

# JESSIE LAKE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION



# JESSIE JABBER

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VOL.10, NO.2

FALL 2007

## **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 to reach 100 members has fulfilled one of my long-term goals. This year we have reelected all our past officers and directors, which should keep our organization running smoothly. Many people have helped in various ways this year, but a special thanks to Skip and Lynn Olson for a great job of hosting our fifth 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 Wood for hosting our third 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. Getting out to have a picnic on the shore is something our visitors from Bigfork really enjoyed and we shared some great stories.

I also continue to be impressed by how our members have responded to giving monetary contributions with their dues. This year we had thirty-four members contribute; many of these members have also given in previous years. This indicates to me that our members really care about the future of our Watershed and is 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 record low water levels and some severe algae blooms later in the year. We also had a year with a lot of windy days that kept mixing the phosphorus from the bottom sediment to cause the algae to flourish. That is why it is imperative to continue working with the MPCA and SWCD to keep the TMDL project on track so we can eventually develop a work plan to reduce or maintain the nutrients in Jessie Lake.

We also used our Association resources to start a new project called the Neighborhood Watch Program. I have included a short article in this newsletter, but basically we are just encouraging everyone to look out for each other to help reduce crime in our watershed area. The need for drug money in our society has led to an increase in home and cabin burglaries. Hopefully, the road signs and window decals will help deter criminals by letting them know we are watching and will report them. It certainly can't hurt and will make us all more aware of how we protect our property.

Last fall we supported implementation of the new alternative shoreland standards proposed by the DNR for improved lake management while still allowing good development. The effort to develop Alternative Shoreland Management Standards began as part of Governor's Clean Water Initiative. Currently, the process of revising the Itasca County Zoning Ordinance is underway, which includes rules for shoreland development. This process has involved many public meetings and any changes will of course need to go through the public hearing process. The Itasca Coalition of Lake Associations (ICOLA) has appointed an ordinance committee to review the current ordinance and suggest changes that would help protect our lake resources. We all need to continue thinking 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.

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 Bill Nelson

President Harold Goetzman called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM. Harold introduced new members and the Association's officers and directors who were in attendance; 41 members attended.

**BUSINESS ITEMS** - The minutes of the spring meeting were approved as read. Dale Hertle reported that the JLWA treasury contained \$4,397 after all expenses have been paid. Dale also reported that the membership has now reached 100 members.

### PROJECT REVIEW

*Picnic* - The summer picnic, held at Skip and Lynn Olson's house, was well attended. Jim Deconcini and Peg Wood have volunteered to host next summer's picnic.

*Water Levels* - Bill Nelson reported that the water level of Jessie Lake is presently 1321.68, or 1 ½-inches lower than last year's lowest level. Therefore, the lake level is about 2 ½-feet below average.

*Loon Survey* - Jim Anderson reported that on his loon survey on Jessie Lake he observed 12 adults and one chick. Ardie Sheplee interjected that on Peterson Lake a loon was observed with a fishing lure in its bill and feet tangled in fishing line. A DNR employee attempted to capture the loon with the intent of removing the lure and line, but was unsuccessful. The fate of this bird is unknown.

*Share the Lake Day* - This summer the association hosted seniors from the Big Fork Nursing Home and Pine Tree Villa during our annual "Share The Lake Day". Twenty-five members assisted about twenty-two seniors for this picnic, which was held at Ken and Carol Wood's home.

*Logo Merchandise* - Wearing apparel and hats with the JLWA logo have been ordered through Kathy Dinkel. However, with the sale of their home Marie Flicker will now coordinate this project. Since the supplier has increased the shipping charges substantially it was decided to investigate switching suppliers. The combined orders will be placed once a year when a supplier is established.

*Water Quality* - The results of water quality analysis indicated the phosphorus levels in Jessie Lake during the summer of 2006 averaged about 30 ppb. This level was slightly higher than in 2005, but similar to most other years. The results of water samples obtained this year have not as yet been analyzed. Secchi disc readings this summer have ranged between 3 and 16-feet on Jessie Lake and 6 and 12-feet on Peterson Lake.

*TMDL Study* - The Pollution Control Agency will provide additional funding for the Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to hire someone to model the water quality of Jessie Lake. Hopefully, this will be completed within a year to provide the data required to estimate the TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Level of pollutants, i.e. phosphorus) for Jessie Lake. Upon achieving this requirement remedial action can be developed to remove Jessie Lake from the impaired waters list.

*Tillys Creek* - The study on Tilly's Creek estimated it could cost up to \$350,000 to restore the creek. Karl Koller, fisheries biologist with the DNR is discussing the program with the landowners. Replacement of the 40-inch culvert presently under CR 135 with a 9-foot culvert will be discussed with Itasca County to eliminate the possibility of the road washing out again.

*Beaver Trapping* - Beaver are still present in the 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* - The roadside clean up along CR 35 is scheduled for September 20<sup>th</sup>. Those willing to help should meet at 10:00 AM at Jessie View Resort. We need 10-12 people to help and Skip Olson will coordinate.

### NEW BUSINESS

*Creel Survey* - Jim Anderson discussed the possibility of starting a partial creel census on Jessie Lake. Interested fisherman would keep track of the length of walleyes they caught during the summer. Jim believed if enough fishermen would do this a good estimate of walleye year-class strength could be obtained. Anyone interested in participating should contact Jim.

*Neighborhood Watch* - A neighborhood watch program was approved for initiation at the spring meeting. Harold reported that we have purchased 16 signs designating an active program is in force in our area. These signs will be attached to existing signs throughout the watershed in the near future.

*Zoning* - Committees are presently meeting in Itasca County to develop Alternative Shoreline Standards and revise the current zoning ordinance. Ultimately, these standards will be integrated into the county zoning ordinance. Jessie Lake Township is also meeting to discuss establishing a local zoning ordinance.

*SWCD* - The SWCD will again hold a plant sale next spring if you are interested in purchasing trees or wild flowers at a reasonable price.

**OTHER CONCERNS--**Harold mentioned that the pet crematorium, which we successfully kept from being located in our watershed, recently burned to the ground in Coleraine where it had relocated.

Harold briefly discussed exotic plants and the controversy developing over installation of mega docks. A meeting was held by the DNR to review the current dock regulations and possible changes.

**ELECTION--**All current association officers and members of the board of directors consented to continue serving another term. The members approved the following slate of officers: Harold Goetzman-President, Marn Flicker-Vice-President, Dale Hertle-Treasurer, Betty Steinbrenner-Secretary, and Directors Bob Lewis and Tim Onraet for two-year terms and Skip Olson for a one-year term. Ardie Sheplee and Jim DeConcini are continuing the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of their term.

**DOOR PRIZE** – Sharon Hertle won the door prize of an annual membership in the association.

**BENEFIT DRAWING** - Bob Lewis Painted Paddle and Wood Slab – Jim Anderson and Ben Edwards; Dale Hertle Walking Sticks – Alec Willard and Sue Lavelle; Marlys Burton Doll – Diane Goetzman, Hot Pads – Hollister Madsen, Dish Cloths – Jackie Calin; Diane Goetzman Framed Jack Sholand Print – Jim DeConcini; Harold Goetzman Framed Photo – Jim Anderson; Jessie View Resort Shirts – Carol Wood, Sharon Hertle and Ben Edwards, Visors –Rudy Gronau and Rita Anderson.

**NEXT MEETING** – The next meeting will be May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Thank you to everyone that donated items and to the Bowstring Store for donating hot dogs and buns for the potluck.

## **JESSIE LAKE TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD STUDY**

**By Harold Goetzman**

Jessie Lake has now been under study for ten years to develop a management plan that would improve or maintain the fishery and water quality. After completion of a Clean Water Partnership grant in 2002, the lake was placed on the impaired waters list by the MPCA in 2004 due to increased levels of nutrients (phosphorous). Last year a grant was awarded to the Itasca SWCD to start a project that would develop the allowable Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) of phosphorous. This project has been discussed previously and the last update can be found in your spring newsletter of this year.

An important aspect of the TMDL process is public input and this past March a public meeting was held at the Bowstring Town Hall. The ICSWCD, JLWA, and MPCA gave an up-to-date report on studies completed on Jessie Lake and discussed the development of a nutrient TMDL for Jessie Lake. Upon completion of the TMDL, a work plan will be developed for reducing phosphorous loading to protect the future of Jessie Lake and the next step will be to acquire funding to implement the plan.

Since that meeting in March, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met in June and discussed the need for a revision in the SWCD contract due to new TMDL protocols and policies that have been recently put in place by the MPCA. In addition, the data collected since the completion of the CWP study in 2002 needed to be reviewed and added to the TMDL study. Therefore the new work plan calls for SWCD to complete a Phase I study, which will basically get the new data compiled and on a website, determine the scope of work for hiring a contractor to assist in lake modeling for completion of the TMDL and finally preparing a request for proposal (RFP) to be sent out to contractors. The state

of Minnesota has budgeted state dollars to then complete the TMDL with a Phase II contract that would be awarded to an experienced consultant on the MPCA approved list.

As part of Phase I, a second TAC meeting was held in November to review the existing technical data and review an example of a completed lake TMDL. A worksheet to aid in the TMDL process was made available and a discussion regarding the scope of the Phase II contract was started. The very extensive Jessie Lake Clean Water Partnership (CWP) study should be sufficient in satisfying a large part of the TMDL study. Since the historical data has deemed the lake to have been impacted by man through logging, erosion and shoreland development, the goal is to develop loading rates for phosphorous from all sources and to identify areas where reductions in phosphorus loading can occur. For example, a plan to prevent further erosion of Tillys Creek will be evaluated by the consultant, as this sediment is a source of phosphorous entering the lake. Further evaluation of shoreline erosion, septic maintenance and in-lake treatment will also be considered for study.

The next meeting is to be held on Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> to continue with the preparation of the RFP to be sent out to the contractors. Anyone in the watershed that has an interest in the TMDL project is welcome to attend this meeting. Since public participation is an important part of the process, additional input from JLWA members or watershed citizens would be great.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM**

**By Harold Goetzman**

Residential burglary is a national, rapidly growing, costly and potentially dangerous crime that can lead to other crimes. When your home is burglarized you'll probably lose a radio, TV, stereo, camera, guns or jewelry, but you'll also lose peace of mind and it could jeopardize the safety and welfare of your family. In most cases residential burglary is a crime of opportunity committed by young amateurs able to enter your home. You can eliminate the opportunity and minimize the chance of burglary by making your home as difficult as possible to enter. All that is needed is a little time and money to take the preventive steps recommended. An additional way to reduce the local area crime is to form a neighborhood watch program and look out for each other.

At our JLWA Spring meeting this year we invited Itasca County Sheriff Pat Medure to speak about the benefits of a "Neighborhood Watch Program" and how to start such a program for our members in the watershed. Pat discussed this national organization and said we had a good start by the fact that we already have our watershed association that is an organization of neighbors. He handed out some crime prevention materials and reviewed current crime statistics. Members at the meeting all agreed that the association should pursue starting a neighborhood watch program.

Later in the summer the JLWA Board met and approved the purchase of road signs for posting on the area roads to announce to potential criminals that this program was in force. You may have noticed they are now in place. We also obtained decals for your windows to tell a criminal that you are not an easy target and that they are being watched. Convicted burglars report they avoid neighborhoods that have Neighborhood Watch signs posted. Knowing your neighbors is an important feature and benefit of this program. You need to know the regular patterns of your neighbors so you can see when something is unusual. Being aware of the happenings in your neighborhood is important and is not snooping, but rather guarding against any trouble. You should also notify your neighbors if you will be gone for a period of time or a stranger will be using your house. It comes down to the motto, "We Look Out for Each Other".

This fall we started distributing the window decals to our members to announce the program was in force. For those that were not around to receive a decal you will find it enclosed with this newsletter and you can place it on a window or door at your convenience. If you still didn't receive a decal please let us know when you pay your dues. Remember if you see anything suspicious or a potential crime

being committed you need to call 911 and give them the details. I am confident this will be a worthwhile JLWA project and make our community a safer place to live or own property.

## **SEPTIC MAINTENANCE: SAVE MONEY AND PROTECT OUR WATER RESOURCES**

**Laurie Brown, Regional Educator, University of MN Extension**

Septic systems are designed to treat sewage from homes and cabins to recycle water back into the natural environment. It is important for all septic system owners to understand how their systems work and the maintenance required to keep those systems working. A well maintained system is more effective at treating sewage, will last longer and will be more cost effective than one that is ignored.

Most standard septic systems are designed to capture wastewater from the home, separate the solids from the liquids, hold the solids in place and then release the liquid into a soil treatment area for breakdown of disease-causing pathogens. Let's take a look at each function of the system and the maintenance issues associated with them.

**Capturing the wastewater:** The plumbing in your house should capture all the wastewater from the kitchen, bathroom, laundry room, sauna, and any other place water is used. The only appliances that should not be hooked up to your septic tank are water softeners, iron removers, high efficiency furnaces and air circulation drain lines. The water from these appliances is considered clean and does not need to be treated. Cut back on water use to reduce the amount of water the system must treat. Use low flow faucets and toilets and fix leaks immediately to avoid overloading the system. Leaky fixtures can also lead to freezing problems when we have cold winters without snow cover.

**Separating solids from liquids:** This is the job of your septic tank. All wastewater flows into the septic tank where it is separated into three layers; a floating scum layer on top, liquid with suspended solids in the middle, and a heavy sludge layer at the bottom of the tank. The scum and sludge layers in the septic tank need to be removed periodically by a licensed professional pumper. If these layers are not removed from the septic tank, they will build up to the point where they are discharged to the soil treatment area. This will plug the distribution pipes and overload the soil, causing expensive repairs or replacement of the drainfield.

Large amounts of water flowing through the septic system can also cause solids to flush out of the tank before they have a chance to separate into the scum, liquid and solid layers. For example, washing several loads of laundry in one day can overload the septic tank. Heavy water using activities should be spread throughout the day and throughout the week to prevent damage to your septic system. A good rule of thumb is to do no more than one load of laundry per day and to run it at a time when no one is bathing or doing the dishes.

The frequency of pumping your septic tank depends on what you send down the drain and how much water you use. If you have a garbage disposal in your kitchen and you live in the house year-round your tank should be pumped at least annually. If you use your home seasonally, don't have a garbage disposal or washing machine, you can pump your tank less often. To help you determine how often you should pump, check out the Pumping Frequency Guidelines and worksheet at: <http://septic.umn.edu/homeowner/FactSheets/pumpingfrequency.pdf>

No tank should go more than 36 months between pumping, which is state law. Tank pumping should occur through the manhole cover, NOT through the 4" inspection pipe. Pumping through the inspection pipe often leaves solids in the tank and can also damage the baffles. Your pumper may charge extra if he has to dig out your manhole cover, make sure you ask when you set up your appointment. If you have an effluent filter near the outlet pipe, it will need to be cleaned more often than the tank. Frequency of cleaning depends on screen size, water use and homeowner practices. The homeowner or a septic professional can do the cleaning of the effluent filter.

**Treatment of disease causing pathogens:** Final treatment of wastewater occurs in the soil. The soil treatment area, or drainfield, is made up of unsaturated, undisturbed soil into which trenches are built or a mound sits upon. The millions of beneficial bacteria and other organisms in the soil break down bacteria, viruses, and other disease-causing pathogens and remove nutrients from the wastewater. Because the organisms doing the work are aerobic, or oxygen-loving, there must be a zone of dry, unsaturated soil present where the wastewater leaves the pipe and enters the soil. Generally, there must be 3 feet of dry soil below the bottom of a trench for a conventional, gravity flow trench system to be approved. If the site can't meet those requirements, then there must be at least 1 foot of dry soil for a mound system to be constructed. A mound is an elevated drainfield built with clean sand and works as well as a conventional trench system if it is designed, installed and maintained properly. It is important that the drainfield remain uncompacted. Do not drive or park on your drainfield or turn your mound into a snowmobile or 4-wheeler jump. In the spring and fall make it a habit to walk over and inspect your drainfield, checking for damp spots that may indicate a leak or plug in the distribution pipes. Make repairs before winter to prevent freeze up.

When it comes to septic system maintenance "Out of Sight, Out of Mind" doesn't work. Just because your toilet keeps on flushing and the tub keeps on draining doesn't mean you can ignore your septic system. Just as you would never dream of driving your car without changing the oil on a regular basis, you should never use your septic system without pumping the tank and performing other routine maintenance. Regular maintenance will prolong the life of your system, prevent costly repairs, save you money in the long run and protect our water resources by ensuring proper wastewater treatment.

## **WALLEYE BIOLOGY 101**

**By Karl Koller, DNR Fisheries Specialist**

The MN Department of Natural Resources Section of Fisheries conducted its annual electrofishing assessment of young-of-year walleye on Jessie Lake in late September. As has been explained in past newsletters, young-of-year walleye (5-6-inches) are sampled each fall in an attempt to assess spawning success and survival. Sampling is conducted after dark using a boat with a generator on board that sends an electrical current through the water to stun the fish long enough for them to be netted. All young-of-year walleye are counted and measured and a catch rate is calculated based on the number of walleye captured per hour. Each year the same habitat is sampled at about the same time of year to minimize the number of variables affecting catch rate. Of course, since the sampling is only done one night, weather can have a large influence on whether the walleye will be in shallow on the night sampling is done. Because of this, it is difficult to accurately predict future year-class strength based on just the electrofishing catch rate. So, while a lower catch rate doesn't necessarily indicate a poor year-class, a high catch rate typically does indicate a good to strong year class.

This year's catch rate (6.4/hour) is considerably lower than the record setting 2006 catch rate, but similar to the 5/hr in 2003 after a good catch of 72/hr in 2002. If you remember the article in last year's newsletter, motor problems prevented all the sampling from being completed, so only the best habitat was sampled. With that in mind, it was speculated that if all the sampling had been completed, the catch rate might have been lower. While capturing the young-of-year walleye this year, an attempt was made to also count all of the one-year-old walleye (2006 year-class). If all of the age 1 fish had been captured, the catch rate for those fish would have still exceeded any catch rates for young-of-year fish observed prior to 2006. This is despite the fact that a lot of fish from that year class have succumbed to natural mortality (wound up as food for other fish, birds, etc.) over the past year. It appears that 2006 is a very strong year class and 2007 will be a less than normal year class.

Why were there so many more fish in 2006 than in 2007? Fry were stocked in both 2006 and 2007. The spawning run observed in Spring Creek in 2006 was very large whereas low water levels in 2007 produced a smaller run. This may partially explain the reduced catch rate this year. However,

many of the lakes that are electrofished in the Grand Rapids area showed lower catch rates this year than last, suggesting that although spring and summer weather conditions were similar to 2007, there may have been enough of a difference in climate to reduce survival. The average length of the 2007 fish was below average as well. Food availability and temperature are the factors most likely to affect growth. With all the 2006 fish around the lake feeding on any perch and minnows they could catch, it becomes more difficult for the 2007 fish to find food. It is also possible that survival has been reduced for the 2007 year-class because many have ended up in the stomachs of the 2006 year-class fish. A study done by a University of Minnesota student several years ago demonstrated the suppression effect that a strong year-class has on the size of the following year's year-class. Because of this, the reduction in size of year-class from 2006 to 2007 was expected. It is also part of the reason that annual stocking does not produce a continuously high population of walleye.

So what does all this mean for future fishing in Jessie Lake? While one can't translate catch rates into the number of fish that will be in the lake when they reach 14 inches, the future does look pretty good. Fish from the large 2006 year-class will probably start showing up on hooks later this coming summer and many will start to reach a keeper size in 2009. By the opener in 2010, there should be a large number of "eater" walleye in the lake. Of course this doesn't guarantee great fishing. If there is a large amount of food available, for example if perch are abundant, they may still be tough to catch. However, whenever there is a strong year-class like this, they typically will, over time, bring down the abundance of the prey species in the lake so the walleye become easier to catch. Then as anglers reduce the number of walleye (and other predator species) in the lake, the prey species (perch and minnows) will eventually rebound. This in turn allows another big year-class of walleye to survive. This cyclical nature to predator/prey relationships plays out all over the animal kingdom and is a natural process. With fish like walleye, anglers can exaggerate the cycles by speeding up the declines in predator abundance as they keep walleye. It results in periods of great fishing when walleye abundance is high and prey abundance is low, but fishing can be slow in years when the reverse is true. We are finding in many of the lakes that have a slot limit that there are more fish maintained in the lake on a regular basis. It appears to reduce how high the numbers get during the peaks, but clearly seems to also ensure there are also some fish to catch during the low years, even if they are larger fish that can't be kept. In the meantime, anglers voluntarily releasing larger fish (over 17 or 18 inches) can also help keep more fish in the lake when there hasn't been a strong year class for a couple years.

## **THE BIRDS AND THE BEES**

**By Harold Goetzman**

I heard a number of people mention how there seemed to be fewer birds at their feeders this year. That certainly was the case at our cabin, as our feeders did not need constant filling like in the past. Some of America's most common and beloved birds have faced dramatic declines over the past 40 years. Here in the Northland, that includes red-headed woodpeckers, purple martins, indigo buntings, evening grosbeaks and meadowlarks. An analysis of bird population surveys released in June by the National Audubon Society shows the populations of 20 species of common North American birds are half or less than they were 40 years ago. Some species have even declined by more than 65 percent. Those showing the biggest decline were northern bobwhite (82%), evening grosbeak (78%), northern pintail (77%), greater scaup (75%), boreal chickadee (73%), eastern meadowlark (72%), common tern (70%), loggerhead shrike (70%), field sparrow (68%), and grasshopper sparrow (65%).

Researchers for Audubon studied data for 550 bird species from the group's own century-long annual Christmas bird count and from the U.S. Geological Survey's breeding bird survey conducted each June. Audubon officials said they don't expect many of the declining species to become extinct, but they cautioned that the trends are a warning that suburban sprawl, climate change and wetland loss are causing a dramatic decline in wildlife habitat.

Earlier this year there was also a survey in the eastern USA that indicated the West Nile virus was decimating some common bird species. In Maryland and Virginia, for example, the 2005 chickadee populations were 60 and 50 percent lower than before West Nile arrived in 1999. As expected crows in some regions were the worst hit while other major losers were the blue jay, tufted titmouse, robin, house wren and the American bluebird. However, it is interesting to note that robins, wrens, blue jays and crows are thriving in our northland area. It was also reported that wild turkeys, geese, cormorants, and eagles have exploded in number in recent years through relocation efforts and the ban on DDT.

The Audubon Societies' biggest concern is the number of birds facing decline, the degree of decline and the wide range of areas seeing the declines from southwestern Minnesota prairies to northern Minnesota forests. It is also disconcerting that there aren't more birds in the middle that are neither declining nor exploding. Of course, the sharp increases in some birds may also be contributing to the problem for others. I know from our observations that crows and herons certainly are hard on the baby martins. This year we have also seen the red-bellied woodpecker and cardinals in our northland, which is another sign of climate change.

Now if you thought the bird population was down, just think about how many bees you saw last summer. It appears there is a worldwide bee crisis and scientists are frantically researching the problem of the vanishing bees. There are multiple causes—pesticides, mites and stress factors have been suggested. Some bee farmers who truck their bees to pollinate various crops are returning to collect their hives weeks later only to find half to three-quarters of their bees missing. They just disappear as there are no dead bees found near the hive. With the shortage of bees we may all be facing the threat of massive shortages of both fruit and vegetables. Already, pear orchards in southern China are being hand-pollinated because the bees are gone. This labor-intensive technique has pushed prices sky high.

Albert Einstein once said, "If the bees disappeared off the surface of the globe then man would have only four years of life left. No more bees, no more pollination, no more plants, no more animals, no more man."

## **POTPOURRI**

**By Harold Goetzman**

**Jessie Lake Watershed Association Logo.** We have gone 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 Marie Flicker or myself know.

**Share the Lake Day.** This was the third year for our Association to host a day of sharing with those not able to live on a lake. Thanks to Ken and Carol Wood we had a great place to host 22 guests from the Bigfork Nursing Home and Pine Tree Villa on August 15<sup>th</sup>. Carol, Marn Flicker, and Jim Deconcini did a good job of getting things organized and we had a great turnout of 25 JLWA volunteers to help out that day. This year we had Terry Fox singing popular old songs 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 sun visors and Marn took a picture of each person that was framed for a memento. This year we also had a grant from the NIEC Round-up program to cover all the expenses involved.

**Roadside Clean Up.** On September 27<sup>th</sup> we had eight 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. We will also need to pick up the litter in the spring and could use a few more participants. Think about helping out next year.

**Quotable.** "I realized that if I had to choose, I would rather have birds than airplanes." Charles Lindberg.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

**By Harold Goetzman**

- Lake Superior is the largest lake in the world by area, covering 31,700 square miles and contains 10 percent of the world's fresh water. The deepest spot is 1332 feet.
- Lake Superior has about 1826 miles of shoreline or the distance from Duluth to San Francisco.
- The Chippewa and Superior national forests have made it officially illegal to bring out-of-state firewood into federal forestland in Minnesota to keep emerald ash borers out of the state.
- The list of state waters designated as *impaired* grew by almost 300 lakes and streams. These were due to finding heavy metals, high nutrient levels causing algal blooms and high bacterial counts.
- Over 80% of our lakes and streams in Minnesota have not even been assessed by the state to determine if they meet minimum standards and should be on the impaired list.
- Minnows make up 46 of the state's estimated 160 native fish species.
- The average seasonal property owner in Minnesota has owned the property for 25 years.
- Over 80% of home and cabin burglaries are committed in the daylight.
- A new change in Minnesota fishing rules allows a person that is winter spearing to also use one angling line either in the spear hole or outside the dark house.
- On a per capita basis, Americans use 151 gallons of water per day compared to 31 in England.
- The average American takes 26,000 showers and drinks 16,000 gallons of water in a lifetime.
- Minnesota recycles 44% of the garbage produced, just behind Oregon, while the national rate is about 32%. Recycled aluminum can save the manufacturers up to 95% in energy costs.
- It takes 1.5 billion barrels of oil each year to make the plastic for bottled water. If you have a good well use it for drinking to help the environment. Most of what you buy is just someone else's well.
- According to a survey by a deer hunting magazine, about one-third of all hunters have fallen from an elevated stand at some point in their lives. About 40% of those falls were climbing up or down.
- About 250,000 deer were harvested in 2007. Down 4% from 2006, but still fifth highest year.
- Jessie Lake froze on Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>, only three days off the average of Nov.23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Our website ([www.minnesotalakes.org/Jessie](http://www.minnesotalakes.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, Keith and Melody Bolin, Jackie Calin, Bill and Melissa Coleman, Valerie Conner and Mike Raymond, Fred and Cleo Conrad, Douglas Dusbabek, Ben Edwards, Marn and Marie Flicker, David Goodall and Anne Lind, Rudy Gronau, Kevin and Gyne Guthe, Bret Hartley and Susan Bach, John Horsch, David Kuhn, Gerald and Shelly Loney, Hollister and Jerril Madsen, Roger and Jill Meyer, Loren and Bev Novak, Lowell and Lynn Nystrom, Mike Nystrom, Skip and Lynn Olson, Tim and Rita Onraet, Wally and Marilyn Russell, Gary and Carolyn Scherer, Stephen and Barb Schmidt, Al and Julie Schuna, Mike and Peg Selander, Duane and Norma Storrs, Dale and Mary Willard, Denise Zaske and Bob and Gail Zerban. Thanks again to Bob Lewis, Dale Hertle, Diane Goetzman, Harold Goetzman, Marlys Burton 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 100 paid members. Treasurer Dale Hertle will send out an invoice for dues in early January. Welcome to new members Bernie and Joe Arseneau, Wayne Bergstrom, Paul Bloom, Todd and Connie Braiedy, Ben Edwards, Dan Hinton, Tom Labernik and Clint and Leslie Sand.