



CROOKED LAKE

a r e a a s s o c i a t i o n

Season's Greetings!

Volume 4 Issue 2

From the President

This newsletter is snail mailed in black&white for cost savings. For color see CLAA website hosted on www.cooncreekwd.org.

We on the CLAA Board wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May you be well and prosper. And, please mark your calendars now for our winter meeting, February 22, 2011, at the Crooked Lake Elementary School Cafeteria, 7PM.

You may also congratulate yourselves for Crooked Lake is now a "Star" lake. This is a designation similar to the "Star" designation you see on many city signs along the highway. It means that we are doing a lot of things right. It raises our profile as a Lake Association, gives us greater credibility and stature, as well as \$\$\$\$. That's right, we are the recipient of \$1800 from the Star Lakes organization to use in our efforts to preserve and protect Crooked Lake.

I am also happy to report that due to repeated efforts to gather more dues paying members to CLAA, we now have 75% of lakeshore property owners as dues paying members. We will continue to strive for 100%, while also encouraging others in the Crooked Lake sub-watershed to also join. If you are reading this, you are in the sub-watershed, won't you consider joining. Dues for non-lakeshore property owners are only \$20 per year. Every little bit helps us in our work. (See my other article on 'Next Steps.')

We can always use more volunteers – for our Public Landing Monitoring program, ice cleanup (some ice anglers are not respectful of our lake – they leave garbage which we do not want in the lake when the ice goes out), and of course to serve on the CLAA Board.

Public Landing Monitoring: contact Jerry Piche at 612-719-1199 or gj@gjpiche.com

Ice Cleanup – just grab a garbage sack and walk about whenever you can

CLAA Board – contact Gary Nereson at 612-961-0358 or gnereson@comcast.net

Hope to see you at the winter meeting!

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Important Dates

- 01/20 CLAA monthly board meeting
- 02/22 2010 CLAA Summer General Meeting & Picnic

Looking for that perfect holiday gift?

Consider a Crooked Lake T-shirt or Sweatshirt...

All proceeds go to the Crooked Lake Area Association



T-shirts \$8.00

Crew neck sweatshirts \$25.00

Hooded sweatshirts \$35.00

Call Catherine Kurdziel for available sizes and colors.

763-427-9795

Lake Management Plan—Next Steps

After three years of treatment for Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) and Curly-leaf pondweed, we still have those pesky invasive species, but imagine what Crooked Lake would have been without those treatments. Curly-leaf pondweed is greatly reduced, but EWM is still a problem. So, we need to continue to treat for it, but we need more information so that our treatments can be as effective as possible.

MN DNR permitting rules limit the area we treat to 15% of the littoral zone. In our case this is 12.6 acres. We could apply for a variance to treat a larger percentage, but it is doubtful that would be approved without our presenting a convincing argument backed up with data and expert opinions. We need the data and researched opinions regardless of the area we treat.

Fortunately, we have some of that data already and are in the process of getting more. In early August, PLM Lake and Land Management, conducted an aquatic vegetation assessment of Crooked Lake. The survey was done according to DNR protocol and consisted of 149 sampling sites, spaced 150 feet apart. The survey found 12 native species and 1 invasive species (EWM). In fact, EWM was found in almost 56% of the sampling sites. In order to monitor the effectiveness of any treatment program, I expect a survey such as this will need to be done each year. (We are high on the DNR's list for them to conduct one next summer.)

Replacing EWM with native plants to out-compete EWM is a harder task. To that end, a work group consisting of representatives from Coon Creek Watershed District, Anoka Conservation District, CLAA, and outside consultants as necessary, has been formed to assess ways and means to implement native plant restoration, as well as explore other options. One of the first tasks will be to gather some core samples of the lake bottom to examine the seed bed. The group plans a presentation at this coming winter meeting.

To all the lake lovers!!!

Reflecting on the season to come, I can envision the anglers on the ice quite soon. The activity is not only fun to watch, but, also, fun to be out on the lake immersed in the elements. We are at nature's mercy staving off the cold just to be lucky enough to pull in a fish. It is fun to visit with the others on the lake who are trying to enjoy this wonderful time of the year. If you have the great opportunity to walk, snow-shoe, ski, or snow mobile the lake, I encourage you to visit with the fellow lake lovers who are in pursuit of the fish. It is great fun. Perhaps, in your conversation with them you could encourage them to keep the lake clean in every way..... We need this to preserve our lake. Last year, I observed tremendous waste including human waste on the lake. I was appalled that anyone would treat such a treasure so poorly. Any way, keep warm and have fun. Life is short Treasure everyday and the wonderful environment with which we have been gifted. Jerry Piche, boat launch coordinator.



DNR Inspector at Boat Launch

Inspectors work at public water access sites educating boater on how to inspect and clean their boats to prevent the spread of invasive species. The inspectors provide invasive species information to watercraft users including current laws, inspect watercraft, and conduct a brief survey. Other duties include keeping the access free of aquatic vegetation (when on duty), help post invasive species signs, assisting Conservation Officers with access checks, and other natural resource projects.

This summer, Luke Hamann was out weekly flying his banner at the Crooked Lake boat launch.

CLAA was thankful to have been allocated an inspector as we get our volunteer monitoring program under way.



The Crooked Lake Expert

#1 Crooked Lake Shore Property Seller 1997-2009*

Jim Hughes

CRS, ABR, GRI, ePRO, ChFC, CDPE, Realtor®, Owner / Broker

763-785-0785
www.GreenwellRealty.com
13750 Crosstown Dr #201, Andover

* Based on actual MLS sold information 1997-2009, Jim sold 5 times more homes than the 2nd most successful agent.



Please keep Crooked Lake clean!





STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

List of Officers and Phone Numbers:

- Gary Nereson 763-422-0692 President
- Gary Nereson 763-593-6224 Vice-President
- Paul Martin 763-427-5305 Treasurer
- Josephine Larson 763-323-9255 Administrative Assistant
- Bill Kurdziel 763-427-9795 Quadrant Leader - SW
- Carol Dahl 763-757-4902 Quadrant Leader - NE
- Jessie Waks 763-780-2882 Quadrant Leader - SE
- Lisa Delfich 763-786-8886 Quadrant Leader - NW
- Dan Anderson 763-2427-0962 Andover City watchdog
- Joe Knudson 763-862-8979 Coon Rapids City Watchdog
- Catherine Kurdziel 763-427-9795 CLAA T-Shirts

Winter General Meeting

Date: Tues, Feb 22 7-8 pm

Crooked Lake Elementary School Cafeteria

Social begins at 6:30

Open microphone

Treasurer's Report with audit

Corporation Status Update

Lake Management Plan Update

Speakers—Tim Kelly CCWD, Jamie Schurbon, ACD

Volunteer Public Landing Mntr

Vote on LMP reaffirm

CLAA elections

2011 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

E-mail address: _____

Phone: _____

Please include the

Lake Owner Annual Membership Fee of \$35.00 or
Lake Watershed Annual Membership Fee of \$20.00

Send to: Paul Martin
12961 Kerry Street NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55448

From the Treasurer' desk

Written by Paul Martin

So far in 2010, **only** 35 families have **not** paid the 2010 \$35 membership fee and four families have paid non-lake property owners' membership fee. THANK YOU!

The membership fees for the lake association are \$35 per year. They are payable anytime from January 1 – November 30th. After November 30th, pay \$45. We are a 501(c)3 corporation which means that all money given by you is tax deductible. If you have **not** sent in your fee for this year (since January 1, 2010), now is a great time to do so! Other revenue that came in this year was \$308 from Jessie and Josephine for Crooked Lake shirts they sold and \$100 for Advertising in the Newsletter.

If you are not sure if you have paid your membership fee this year send me an email paulemartin@comcast.net , call 763-712-8276 and he will look it up.

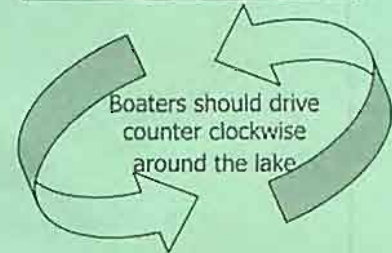
Paul Martin
12961 Kerry Street NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55448

Phone: 763-712-8276

Hope to see you at the Winter General Meeting – Feb 22, 7 pm
at Crooked Lake Elementary School

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The mission of the Crooked Lake Area Association is to act as an advocate of the lake and to establish and promote a strong sense of community among the residents in and around Crooked Lake .



Please keep Crooked Lake clean!