

May 2018

# Crow Wing Lake Association

PO Box 136, Brainerd, MN 56401

<http://www.crowwinglake.org> E: [crowwinglake@gmail.com](mailto:crowwinglake@gmail.com)



## Spring Greetings from Jeff Lewis, CWLA President

As I write this I cannot help but wonder if the snow will ever melt and the ice on the lake disappear! It has been a winter/spring to remember. My Facebook came up with a "memory photo" from 5 years ago and guess what – it looked exactly like it does today. I am sure that just as it was in 2013, the snow and ice will leave us until next winter. With all that, we welcome all of you back to beautiful Crow Wing Lake and look forward to another great year of fun around and on the lake.

Our annual spring meeting, weekend after Memorial Day, is shaping up to be an event that you don't want to miss. We always have some interesting information concerning the water quality, weeds, shoreline restoration, along with donuts with chocolate and sprinkles on top. This is also a time when most of us pay our annual dues (\$15 per property) and have an opportunity to purchase one of those beautiful "Crow Wing Lake Association Member" signs, they are still only \$10.

It has been my honor to serve as your president for the past three years and I will say to any of you who don't think you have what it takes to serve, trust me, it only takes a couple of board meetings a year and maybe a bit of time outside of that. Those of you who have been around for several years (and that is most of us) realize that we have a small group of very dedicated people who are happy to do what we can to make our lake the best it can be. Those people would be very excited to have others step and be willing to share the opportunity. I learned long ago that leadership is not what you get from it, but what you become because of it.

See you on June 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Fort Ripley Town Hall.

Jeff Lewis

## Please Join Us!

**Saturday, June 2**  
**CWLA Spring Meeting**  
Fort Ripley Town Hall

9:00 Coffee & Donuts  
9:30 Meeting

Meet your neighbors  
Pay your 2018 dues  
Get the latest news

## Coming Events

### July 4<sup>th</sup> at the Lake

4.4 on the 4<sup>th</sup>  
Walk/Run  
8:30 Walk, run, bike  
9:30 Kids' race (1 mile)  
Start and finish lines are

Chippewa Lake and  
Chippewa Shores Road

Music on the Point  
Enjoy King's Ransom  
From your boat

**August 11 – All-lake**  
**CWLA Garage Sale**

**Saturday, August 26**  
**Fall Meeting** and  
breakfast  
St. Mathias Community  
Center

## It's time to renew your 2018 CWLA Membership

Dues may be paid at our spring meeting or mailed to:

CWLA PO Box 136 Brainerd, MN 56401

**OR**

Try out our new option of registering and paying on-line! **Only \$15**

2018-19 CROW WING LAKE ASSOCIATION MEMBER REGISTRATION

PO Box 136  
Brainerd, MN 56401

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Lake Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: You may share multiple family email addresses if more than one family would like to receive notices and electronic newsletters. Your email will NOT be shared with any other organization or entity.

**Crow Wing Lake Association  
Minutes of Meeting  
Aug 26, 2017  
St. Mathias Community Center**

**Board Members Present:** Adam Fjeld, Vice President; Jeanne Lindholm, Treasurer; Judy Swanburg, Secretary.

After the annual association breakfast and the Lake Improvement Meeting, in the absence of President Jeff Lewis, the meeting was called to order by Adam Fjeld, Vice President.

**The Treasurer's Report** was given by Jeanne Lindholm:

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Checking Account Balance as of Aug 25, 2017   | \$10,508.12 |
| CD Milfoil Account Balance as of Aug 25, 2017 | \$ 2953.46  |
| CD #2 Balance as of Aug 25, 2017              | \$ 7090.14  |

Expenses:

|                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Spring Meeting Donuts | \$ 30.95 |
| Printing              | \$ 62.88 |
| Postage               | \$ 68.60 |

(Printing and postage for newsletters and the spring mailing for weed treatment forms)

A motion was made to approve the report as presented. Motion was seconded and approved.

**The Secretary's Report** was given by Judy Swanburg:

Minutes from the spring 2017 meeting were read. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented.

There was a comment regarding the Milfoil Account. Currently the account has not been used. The title of the account doesn't restrict its use and the CWLA can use the money as it sees fit. We can change the name of the account if we want to.

Adam Fjeld reported on the closed lake association Facebook page. You must have a connection to the lake. Please add names of family members on form if they are to use the closed page. Adam also reported that he had checked into the rates of our garbage carriers and gas companies. We can negotiate better prices with numbers. He will also check on septic system pumping rates. Question was raised about recycling here. No haulers will do recycling in our area. Recycling and hazardous waste can be dropped off at Barrows. This can be dropped off anytime but help is available on the mornings of the first and third Saturdays of the month from nine to twelve o'clock.

Rick Pederson and Mike Valentine presented Pat Altrichter with a plaque of Crow Wing Lake to recognize her many years of service to the Crow Wing Lake Association.

**Announcements:**

A reminder was made to not let riders out on the front deck of pontoons.

Heavy rains this spring have brought high waters. A no wake zone was suggested to protect the shorelines.

Boats have floated away. Secure your boats and docks!

The next meeting of the lake association will be held at the Fort Ripley Town Hall the Saturday after Memorial Day.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion was approved and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:45.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Swanburg, Secretary



Pat Altrichter was honored for her years of service to the Crow Wing Lake Association.



Winter at the lake brings solitude and its own ways to enjoy the outdoors. From top to bottom, right to left: ice fishing gear at the annual P&P Ice Fishing tournament, summer chairs on a wintery afternoon, and a lucky angler.



## **Keeping our Lake Neighborhood Safe, Rick Pederson**

For many of us, the time spent at Crow Wing Lake is precious; a break from day-to-day stress and a chance to reconnect with friends, family and nature. For all of us, though, time at the lake takes place within a neighborhood of year-round and seasonal residents, weekend cabin owners, guests and members of the public who find our lake a great spot to relax, fish and play.

It's important to remember that the same rules and laws that we follow in our day-to-day lives cover all activities around the lake.

**Building or landscaping:** New construction, such as a new cabin or home or a new garage, requires a permit issued by the County. Permits should be posted at the construction site.

Excavation for construction or landscaping might alter the drainage to the lake and may require permitting from the County, MPCA or DNR. If you see something that doesn't seem quite right, contact the County or talk with a Lake Association representative. S/he will be able to direct you to the right person.

**Boat and vehicle safety:** Traffic both on and off the lake increases during the warm weather months. Be aware of others on the water or the road and follow posted signs and regulations. You can get information about watercraft operation from the DNR; road use information from Crow Wing County. You can report concerning or dangerous conditions to them. Call 911 to report emergencies.

For your information:

<http://www.crowwing.us/217/Permit-Information>

<https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/rlp/regulations/boatwater/boatingguide.pdf>

## **2018 Crow Wing Lake Improvement District Update, Michael Valentine**

As of this writing, we have to take it on faith that spring will eventually arrive after record breaking snow and cold weather in April. Assuming we achieve ice out before August, we are planning to continue our lake monitoring program which will be enhanced somewhat with the assistance of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and the Crow Wing County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). We will continue with our standard lake monitoring and vegetation control programs and include lake level, dissolved oxygen and bottom sampling to help us understand the movement of nutrients around and through the lake. We will also be checking once more to ensure that our lake remains free of zebra mussels. All of this work is done by a small team of volunteers and in cooperation with Crow Wing County and the MPCA. We hope to have a representative from the SWCD available to discuss this year's program and to answer questions.

This is a particularly important year for making continued progress in the development of a management plan for reducing nutrient loading in the lake. The MPCA is continuing work on our TMDL (total maximum daily load) for nutrients in Crow Wing Lake. MPCA will then identify specific strategies for reducing and maintaining lower levels of nutrients in the lake. At present, it is most likely that these strategies will include development of stream shoreline buffers north and possibly east of the lake. Lakeshore restoration may be part of the plan as well. We may also see a recommendation to apply a nutrient stabilization chemical, such as alum, to certain areas of the lake to reduce nutrient recycling. Alum (aluminum sulfate) is a chemical that is often added to city water supplies to help clean it up for human consumption. None of this is certain at this point, but along the way, there will be opportunity for public input. The LID will stay involved at each step of the process.

As in the past, there will be teams of scientists and volunteers monitoring our lakes and streams this summer. Please give them room to do their work. I'm sure if you have questions, they will be happy to explain what they are doing. But please keep in mind that they are all doing good work on our behalf at only a small additional cost to our LID. Most of the cost of our enhanced monitoring will be covered by grant money and other resources within the SWCD and the MPCA. Finally, please also note that the County will have a limited presence again this year at the public access inspecting boats and trailers for aquatic invasive species. Please be sure to inspect your boats and trailers and also remind your guests to do so as well.

### **Aquatic Weed Control for 2018, Rick Pederson**

The Crow Wing Lake Improvement district (LID) has reached an agreement with Central Minnesota Aquatics to provide weed treatments for 2018. Central Minnesota Aquatics has worked with our LID for a number of years. You should have received a form authorizing the treatments in the mail or via email in the last couple of weeks. **If you haven't already returned it, please do so at your earliest convenience.**

This year's treatments include the following:

**Curly Leaf** As the name implies, this plant has curly leaves with small pine cone shaped seed cases. It grows quickly in the spring and can choke out other more beneficial plants. It creates large floating masses in the lake. Treatment occurs in the spring. We have been treating our lake for this invasive weed for approximately 20 years.

**Swimmers' Itch** is caused by a parasite which lives in snails. The treatment includes the addition of copper sulfate to the water near the shoreline. It is a temporary treatment and will be timed for application around the last week in June. This will make it maximally effective for the Fourth of July. One treatment per year is included in your LID assessment. If you would like to schedule another one, at your own expense by contacting Central Minnesota Aquatics directly.

**Sago Pond** weed creates large patches of weeds that float just below the surface of the lake. They have an annoying tendency to wrap around boat propellers causing them to slow down or even stop. The application occurs later in the summer to specific trouble spots on the lake. Remember to send your Authorization form back to Central Minnesota Aquatics as soon as possible. If you have further questions, there will be time to discuss weed treatments at the Lake Association meeting on June 2.

**CENTRAL MINNESOTA AQUATICS, INC.  
26735 MIDDLE CULLEN RD  
NISSWA, MN 56468**

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**Special Election  
President and Vice President  
CWLA**

**Jeff Lewis is stepping down as CWLA president. A special election will be held at the June 2 meeting to replace him.**

**Adam Fjeld, current Vice President, has agreed to be nominated as President. Jeanette Austin has accepted the nomination as Vice President.**

**Please vote for one person for each office and return your ballot at the June 2 meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, return your ballot to your Area Representative.**

**For President:**

**Adam Fjeld** \_\_\_\_\_

**Write in** \_\_\_\_\_

**Vice President:**

**Jeanette Austin** \_\_\_\_\_

**Write In** \_\_\_\_\_