a traditional picnic together with hot dogs, beans, chips, and bars. The highlight of the day was sitting on the shore enjoying the sunshine and socializing. Some pretty good stories were told to make it an interesting day. We gave out notepads and pencils and Marn took a picture of each person for a memento. The Association has agreed the day was a success and will host another event next year. Hopefully, more of our members will join in to enjoy the day.

Roadside Clean Up. On September 18th we had eleven members meet to pick up litter on 3 miles of County Road 35 between Highway 6 and County Road 133. This was followed by a hot dog lunch at Skip and Lynn Olson's. The County provides garbage bags and vests so it is a good public service event for JLWA and signs have been installed to give us a little publicity. We will also need to pick up the litter in the spring. Think about helping out next year.

Quotable. "Scholars have long known that fishing eventually turns men into philosophers. Unfortunately, it is almost impossible to buy decent tackle on a philosopher's salary." Patrick McManus, humorist author.

DID YOU KNOW?

By Harold Goetzman

- The DNR will stock Jessie Lake in 2007 with 1.75 million walleye fry.
- Creating or keeping a native forest buffer along the lake provides better wildlife habitat and reduces the amount of nutrients entering the lake. For example, a 40-foot forested buffer strip along the lake traps about 60% of the phosphorus runoff and 80% of the sediment pollutants.
- In Minnesota, only one-third of all lakeshore is in private ownership (DNR 1999).
- After 4 years, 45 wild whooping cranes are now migrating independently between Wisconsin and Florida after following an ultralight plane in previous years.
- Today, less than one percent remains of the undisturbed tall grass prairie ecosystem. At one time there were over 40 million bison grazing on the prairie grass.
- A giant 646-pound catfish caught by Thai fisherman in the Mekong River is the largest freshwater fish ever recorded. The Thailand Dept. of Fisheries has a policy of extracting eggs from the fish before releasing and in the process the fish died.
- Americans throw away 2.5 million plastic bottles every hour.
- The average American spends almost 70 years of their lifetime indoors.
- Monarch butterflies hatched in August will live about 8 months and fly 2,000 miles to central Mexico for the winter.
- The exotic Asian carp that is now found in some of our waters grows to an average of 4 feet long and 60 lbs. It can jump 10 feet in the air when disturbed. Fish farmers imported them to clean algae and snails from their ponds. They eat up to 40% of their weight each day.
- The state population has increased 21% (over one million more people) from 1985 to 2005. Our natural heritage is degrading at a rapid rate with increased development.
- The primary source of mercury reaching Minnesota's waters is from coal-burning power plants with 90% coming from outside the state of MN. Mercury is the major pollutant in two-thirds of the lakes on Minnesota's impaired waters list.
- Jessie Lake froze on Nov. 19, then opened and finally froze to stay on Dec. 1, a week off average.
- Our website (www.mnlakes.org/Jessie) is updated regularly by our Webmaster Jim Anderson with meeting notices and the latest issue of the Jabber.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Our sincere thanks to the following households that made financial contributions in 2006 to the JLWA: Bill and Lily Baird, Rodney and Ethel Benham, David Bernardson, Bill and Melissa Coleman, Valerie Conner, Fred and Cleo Conrad, Frank and Gloria Dallas, Ken and Kathy Dinkel, Jeff and Kelly Goetzman, David Goodall and Anne Lind, Jerome and Eddie Hoepfner, John Horsch, David Kuhn, Hollister and Jerril Madsen, Roger and Jill Meyer, Loren and Bev Novak, Lowell and Lynn Nystrom, Skip and Lynn Olson, Tim and Rita Onraet, Bruce and Lorraine Paatela, Wally and Marilyn Russell, John and Beth Sams, Gary and Carolyn Scherer, Stephen and Barb Schmidt, Al and Julie Schuna, Mike and Peg Selander, David and Diane Sievers, Duane and Norma Storrs, and Denise Zaske. Thanks again to Bob Lewis, Diane Goetzman, Harold Goetzman, Marlys Burton, Jackie Calin, Jim Deconcini, Aspen Springs, and Jessie View Resorts for the raffle prizes donated and thanks to all those volunteers who have spent many hours, which are priceless.

MEMBERSHIP

The JLWA presently has 97 paid members. Treasurer Dale Hertle will send out an invoice for dues in early January. Welcome to new members John Cavanagh, David Ries, David and Diane Sievers, and Jim and Sheri Schlemmer.