

From the Lake Shores

Connors Lake • Lake of the Pines

LAKE ASSOCIATION



WINTER



WATERS | VOLUNTEERS | FISH | FORESTRY

“Preserving and protecting our lakes for today and for future generations.”
a newsletter for the Lake Association Members • Volume 29 - December 2020

MESSAGE FROM DAVE

I hope everyone is staying healthy and safe. Even during our trying times, the board has been staying busy.

As you read our newsletter you will see what we have been up too. I would also like to share with you that our membership numbers have been growing along with donations. Thank you for all your support. I would also like to thank all of our volunteers including our board members for your dedication and hard work. I look forward to the day that we can all gather together safely. I wish everyone the best of health.

Dave Bauer
President



Dave Bauer

Cash Raffle 2020

The Cash Raffle Fund Raiser drawing was held at the Pavilion on Connors Lake at 10:00 am on September 5th. The fund raiser this year was a huge success. A total of 97 out of 100 tickets were sold. This is the most tickets sold in recent years. We really want to thank everyone for making this a very successful year. Its you our members that made this happen. Thanks again.

The 2020 winners are as follows:

- 1st Place \$2,500 Kelly Schnautz
- 2nd Place \$1000 George Bogdanovic
- 3rd Place \$500 Julie Kozoman
- 4th Place \$100 Jen & Kevin Dillon
- 5th Place \$100 Richard Summerfield
- 6th Place \$100 Jim Schofield
- 7th Place \$100 Bob Skwarek
- 8th Place \$100 Joel Szymanski
- 9th Place \$100 Steve Reisner
- 10th Place \$100 Lily Donohue



Respectfully,

Dave Bauer
President, Connors Lake / Lake of the Pines Lake Association

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SHERIFF'S

The Lake Association has various committee's that each address specific areas. Each committee has a chairperson to oversee the committee. One might say these are our SHERIFF'S. In the Spring 2020 Newsletter we highlighted the "Aquatic Plant Management Committee", the "Citizens Lake Monitoring Committee" and the "Clean Boats Clean Waters Committee". In this issue we will highlight some of the other committees as follows.

Sheriff Ed Peters. Ed's committee is Monitoring the Fish in our Lakes. Ed works with the DNR, the Wisconsin Lakes Association and many other as it pertains to the health of the fish in ours. The goal is to improve the abundance of fish in our lakes. Ed works with DNR regarding Lake Surveys for fish population and stock programs. This is very critical area when one considers what is happening to fish in other lakes. Having Ed in the role is a definite asset to the Association. His background make's him an excellent fit.

Sheriff's Mark LaVick, Toni Slack and Steve Lindahl. They work on fund raising for the Lake Association. Fund raising is separated into two areas, one being our normal funding for the general fund for the Lake Association, This supports the needs for each committee such as the cost for Aquatic Plant Treatment, Lake Buoy's, Committee Costs and Projects with the DNR. Our cash raffle for 2020 was a huge success, thank you everyone. The other fund-raising activity is raising funds for fireworks. Fireworks in 2018 were a huge success. The effort is to continue fireworks without diluting or using funds for normal Lake Association Programs. Firework fund raising was going very well, however as we all know COVID prevented the Fireworks in 2020.

Sheriff Dave Cooley. Dave's committee is Adopt A Highway. Adopt A Highway – Road Side Cleanup was originally started by Dave Schiotz and is now organized by Dave Cooley. This is really a great program helping keep almost 3 miles of "W" clean. Dave is very enthusiastic in doing this, it shows participation, in this by Lake Association Membership, has steadily grown. Thank you, Dave.

In our next newsletter we will discuss other committees, their functions, and goals.

These committees are reasons fund raising and volunteer help is so critical to the Association. Based on our current State and National situation it would appear that DNR assistance will be more limited than in the past.

Let's thank all of our Committee Chairpersons for their outstanding effort.

Thanks,

Florian Wisinski, Treasurer



Natural Connections

A Northwoods Kaleidoscope

By Emily Stone

Naturalist/Education Director at the Cable Natural History Museum

We're lucky to live in this swath of the continent known as the Northwoods, where fall colors are spectacular. Go a little south, or head farther north, and the forest changes. According to John Pastor, Professor Emeritus from the University of Minnesota, Duluth, we have the extremes of our climate to thank for this autumn show. There's something about the contrast of hot summers followed by frigid winters that encourages diversity in the shapes, colors, and lifespans of our trees' leaves.

At the risk of being a killjoy, I'd like to remind you that fall colors are all about death. We'll start with a sort of obituary then—an explanation of the leaf lives we lose every fall.

As soon as leaves emerge in early summer, the trees begin again to form new buds. The basic cells for leaves, as well as shoots and flowers, are neatly organized and packed tightly within protective scales or thick fur. When warmth and light return next spring, those buds burst and the leaves expand.

It takes a lot of resources to grow a new leaf, and then maintenance costs continue as long as the leaf is photosynthesizing. I envision a worksheet full of math problems. Each species-specific equation contains different negative numbers representing the costs of tissue construction, maintenance, and reproduction. They also include various positive numbers of productivity. The answers, though, would all be the same: something just above 0.

Leaf shape is part of those equations. In his book, *What Should a Clever Moose Eat?*, John Pastor put a number on it: 80% of deciduous species in the Northwoods have leaves that are either toothed or lobed. The correlation between leaf teeth and cool climates is so pronounced that paleoecologists use the percentage of toothed leaves in fossil plant communities to back-calculate prehistoric temperatures.

On the surface, it seems like a pretty random correlation. But scientists have determined that toothed leaf margins rev up their sugar factories faster in early spring than smooth leaf margins, thereby extending the growing season. The teeth also lose water at a higher rate, but water isn't hard to come by during a Northwoods mud season, now is it?

Leaf lifespan is another variable in the equation. The more it costs to build a leaf, the longer it takes to pay off the overhead. Evergreen trees invest significant energy into building needles that can withstand harsh weather, photosynthesize at lower temperatures, and ward off pests. Pine needles live 2-3 years, and spruce and hemlock needles last 4-10 years. In contrast, cheap, flimsy birch leaves last just a few months. Neither way is necessarily better. Each strategy finds success.

As sunlight wanes in late summer, it's time to close down the photosynthesis factories of leaves. Now the trees must try to salvage what they can. Nitrogen and phosphorus are sucked back out of the leaves and into the twigs, where they'll remain on-deck to fuel next spring's leaf growth. The tree benefits from storing N and P above ground, because the twigs thaw long before the frozen Earth releases her nutrients.

Finally, we've arrived at the onset of fall colors. Of course, they were there the whole time. All summer long, vibrant green chlorophyll was the star of the show, and outshone all the rest. As chlorophyll breaks down and is resorbed, though, its trusty sidekicks are revealed. Orange carotene pigments captured wavelengths of light that the green chlorophyll could not, and then transferred that energy over to help fuel photosynthesis. Yellow xanthophyll pigments absorbed dangerous excess energy in the leaf and dissipated it as heat. This prevented cell damage, and warmed the surrounding environment.

Red comes next. Once the phosphates have been resorbed into the twigs, sugars in the leaves break down and form anthocyanins. Anthocyanins absorb UV light, especially at low temperatures. Like sunscreen, the pigments protect the leaf cells while they finish sending their nutrients back to the twigs. They can be blue or purple, but their most conspicuous form is red. Red is the only fall color that is created and not just revealed.

To create anthocyanins you need lots of sugars, which means a summer with dependable soil moisture. Once summer's over, though, cool, dry weather is the ticket. Rain literally washes the color out of the leaves—leaching pigments and sugars from dying cells.

While the forest becomes a rainbow, the deciduous trees are quietly growing several layers of cells across the base of the leaf's stem where it is attached to the twig. Jack Frost doesn't kill the leaves, because the trees themselves do. Finally, the abscission layer weakens the leaf's hold on the tree just enough that a stiff breeze can whisk it away. That's it. The Northwoods slides into the gray depths of winter, brightened only by the highly invested evergreens. Summer can't last forever, but neither can fall, winter, or spring. Next year, we'll get to watch the kaleidoscope of colors play across the landscape all over again.



Tree leaves contain many colorful pigments that each play a role in photosynthesis. Once trees pull green chlorophyll out of their leaves, their yellow and orange pigments shine through. Photos by Emily Stone.

Portions of this article originally appeared in *Northern Wilds Magazine*.

Emily's award-winning second book, *Natural Connections: Dreaming of an Elfin Skimmer*, is now available to purchase at www.cablemuseum.org/books. Or order it from our friends at redberrybooks.com to receive free shipping!

For more than 50 years, the Cable Natural History Museum has served to connect you to the Northwoods. The Museum is now open with our brand-new *Mysteries of the Night* exhibit. Connect with us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and cablemuseum.org to see what we are up to.

Fisheries Committee Report, October 20, 2020: Ed Peters

I am sorry to say this again, but it is so true; this has been a really weird year!

It started out great, with the rock drop in January and continued with planning meetings and preparations for a Walleye study on Connors Lake and lakes around Phillips. Then everything changed. Spring sampling on Connors Lake and Lake of the Pines were cancelled, and the proposed creel survey on Lake of the Pines was put on hold for a while. The creel survey did go ahead, but the data are yet to be analyzed and we'll have to wait for the next newsletter to take a look at those results.

In September, things turned around a bit. I hope everyone receiving this newsletter got a chance to enjoy the fall colors in Sawyer County; they were spectacular, but I digress. On September 15 the fisheries crew (Jeff and Kendal) did an electrofishing survey on Lake of the Pines. Since there was only one dipper, this survey is not directly comparable to other surveys, but it produced some very interesting results. During the survey they electrofished 5.17 miles, which is a greater distance than the 4.5-mile shoreline of the lake and, caught and measured 143 fish.

This catch included 9 Largemouth Bass, ranging in length from 2.5 to 8.5 inches and 4 Smallmouth Bass ranging in length from 6.5 to 16 inches. These numbers probably underestimate the abundance of Bass in Lake of the Pines, because Bass populations are generally assessed during the spring of the year. Besides the number of fish, another way of evaluating the health of a fish population is to look at the size structure of the population; fisheries biologists often use size categories that are defined for each species. Two of the size categories are, stock (fish that are large enough to be captured by angling or some commonly used sampling gear) and Quality (fish that would be generally acceptable to be harvested by an angler). Stock size Largemouth Bass are 8 inches or longer and only two fish met that criterion. Stock size for Smallmouth Bass is 7 inches or longer and three fish met that criterion. However, two of those also met the Quality size criterion of 11 inches.

The survey also captured one Northern Pike that was 24.5 inches in length and 29 Muskellunge ranging in length from 8 inches to 38 inches. The single Northern Pike caught met the Quality size criterion of 21 inches for that species. Out of the 29 Muskellunge caught nine met the Stock size criterion of 30 inches and of those three met the Quality size criterion of 34 inches. After checking with a 1984 publication by Don Gablehouse who proposed many of the criteria for stock density computations, I noted that the largest Muskie captured during this survey actually made it into the Preferred category. In addition to the DNR sampling efforts we need to thank Toni Slack for keeping track of Muskie catches on both Connors Lake and Lake of the Pines through this past summer.

Since the fall electrofishing survey is generally used to evaluate juvenile and young of the year Walleye, I have saved the best for last. The fall 2020 electrofishing survey captured and measured 100 Walleye ranging in length from 5 to 25.5 inches. Of this sample, 40 Walleye met the Stock criterion of 10 inches and 14 met the Quality size criterion of 15 inches. Going back to Gablehouse (1984) we can also say that four of the Walleye collected during this survey met the Preferred criterion of 20 inches and one met the Memorable criterion of 25 inches; that's pretty exciting!

But it is on the other end of the size distribution (see figure 1) where the best news seems to be happening. Jeff and Kendal are checking scales collected from the 5 to 7-inch Walleye to determine whether they are age 0. If they are this could be one of the best years for natural reproduction of Walleye in Lake of the Pines in years! Stay tuned!

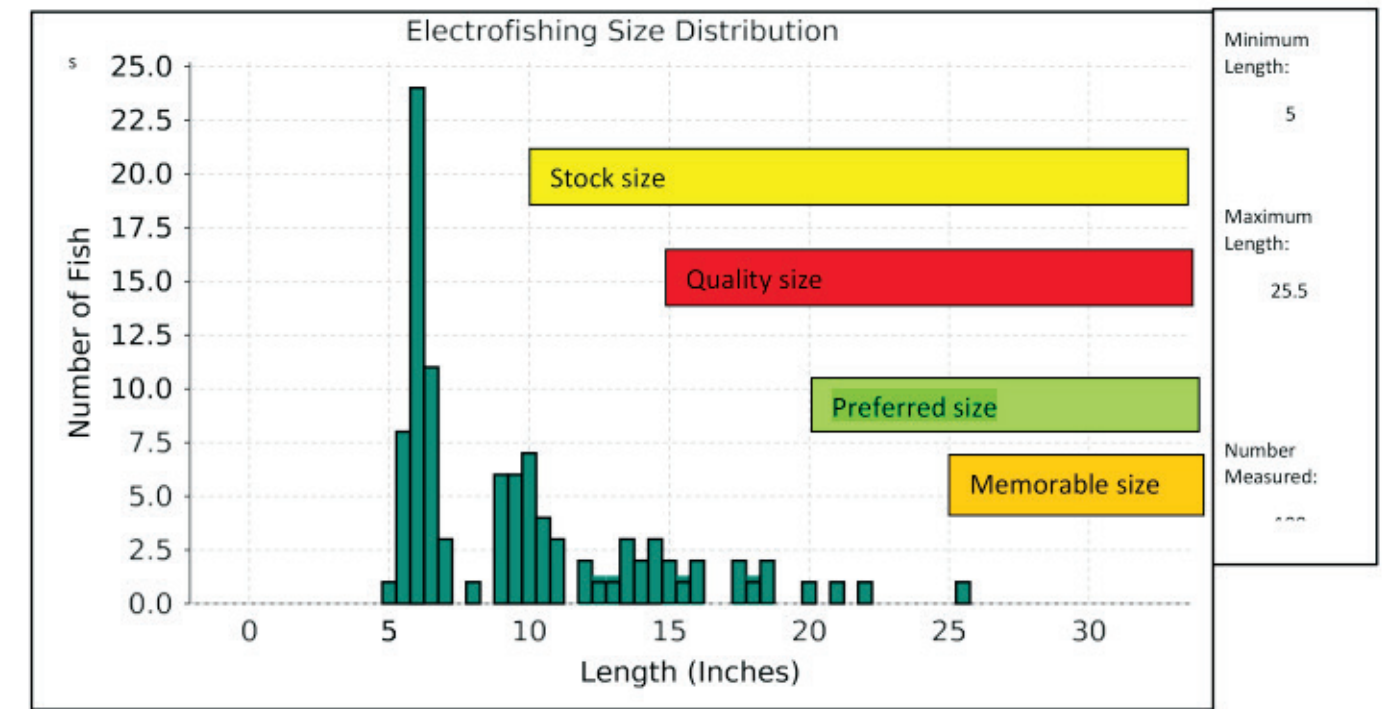


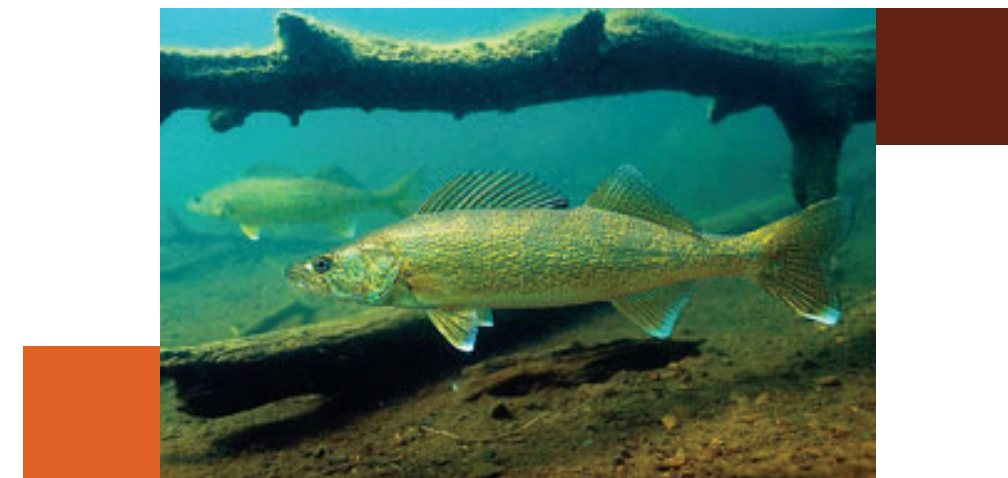
Figure 1. A length-frequency distribution graph of Walleyes collected by electrofishing from Lake of the Pines on September 15, 2020 by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

One final note on Lake of the Pines, on September 22 (after the electrofishing survey) the DNR stocked 4,091 Walleye fingerlings that averaged 6.5 inches. Those fish are all marked with the antibiotic (oxytetracycline) that leaves a mark on their bones; including their otoliths (ear stones); by sacrificing some fish in that size range, the proportion of naturally produced to hatchery produced fish can be determined. That assessment is still being done.

The Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission crew conducted an electrofishing survey on Connors Lake in September. They were able to use two netters in their survey, so their results will be directly comparable to previous year's sampling. Those results are not yet available, but we should be able to see them by the end of 2020. Looks like the spring newsletter will have a lot to cover.

Reference:

Gablehouse, D. M. 1984. A length-categorization system to assess fish stocks. North American Journal of Fisheries Management 4:371-384.



Wisconsin Tradition - Brandy Old Fashioned

At the Chicago World's Fair in 1893, a new brandy distiller from California called Korbelt began sampling the classic "Old Fashioned cocktail" using brandy. The German immigrants visiting from Milwaukee took to the brandy cocktail in a big way. At the time there was a shortage of their beloved Brandewijn (burnt wine) so they dragged this American brandy "up north" where the "Brandy Old Fashioned" became a tradition especially at Supper Clubs and the Friday Night Fish Fry. These are things in Wisconsin that just don't change like beer, brats and corner bars. Interestingly, Korbelt sells more brandy in Wisconsin than any other state or 50% of its production. Grape brandy is distilled from mash, juice or wine of grapes and is 35 -60 % alcohol by volume (70 - 120 US proof) and is frequently consumed straight up as an after dinner digestif. French brandy or cognac is the finest and most expensive brandy but there are many tasty fruit varieties and lastly grappa, an unaged, sharp tasting, super strong, burning sensation brandy. Brandy is also used in the Manhattan and Alexander cocktail in Wisconsin.

The "classic "Old Fashioned cocktail is made with whiskey but in Wisconsin we make them with brandy. In an "Old Fashioned" glass you muddle (mix with a muddler available at Amazon) an orange slice, maraschino cherry, sugar cube and a dash of Angostura bitters. Next, put in a jigger or two of brandy and ice cubes. Next add the "wash" which determines whether it is "sweet" - lemon-lime soda like Sprite or Seven-Up, "sour" - grapefruit soda like 55/50 or Squirt, or "press" half lemon-lime soda and half seltzer or club soda. Wisconsinites always prefer a garnish of cherries and orange slice but old farts prefer olives. Toni makes an excellent Old Fashioned cocktail. I prefer a Moscow Mule but that is another story.

Thomas Stram



Citizen Lake Monitoring Network. (CLMN)

By Dave Schiotz

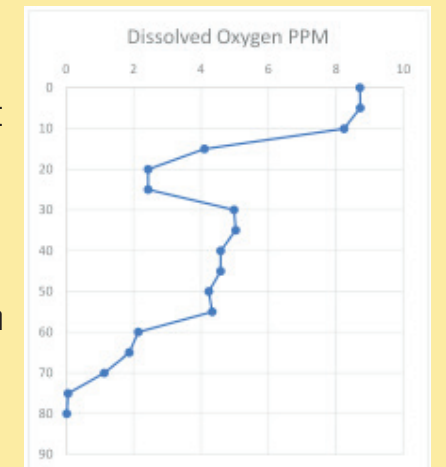
During our regular Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN) sampling of Connors Lake we are concerned with four parameters; Water Clarity, Chlorophyll-a (algae), Phosphorus, Water Temperature, and Dissolved Oxygen (DO). The temperature and DO are determined at the surface and at 5-foot intervals to the bottom using an instrument that measures both parameters simultaneously.

During the summer, deep lakes like Connors Lake generally stratify; that is they have a warm (70 degree+) layer of water near the surface (known as the epilimnion) and a cold (50 degree or less) area in the deeper portions of the basin (known as the hypolimnion). These layers don't mix very easily and are separated by a layer known as the thermocline. In Connors Lake that thermocline layer is generally in the area about 15 to 20 feet below the surface. In addition, the amount of light needed for photosynthesis seldom reaches beyond 15 feet. So, the deeper parts of Connors Lake are effectively sealed off from getting additions of oxygen through most of the summer, but any organisms living down there are still using any oxygen that was in the water before the lake stratified early in the summer. For this article we are primarily concerned with DO and any unusual changes observed.

Over the past several years the CLMN sampling noticed that during August DO concentrations between 15 and 30 feet of depth were significantly lower than they were at greater depths. This DO "sag" is unusual, but not unheard of in deep lakes.

We wondered if this "sag" phenomenon was more widespread or if it only occurred in the deep area (the 80-foot-deep area) where our regular CLMN samples are measured. Since the "sag" seemed to be observed between the depths of 15 and 30 feet, we selected three other sites of 40 - 45 feet deep. Following the same sampling protocol, we use at the CLMN site we went from the surface to 40 feet at 5-foot intervals. We observed the "sag" phenomenon at all four sites on August 5, 2020 and again on August 26, 2020.

Figure 1. Dissolved Oxygen concentration profile measured in Parts Per Million (PPM) from the surface down to 80 feet in Connors Lake on August 26, 2020. Notice the "oxygen sag" from 20 to 25 feet in the depth profile.



"Inquiring" minds might want to know if the "sag" is something new (the last two years) or has it been going on for several years. Looking back into the CLMN data for Connors Lake from 2010 to 2020. It appears to be present in each of those years, but not until the July sampling. May and June do not show the "DO sag." Something happens in July which effects the DO for the rest of the summer!

It may take some extra sampling gear to answer this question, but by next year we should be able to be ready to get an answer.

Slow No Wake Buoys

Over the past 5 years we have watched the invasive aquatic plant called Eurasian water-milfoil (EWM) gradually spread in Muskie Bay of Connors lake. Our Aquatic Plant Management Plan, dictated by the Wisconsin DNR, states we cannot treat with herbicide until the frequency of occurrence in Muskie Bay reaches 50%. The fall 2019 survey found a 49% frequency of occurrence so we planned to treat the milfoil in the spring of 2020. Because of the price tag to treat with the newest and most effective herbicide (\$16,000) we applied for a treatment grant from the DNR which was denied because there was too much competition for limited funds. Rather than treating and assuming the entire cost we decided to wait until 2021 and reapply for another grant. The fall 2020 survey of Connors Lake revealed the good news that for some unknown reason the frequency of occurrence dropped from 49% to 31%. So again, we are in the no treatment mode for 2021, but there is still a significant amount of EWM in Muskie Bay. Hopefully the downward trend will continue, but there is also the possibility that the frequency of EWM will increase in Muskie Bay, and it could also spread to other parts of Connors Lake outside the of the bay.

Please remember that EWM spreads easily when plants are fragmented and small pieces (6 inches long) can drift and then sink to the bottom, thereby starting new colonies. This fragmentation can occur easily when motor powered boats or personal watercraft go through Muskie Bay at high speeds.

To try to reduce this fragmentation from happening the Board of Directors of your Lake Association voted on October 10th to place three lighted buoys tagged with "Slow, No Wake" at the outer borders of Muskie Bay at a total cost of about \$5,000. But, in order for DNR wardens to enforce this "Slow, No Wake" zone in Muskie Bay the Lake Association needs to propose to the Town of Winter that they pass a "Slow No Wake Ordinance" for Muskie Bay on Connors Lake.

This is a three-step process. First, the Lake Association needs to submit a draft ordinance to the Town of Winter Board of Supervisors with justification for the area of Muskie Bay to be marked with the appropriate buoys. Second, if the Town Board approves the draft ordinance, they will then schedule and advertise a public hearing. Third, after the public hearing the Town Board needs to approve the ordinance at their next regular board meeting. Because of the time needed to accomplish this (and any legal ordinance) we need to proceed early in 2021 so that we can protect Connors Lake from the Spread of EWM at ice-out.

We still need and appreciate the cooperation of all boaters to reduce the spread of EWM, but the warning buoys and the possibility of legal consequences may help to increase awareness for some who don't cooperate. This announcement is being sent to you for your comments, which can be addressed to President Dave Bauer at dbauer9255@gmail.com or AIS coordinator Tom Stram at twrcstram@frontier.com



Glimpses from the past from old Newsletters

From Volume I, 2004

Eurasian Watermilfoil In the spring of 2003, Craig Roesler, Water Quality Biologist for the Department of Natural Resources, estimated that 23 acres of Connors Lake was infested with a non-native invasive aquatic weed called Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum* L.). This exotic home aquarium plant native to Eurasia and North Africa first appeared in the U. S. in 1942 after being intentionally introduced into a lake in the Washington D. C. area and has since spread to all states in the continental U. S. except Montana, Wyoming and Maine (April 2003).

Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) first appeared in southern Wisconsin lakes in the 1960's and northern lakes by the 1980's. EWM is a rooted submerged perennial herb with long branching stems and feather-like whorled leaves with tiny reddish flowers produced above the water on a spike. It is often difficult to distinguish from our native Northern watermilfoil and Coontail weeds. The plant grows aggressively in our nutrient-rich lakes and forms dense canopies of vegetation in water up to 15 feet deep. These mats of weeds can shade out our native plants, reduce habitat and food for fish, degrade water quality, become breeding grounds for mosquitoes, interfere with water activities, increase boat repair and maintenance costs and ultimately depress real estate values. EWM plants spread naturally through underground shoots and runners, but the most troubling aspect is its ability to spread through fragmentation of stem pieces only 2 inches in length. Motorboat traffic contributes to the natural seasonal fragmentation and the distribution of fragments throughout lakes. Transport on boating equipment plays the largest role in introducing fragments to new bodies of water. Road checks in Minnesota have found aquatic vegetation on 23% of all trailered watercraft inspected. Monitoring and prevention are the most important steps for keeping Eurasian watermilfoil under control. All equipment, including boats, motors, nets and trailers should be inspected and all aquatic plants removed or rinsed with high- pressure tap water. Live wells and bait containers should be drained on land. In addition, it would be preferable to dry your boat and equipment for 5 days. Transport of aquatic plants on public roads is prohibited in Wisconsin. Once an exotic non-native species is established it is highly unlikely to be eradicated because they do not have their natural insect enemies, diseases, water regimes or other stresses that keep them in their native ranges.

Treatment of established colonies of EWM includes water level manipulation (drawdowns), mechanical harvesting, chemical (herbicide) treatment and in the future possibly biological control. Mechanical harvesting is temporary (underwater lawn mowing), expensive, and may actually spread the infestation. It is used to create temporary boat lanes. The City of Sturgeon Bay alone spends over \$100,000 annually to control EWM. The chemical 2,4-D among others has been used to selectively kill EWM. Its use has been approved by the DNR but does require a permit. Grants are available to help pay up to 1/2 the costs of chemical treatments that can run \$400/acre. Herbicide treatments last 1 to 2 years and then have to be repeated hopefully to fewer acres than initially. Several insects including native stem-boring weevils, aquatic pyralid moths and aquatic midges are being evaluated for biological control of EWM. No natural plant pathogens like bacteria or fungi have been identified to date.

There are many internet sites to check for more detailed information including www.aquat1.ifas.ufl.edu, www.fw.umn.edu/research/milfoil, and the Wisconsin DNR. Learn the difference between Eurasian and Northern milfoil and please help prevent its spread within Connors Lake and to other lakes.

Tom Stram, Vice President

Volume 4

Art Noot reports on Wednesday, April 16, 2008—On our morning hike, about a quarter mile from our house, Gabriel (dog) and I were stalked, then attacked by a hostile grouse. This also happened yesterday but not as aggressive as today. Today the stalking changed to downright charging our 100 pound puppy. Gabe was astonished, then delighted—he wanted to play. The grouse did not want to play and actually pecked at Gabe's paws, circled him (evidently impressed by Gabe's long tail) and tried to peck his tail. The critter was wondering about me, too, because I reached down to pick him up and then he backed away. As it was, he was an inch from my hand and gave me a dirty look. One of the pecks must have insulted Gabe because Gabe reached down and picked the grouse up in his mouth. Being a well-trained and sensitive dog, Gabe dropped the bird without harm the moment I said drop! The whole experience was amazing. A fluffed-up grouse assaulting the both of us. In the end, the bird—still all fluffed up—turned his back on us and did a strut back into the trees. Gabe and I are sure the critter was somehow protecting a nest (do males do that? I thought females were supposed to do that) or suffered from an oversized ego. Whatever, it was quite a hike today.

Sandra Lehmann reports: Ruffed Grouse - The male ruffed grouse attracts mates and defends his territory by drumming! He perches on a drumming post, usually a log, mound or stone and cups his wings and beats them against the air. This produces a drumming sound! In fact, the ruffed grouse is sometimes called the drummer. The male puffs out his ruff and fans out his tail in a visual display designed to either attract a mate or warn off an intruder. The female lays 9-12 eggs at a rate of one egg every day and a half. The nest is in a cup-shaped depression lined with leaves and feathers, usually at the base of a tree, stump or under a bush. The female incubates the eggs. The chicks hatch in about 24-26 days and are hunting for insects shortly after hatching. The female takes care of the hatchlings until they can roost on their own in the trees. They will fledge when they are 10-12 days old and will be independent by the time they are about 16-18 weeks old.

Grant—The CoPaPi Voluntary Lake Association, Inc., received a Lakes Planning grant for \$789.23 to purchase a Dissolved Oxygen Meter. The grant covers up to 75 percent of the cost and it is up to us to provide the other 25 percent.

Bird Houses—Did you know that the Flambeau Forest office (across from Big Bear) has examples of many kinds of bird houses and the plans to build them? Stop in their office as they have a lot of information for you.

Fish Cribs—Steve Lindahl has offered to underwrite the costs of materials, construction and insertion of 20 fish cribs per year for 3 years. Nineteen fish cribs have already been built.

Sandhill Cranes—the oldest living species of bird in the world, according to the International Crane Foundation (ICF.) To many people the repeated k-r-r-r-oo call of early migrating sandhills ranks with the cry of the loon or the howl of a wolf. The sand hill crane does not breed until it is two to seven years old. It can live up to the age of 20. Cranes stand in an upright posture while calling. They usually call with their heads thrown back and their beaks skyward. Mated pairs stay together year round, and migrate as a group with their offspring. Sandhills are most active at dawn and dusk. In flight cranes fly with their necks extended and their legs trailing, in what has been called a flying cross.

Knots—www.animatedknots.com is a very interesting web site. Knots are grouped by areas of interest or you can go into The Knot List link and find the knots by name. Each knot automatically ties itself and you can run the animation fast, slow, or step by step. If you have use for a particular knot but don't know the name of

it, go to the area you want and look in the Uses page. Example: Go to Fishing, scroll down to Welcome, click on Various Uses.

Volume 5

Bodinus family—east shore of Connors Lake

William Schnell Bodinus wrote the following for his 75th wedding anniversary recollections.

Bill and Evelyn's 75th anniversary was August 22, 2006. Evelyn passed away December 2007, at 97 years, and Bill passed away May 2008, at 99 years. They were married 76 years.

We learned of the beauty of Connors Lake in the late 20's. I had been doing business with the Phillips Getchow Company. Their estimator was named Jack Needler. He had purchased two, approximately 40 acre, plots from Hines Lumber Company at a cost of \$8.00 per acre for the cut-over timber land. These plots were on a lake in Wisconsin called Connors Lake.

In 1938 Al Crump and I went to a convention at Mackinac and we stopped at Jack's cottage on the way back. We stayed at Ray's place – a log saloon with a few rooms on the second floor—now known as Big Bear. The following year Jack convinced me to buy Lot #3, which was 37 acres, at \$15.00 per acre.

In early 1941, Evelyn and I went up to Connors Lake and had the first section of our cottage built for \$175 (20' x 24'). I sold half of the property to Evelyn's cousin's brother Edwin Hanke, for \$15.00 per acre and he had a duplicate cabin built in the fall of 1941, which was finished in December 1941. Edwin Hanke was the father of Glen Hanke who still owns the property.

The Bodinus family is still enjoying Connors Lake—mostly on the long holiday weekends when 22 of them get together. A frequent visitor is Evelyn's cousin's granddaughter (who married a pilot) via floatplan



FALL 2020 ELK UPDATE

The Northern Elk Range, formerly known as the Clam Lake Elk Range, now has 290 elk from Clam Lake to the Flambeau River State Forest. Interest in the elk herd has increased in the Winter area since the release or more specifically, the translocation of elk onto the Flambeau River State Forest. The translocation of 15 elk from Clam Lake in 2014 and 11 more in 2015 was the beginnings of elk near Winter. In 2017, 31 Kentucky elk were translocated onto the Flambeau River State Forest with an additional 60 translocated in 2019. The Northern Elk Range herd continues to increase in number while expanding its range in our area.

The elk have made their presence known as witnessed by the multiple sightings in the Winter area by locals and visitors. Some of the Clam Lake herd from Moose Lake have been seen on County Highway B. A cow elk has been photographed near the Price Dam on the Brunet River. A cow with a calf has been tracked near the Wannigan on County Road G according to Joshua Spiegel, Sawyer County Wildlife Biologist for the Wisconsin DNR.

Wildlife Biologist Spiegel and the Wisconsin DNR Elk Project staff continue to track the elk of the Northern Elk Range using radio collars. GPS readings from these collars are sent to computers twice each day. VHF readings from those antennaed pick up trucks you see are still used to locate elk in certain situations. The daily monitoring data collection helps with calving estimates, life longevity, and home range size. Spiegel has been working with the Northern Elk Range since February of 2020 after the retirement of Lane Stowell. Working as an Elk Tech with the elk project and then as a Wildlife Biologist for Rusk and Taylor Counties since August, 2012 Spiegel is very familiar with our area and its elk.

As described by Wildlife Biologist Spiegel the next relocation project in the Elk Management Plan is to move approximately 20 Kentucky elk from the Flambeau River State Forest to Clam Lake to ensure genetic diversity. This process began in the fall of 2017 when one cow from the Flambeau River State Forest herd joined up with Clam Lake elk near Moose Lake. Elk that have become transient by moving out of the range can be translocated. Last fall elk from the Flambeau River State Forest, 2 cows and 2 calves, were tracked by GPS as they traveled to Phillips and then to Rib Lake. They spent hunting season across from the high school. Last winter they were trapped and released into the Clam Lake herd.

This winter the remaining 15 elk will be trapped and moved to an acclimation pen in Clam Lake to be later released. Winter trapping is also used for deploying radio collars, monitoring health, and collecting data for research. The Wisconsin DNR Elk Project staff are able to gather calving information. Data has shown that 33% of 2 year old cows will calve while 90% of cows between 3 to 15 years of age will calve each spring.

This year's Northern Elk Range elk hunt will begin on October 17th and for the first time include the Flambeau River State Forest elk. Licenses again will be randomly chosen for four hunters with the fifth license chosen as part of the annual Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation lottery. The revenue from these licenses are put into elk projects. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation supports elk in Wisconsin by providing numerous grants.

Elk projects often involve the cooperation of several entities. A good example of this is the addition of approximately forty elk crossing signs on county and state highways in five area counties. Driver education is important as vehicle collision is the number two killer of elk according to Wildlife Biologist Spiegel. "Expanding elk crossing signs will educate visitors and create an awareness that there are elk in this area," said Spiegel.



Joshua Spiegel (center) leads Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Volunteers in a habitat project off of West Lane.

An ongoing elk project is the creation and maintenance of openings and trails. Cooperation between county, state, and national foresters and to some extent private industrial foresters creates trails and openings through timber sales. The Good Neighbor Authority Project that began in 1995 has been instrumental in creating habitat for elk by opening up the public forests to logging and timber sales. Maintaining trails and openings in the Flambeau River State Forest is another project for the Wisconsin DNR Elk Project staff.

Wildlife Biologist Spiegel pointed out that another example of entities working together is two current elk research studies taking place in the Northern Elk Range with UW-Madison. One of the studies determines elk habitat use by tracking elk locations. The other is studying the relationship between elk and wolves.

Walking a logging road in the Flambeau River State Forest last fall, less than a half mile from the road, my husband and I observed elk tracks and a small white pine slashed by elk antlers. As we crested a small ridge there stood a 5 by 5 bull elk with two cows on the top of the next ridge. We stood with our mouths hanging open as they moved off the trail and into the brush. Wildlife Biologist Spiegel described a bull elk posed in the middle of the Flambeau River bugling and claiming his territory as canoes paddled nearby. These wilderness images come to life add to the special place we call the Northwoods.

Opportunities to see and hear elk have drawn interest from locals and visitors to our area. Mid-September is an opportunity for people to participate in the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Bugle Days and the Flambeau Fall Bugling Wildlife Tour. Wildlife Biologist Spiegel recommends the coming months when the leaves are down as the best opportunity to see elk. Best time of day is near sunrise and sunset. For current info on elk sightings you may call Spiegel at 715-634-7467 or email at joshua.Spiegel@wisconsin.gov.

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Photo Courtesy of Linda Olson



*It's not because of the weather!
Winter was founded in 1904 and it was named
for W. C. Winter, a railroad official.*

History of Winter

From the book, "White Pines & White Tails" by Leighton D. Morris, Co. Superintendent of Schools, 1957

Winter, like most northern communities, gained attention of capitalists because of its natural resource, the white pine forest. Before the woodsman's axe began to fell the giant trees, a stopping-off place was established for lumberjacks and occasional travelers near the present site of Winter. It was called LeBoef. After the Omaha Railroad was built from Rice Lake to Park Falls, people began to settle in the community which was called Winter, in honor of Mr. John Winter, an Omaha Railroad official, who came to the community from St. Paul because of his logging interests.

Winter developed rapidly and a need was felt for political organization. In 1905 the Wisconsin Legislature under Chapter 24, created Township of Winter from a detached portion of the Town of Hayward. (Sawyer County was created in March 1883 and consisted of a single Township, the Town of Hayward.)

The Hines Lumber Company was the most important operator in this area. The logs were hauled to the landing in Winter where they were loaded in railroad cars and transported to the sawmill at Park Falls.

In the southeast part of the township the Chippewa Lumber and Boom Company held extensive timber tracts. Instead of shipping logs to its mill by rail, the Company floated the logs down the Brunet River and the Thornapple River, then into the Chippewa River to Chippewa Falls. This method of transporting logs was called 'driving'.

One of the most exciting and most publicized incidents in logging history took place in the town of Winter on the banks of the Thornapple River. The trouble resulted because of a clause in a deed which reserved flowage rights to the Chippewa Lumber and Boom Company.

An employee of this Company, John Dietz, purchased a tract of land from the Company through which flowed the Thornapple River, a stream used for log drives. Prior to settling on his newly acquired property, Mr. Dietz was employed as a watchman at Price Dam on the Brunet River. Shortly after moving to the Thornapple site he tried to collect wages that he claimed had not been paid to him while he was employed as a watchman.

Mr. Dietz refused to allow the Company to drive the logs through his property unless it paid a fee of ten cents per thousand foot for the logs that had passed over his waterway since he purchased the property. The Company refused to pay. Mr. Dietz armed himself with a rifle and appeared at the dam to enforce his claim.

Arguments between Dietz and the Company persisted for several years. The Company paid the claim of \$1800 for wages but still Dietz would not

compromise. The Company was forced to haul its logs to the Flambeau River which resulted in additional expense.

The Company entered a legal complaint and the sheriff and deputies were sent out from time to time to serve a summons on Mr. Dietz. No one succeeded in apprehending him.

On another occasion Dietz had an altercation with the school clerk which resulted in the wounding of the town marshal by a pistol shot fired by Dietz. The county officials became enraged over this unfortunate act. The sheriff organized a posse of the best riflemen in the town of Winter and set out to apprehend Dietz. A son and daughter were wounded in ambush and taken to Winter for medical treatment.

The District Attorney pleaded with Dietz to give up peacefully and settle his troubles in court, but Dietz refused.

A pitched battle occurred on October 7, 1910 in which Mr. Dietz was wounded. He surrendered to the sheriff, was tried by jury, found guilty, and sentenced to life imprisonment. He served ten years in the state prison and then was pardoned. He retired to Milwaukee to live with his family and died in 1924. A newspaper was established in 1908 and was printed and edited by Thomas Noyes and his father. The newspaper, "The Sawyer County Gazette," has been continuously published and is a very important paper in the county.

The first school was a frame structure which was destroyed by fire in 1919. In 1920 a new brick school was built, and today forms a part of the present school. The enrollment has steadily increased, necessitating the building of additions. Winter is proud of its present educational facilities and program since it is an integrated system offering special services, such as: Home

Economics, Industrial Arts, commercial courses, music, health services and adopts other services and courses as the need arises.

Winter is now incorporated as a village. It offers many accommodations and services to its residents, farmers, and visitors in the way of stores, bank, theater, fire protection, garages and service stations, electric power plant, water system, elementary and high school, and four churches.

The Flambeau River State Forest comprises a portion of the town of Winter. One outstanding feature of this forest is the unusually large white pine tree that is growing near the Hawkins Road about five miles south of Connors Lake Fire Tower. No one knows the exact age of the tree, but it is believed to be more than one hundred thirty-five years old. It measures one hundred thirty feet in height, fourteen feet eight inches in circumference at about four and one half feet from the ground. The bark is rough, thick and dark, and its branches start about three fourths of the way up where the tops of the other trees end. This tree was left by the lumberjacks in the 1880s when the other trees were cut. It has withstood many severe windstorms while other tall trees were uprooted or blown down.

Winter lies in an area attractive to vacationers, hunters, and other sportsmen. Numerous resorts on lakes and rivers cater to visitors from all over the midwest. Fishing and deer hunting are the most attractive sports of the area. A most interesting sight is to see the deer hunters move in during November. They make Winter their headquarters during their visit.

CITIZEN LAKE MONITORING NETWORK (CLMN)

By Dave Schiotz

This was a strange year for all of us, even our CLMN volunteer's way north in the FRSF were affected.

Our water testing for both lakes normally start shortly after ice out when we sample for total Phosphorus. These samples are sent to the State Laboratory of Hygiene in Madison. This year due to COVID-19, the lab was not doing any water testing until late June due to staff shortages and the need for the lab to assume some COVID-19 testing.

In mid-June, we were just starting to get back to a somewhat normal testing routine when the influence of a tiny virus was replaced by a furry mammal with big teeth and a flat tail. The water level in both lakes began to rise and remained high until early August. After some "detective" work by several individuals, a beaver dam was discovered on Connors Creek, restricting the natural flow from LOP to Connors to the River.

So what happened this summer in the lakes? The amount of data collected this year was considerably less than a normal year so let's look at some general trends rather than specifics. The Secchi Disk (Clarity) in LOP was better than the last several years. Total Phosphorus levels were slightly above the regional average, while algae concentration was just below. Generally, the water quality is similar to other years.

The Secchi Disk reading in Connors was several feet less than last year and the total Phosphorus and algae levels were somewhat greater than recent years. Could the restricted flow, caused by the beaver dam, have a greater influence on Connors?? Time may tell!

Something interesting in Connors was observed as we measured the dissolved oxygen and temperature of the water column at the "deep hole" location. I refer you to related article on "oxygen sag." This phenomenon seemed to only be present in Connors. Why not in LOP? Think about that question this winter when you are sitting by the fire!

Remember, the various parameters we sample for are very important in monitoring the health of our lakes and making any management decisions.

None of this would be possible without our great group of volunteers! On LOP we have Larry Anderson, Carl Edwardson and Jim Schofield. Working on Connors are Gordie Dukerschein, Bob Feller, Jeff & Sherry Hansen, Mark LaVick, Rich & Laura Marusinec, Dave & Karen Schiotz and Tom Stram.

If any of you are interested in working on the CLMN committee please contact me at (715) 332-5164 or e-mail dkschiotz@yahoo.com

Have a good winter and stay well!



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*Ridge & Riva Schiotz
Frisco, Tx*

*Helping Grandpa
test water*

TWO CURIOSITIES AT THE CABIN: BY TOM STRAM

Just look and you will find at least two unusual plants in and around your happy place.

The first is a "ghostly" white plant with stems 4-5 inches tall with small scale-like leaves and a single five parted flower that is downward facing to prevent rainwater from filling the plant and diluting its nectar. Small clusters of these flowers appear from early summer to early autumn. This strange flower resembles a white clay peace pipe used by early American Indians and is a member of the Blueberry family. The plant is white because it lacks chlorophyll. Instead of generating energy from sunlight, it saps nutrients and carbohydrates in a parasitic relationship with tree roots and the help of fungi in a process called "mycoheterotrophy" (fungus/different/food). These fascinating plants (*Monotropa uniflora*) are called Indian Pipes, Ghost pipes or Corpse plants. They are pollinated by small bumblebees. Ghost plants are edible and taste like asparagus, but can be mildly toxic. Emily Dickinson referred to the Indian pipe as the "most preferred flower of life". Look for them early next summer.

This July before the surge of Covid-19 and the lockdown, Ruth and I took a field trip with the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin on Wild Mushroom Identification in the Chippewa County State Moraine area with Travis Lynch. Check out the website. Over 200 different field trips are listed. We identified dozens of edible and non-edible mushrooms. One of the edible mushrooms we found was the Chanterelle, a vase-shaped to triplet-shaped variety. Low and behold upon returning to the cabin, I found some of them in front of the cabin. They are considered one of the favorite edible varieties and indeed were very tasty. Before picking mushrooms in the wild and eating them, I would recommend you take a class in or read a book on mushroom identification.

- Stay healthy.



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THE CATCHING OF THE WORLD RECORD MUSKY BY LOUIE SPRAY

In 1949, a good friend of mine, Cal Johnson, a sports writer, beat me out—so I was again back in second place. To get beat a second time, naturally was quite a let down, but I was happy for Cal, a wonderful man if there ever was one.

I was then living in Rice Lake, Wisconsin, was forty-nine years old, and was taking a good look at my financial future. I figured it was time to quit fooling around and start laying something up for our old age. Although I felt, “To heck with muskie fishing,” I couldn’t get it out of my head completely. I knew of a monster on the North Fork of the Flambeau and one in the Chippewa Flowage. So, in the fall of 1949, I decided to have one last fling at these two fish and then forget about it—win, lose, or draw. But now, whom do I fish with? Good old Tommy



Louie Spray with the mount of his World Record Musky.

Campbell was in Florida and while I learned later that there were some excellent muskie fishermen in Rice Lake, I had not met them. Ted Hagg, who operated a nightclub in Saron, Wisconsin, came into my new bar in town one day and I approached him on the subject. He said, “How much do the Indians charge per hundred pounds?” Ted was the kind of individual whom everybody wanted to be around, with always a witty crack on the end of his tongue. He said it would be good for him to get away

from the place for a while, so I had myself a partner.

I told him I wanted to fish the entire month of October and he was agreeable. So, on October 1st, we took off for Herman’s Landing to fish on the Chippewa Flowage, and did so each day until the 20th, when we finally hooked and landed old “Chin Whiskered Charlie,” as I had named him. He was a granddaddy: 69 pounds 11 ounces, 63½ inches long, and had a girth 31¾ inches. It was taken in the late afternoon, around 4 o’clock I suppose, and it was getting kind of dusk when we got in.

Everyone on the flowage knew about “Chin Whiskered Charlie,” except no one would talk about it. They all wanted to go out there and get it themselves. I knew that big fellow was there. I’d been after him for several years

myself and hooked him a number of times. Even Ted Hagg once had him hooked, about three weeks before I finally caught him, so he was no stranger to us. We had spent nineteen days fishing in that one hole for this “Chin Whiskered Charlie.” He was lying in a pretty bad place, near a jam of logs along the shore.

Roy Risberg, who had a place not too far from Herman’s Landing, had hooked a huge muskie during that time.

When we’d come in each evening from fishing, we’d stop in there and get a few hot drinks or high balls and, one day, Risberg happened to be in there and called me off to the side to tell me about this big fish that he’d seen on Fleming’s Bar. He told me that he had him on about three weeks before that and that I ought to go and try for it over there. I thanked him very much for the tip.

During the preceding five days before I caught my fish, it had been very warm with temperatures in the 60’s and winds from a southerly direction. I was out for nineteen days in a row before I finally caught him, and I wouldn’t have gotten him that day if it hadn’t been for the urging of our guide.

On that particular day, George Quentmeyer, a guide who was off duty, joined Ted and myself for a fishing expedition. Ted couldn’t understand why I always kept going back to one particular spot. Off and on, during the days we fished the flowage, we’d fish there for an hour or so, and then go away and fish some place else, but we’d always come back to it, several times a day.

Even George Quentmeyer, as much as he guided the Chippewa Flowage, didn’t know what I was there for; but he caught on fast. He must have surmised that there was a big fish lookin’ around there; he knew I had one spotted. George used to kid me about going back to the log jam, as he called it. There were a lot of logs there and it was a pretty wicked place to try to land a big muskie.

On the morning of Thursday, October 20th, it was still warm, but by afternoon the weather had made a sudden change and a major cold front moved in. We set out for our fishing trip to the flowage, first stopping in at Charlie Pastika’s Bait Shop in Hayward to carefully hand pick our suckers. We got our boat from Herman’s Landing and set out on the water shortly after noon. It was a cold, damp, foggy, dismal day with temperatures in the 40’s and a steady drizzle almost turning into snow. A strong northeast wind had blown up and it was generally nasty weather.

Ted was seated in the front of the boat, I in the middle, and George was in the stern on the oars. I had Gladding 42-pound test line on and good gear (a Union Hardware rod and Cycloid casting reel) because the fish was lying in a pretty bad place. George was an excellent man to handle the boat, so I knew he would be a great help if we ever did catch him.

About 3:30 p.m., I knew Ted was freezing because he was not dressed for the cold, so I suggested we go in and have some hot drinks and get warm at a nearby resort (Indian Trail Resort). He was all for it, but George—who was no novice at handing out the old malarky jazz himself—chided us with such remarks as “tenderfoot, pansies, and city slickers.”

I was all for quitting and trying him the next day, but the guide insisted we give it one more try. George had been guiding all summer, and this was his chance to finally catch up on his own fishing. So when we left the tavern and got back into the boat, instead of heading towards home, George took over the motor and ran us right back to the same old spot and told us that we were going to fish some more, like it or not.

Tired of that spot, Ted complained, “What again, well that beats me,” and just sat there all huddled up. I myself hated to get down into that cold water in the minnow bucket for the sucker, but I did. My fingers were numb with cold when I rigged my own make up of a harness onto a fourteen-inch long sucker and laid him in the water.

George was rowing around in that spot, and I would let the sucker troll out and then bring it back in with a series of jerks. The sucker was really too large to cast so the trolling gave us the best percentage.

It seemed like no time until old “Chin Whiskers” hit the sucker and about half a dozen little treble hooks that I had placed onto the harness were set into his jaw. The big fish hit in about eight feet of water. There was quite a fuss for a minute or two, as “Chin Whiskers” asserted himself in the usual way, breaking water and splashing. The muskie leaped out of the water three times, just high enough for us to get a glimpse of it.

When the fish broke water for the first time, we all thought it weighed 80 pounds! I can say it was just like any large fish, whereas you had to use a certain amount of horse sense. He was heavier to handle than my other muskies, but I had the right line and a good man on the oars. The only difficulty we had was with Ted Hagg when he stood up in the boat, an unpardonable sin in the ethics of muskie fishing. George got to using a little swear words as he immediately directed him to sit down or get clouted with an oar. But Ted was stone deaf, for his eyes were glued on the fish battling away out there.

So I said, "Ted, will you help me a second?" He agreed. I said, "Sit down and don't stand up again." Ted countered by asking George if he would do something for him, like take him to shore.

Now, in the next few lines you will see who was responsible for landing my world record muskie. George was an artist in handling a boat. There was a wind blowing us towards the log jam along the shore, which would have been fatal had "Chin Whiskers" successfully reached there.

I had my pistol, at many times, ready to shoot, but couldn't do it. The wind was quite high and George was busy with the boat, working it away from the shore. As best I could, I got the fish out in the lake where there was nothing to do but wait for the opportunity to plug him.

I had the fish up a few times, but there was always a wave or something to prevent a good shot. George was quite perturbed, at least once, when he thought I should have shot and I didn't, but he couldn't see exactly my predicament. When George asked, "Why don't you shoot?", I told him why and then he understood. Finally, "Chin Whiskers" came up again—this time back by George. My back was to George so I didn't know what he

was up to and then, as it went on past, I heard, "BING-BING," and saw the fish stiffen up. I could have kissed George on the spot, for he had—with the quick skill of an expert guide—dropped the oars and shot the fish twice, in rapid succession, in a very vital spot—and he killed it.

So now it finally boils down to this: If it hadn't been for George, we wouldn't have gone back to that spot. Had it not been for George, the boat would probably have drifted into the log jam and the fish would have gotten off. Had it not been for George shooting the fish, it might have gotten off, as anything can happen when fighting a fish as large as that. So in reality, I got the credit for the catch, while George was 99% responsible for it.

After old "Chin Whiskers" took his last little swim in sort of a semi-circle, George grabbed a fish stringer laying there and put it through the muskie's gills, saying, "We ain't going to take no chances on this baby getting away now." We got him into the boat and I straddled him for awhile. The game was now all over for poor old Charlie. The battle had lasted about forty minutes and we finally landed the fish at around 4:00 p.m.



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY THANK YOU.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with this year's Fall 2020 ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY on October 10th. This was an unusual year for our Highway Cleanup because we were not able to hold a Cleanup in the Spring. So we had a year's worth of interesting metal, plastic, and unknown objects in addition to the standard beer (Busch Lite still in the lead) and soda containers.

Thanks to those that helped this year: George Bogdanovich, Bob and Patti Feller, Ed and Dianne Peters Mike and Kim Poncek. This Cleanup could not go on without all of you.

This is a great way to encourage concern for the welfare of our local natural resources. Adopt-A-Highway is an activity that families can participate in together; children that are at least 11 years old or the 6th grade can participate. We will be out for the Adopt-A-Highway Clean-up 2 times a year; in late April after the snow is gone; and in late-September or early-October.

If you would like to get your name on the volunteer list to be contacted for the next highway clean-up, please contact Dave Cooley at (920) 428-0755 or dec54914@prodigy.net.



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