



LAKE WASHBURN ASSOCIATION

Working to protect our lake and its environment for future generations

President's Message

As I sit here pondering this letter to you, I'm hopeful that the upcoming cabin season will be significantly improved from last year. One of the biggest benefits of our lake association, is renewed friendships with other Washburn area residents we haven't seen for quite a while. Given the COVID pandemic, that time has been much longer than usual, and we can only hope everything will get back to normal sometime this summer. However, hoping does not make it happen and in fact, as I look at our summer calendar, I see that some of our LWA events have already been modified or cancelled. The first major event that has been called off is our LWA Spring Membership Meeting. Hopefully, we'll be able to hold our August Membership Meeting.

In my message last fall, I talked about our 2021 plans. Some of the goals and tasks in our latest plan (see page 2) have been revised and modified because of the pandemic, and others may be postponed, delayed, or eliminated as we move forward. We will attempt to conduct as many of our activities and programs as possible, as long as we can do so safely. We'll keep you up to date on all our planned events, through email blasts and signage, as well as the LWA website. I, along with your LWA Board of Directors, encourage your support and participation in the activities we will be able to hold.

After a few years away, we welcome Rollie Hirman back to the LWA team where he will

lead the LWA Newsletter Sponsor Relations work. We're pleased to have him on board and look forward to working with him again. Please check out the updated list of officers, board members and committee chairs on the following page. These are the folks leading the various initiatives for our association. I encourage you to review the list, find your area(s) of interest, and then contact the appropriate individual to inquire how you may be of assistance.

Please note that Officer and Board positions will be coming up for election this summer. If we can't hold our August meeting, we may have to vote remotely as we did last year. We will keep you posted about this. Open positions can be seen on page 2. Let us know if you can step into any one of those roles for the betterment of the LWA.

In closing, I hope you and your family are healthy and preparing to enjoy the upcoming summer season on Lake Washburn. We're all trying our best, given COVID safety concerns, to plan and execute the best summer lake activities possible. Although we won't be able to get together in June, I truly hope to be able to gather with you all at our LWA Membership Meeting on August 14.

Wishing you and your family the best for this season at beautiful Lake Washburn.

By Ron Reich

ACRONYM KEY

1W1P	One Watershed, One Plan	MLR	Minnesota Lakes & Rivers Advocates
AIS	Aquatic Invasive Species	MPCA	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
CLT	Crooked Lake Township	NLC	National Loon Center
CLTH	Crooked Lake Town Hall	PFD	Personal Flotation Device
DNR	Department of Natural Resources	RALALA	Roosevelt and Lawrence Area Lakes
EWM	Eurasian Water Milfoil	RMBEL	RMB Environmental Labs
GTLO	Get the Lead Out	TSI	Trophic State Index
LWA	Lake Washburn Association	WSP	Water Safety Patrol

1	President's Message
2	Goals and Tasks Board of Directors Committee Contacts
3	AIS Update
3	Get to Know a Board Member
4,5	News You Can Use
6	Score Your Shore
6	Water Safety Patrol Returns
7	2021 LWA Membership Update
8	Celebrating One of Lake Washburn's Oldest Residents
9	LWA Adopt-A-Highway
12	Swimmer's Itch
12	Jumping Worms
13	Water Quality Report
13	Pollinators are Key to Minnesota's Environmental Health
14	Fisheries Report
15	Sport Fishes in Lake Washburn
16	Sophie Muchow's Raccoon
16	Adopt-a-Buoy on Lake Washburn!
17	Minnesota Lakes & Rivers Advocates
17	Loon Nesting Locations
18	The Last Ride on the Hood
18	LWA Needs Your Help!
19	Around Washburn
20	Remembering Friends
21	Calendar of Events
22	100 Years on Lake Washburn
22	Washburn Wear Caps Available
23	2020 Membership Form

Lake Washburn Association 2021 LWA Board Goals and Tasks

Revised 5/8/21

H = On Hold IP = In Progress

C = Completed/Ongoing X = Canceled

Organizational Development

H	Formalize Officers succession plan	Ron
IP	Review LWA bylaws; update membership types	Vicki
IP	Document formal audit procedure	Scott/Mark
IP	Updating insurance	Jim

Aquatic Invasive Species Monitoring

C	Monitor/survey and treat Eurasian Water Milfoil as needed	Ross/Mathias
C	Develop plans to combat other AIS	Ross/Mathias
IP	Create materials/protocols for identifying and reporting AIS	Ross/Glen

Lake Stewardship

IP	Develop Lake Washburn Shoreline Habitat site	Charlie/Ross
IP	Investigate a Lake Stewardship volunteer program	Scott
IP	Develop a Restore Your Shore program	Ross
IP	Adopt-a-Buoy Program	Teresa

Enhance Member Communications

C	LWA Newsletter	Susan
C	Website	Kathy
C	Nextdoor	Glen
C	E-mail blasts	Glen
C	Facebook page	Kathy/Glen
C	Signage	Vicki/Glen/Mark
C	Continued sale of 100 Years on Lake Washburn book	All Board Members

Build Community

C	New Owner Welcome program	Susan
H	Youth Fishing Challenge	Lisa
C	Boat Parade and Floating Ice Cream Social	Vicki/Dave
X	Hold a community/social gathering at Scout Camp	Ross
IP	Develop a new activity/education event open to the public with RALALA	TBD
H	Produce additional LWA logo merchandise	Vicki

Integrate Local Resources

C	Establish/maintain relationship with local DNR	All Board Members
H	Establish/maintain relationship with National Loon Center	Lisa
C	Strengthen relationship with RALALA	Glen

Board of Directors and Volunteers

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Aquatic Invasive Species Update

I have some great news to report! In February of this year, the Lake Washburn Association's application for a 2021 AIS Control Grant, was approved. The LWA will be receiving \$1500 from the DNR, which will help offset the costs to detect, treat and/or remove AIS from Lake Washburn when deemed necessary.

The cost of last season's AIS survey and treatment was \$6725. The Crooked Lake Township Board contributed \$5000 toward this cost, and the LWA paid the remaining \$1725.

Crooked Lake Township Lakes and Shores Committee Update

In addition to our ongoing AIS efforts, a new focus has been added to our joint LWA, RALALA and CLT projects, that includes the preservation and restoration of the shorelines along our lakes.

The current CLT-funded Luscher's Park Protect our Shores planting project which began last fall, is doing well. It has generated inquiries from several lakeshore owners interested in restoring their shorelines using native plants to stabilize the shore, and thereby helping to filter water running into the lake, prevent erosion and provide habitat for native species of both plants and animals.

In March, the Crooked Lake Township Lakes and Shores committee approved additional funding of \$3500 to extend the CLT/RALALA shoreline preservation project to include the public dock site in Outing ... more to come!

AIS Prevention Statistics

Lake Washburn inspection hours in 2020 were 472 (May through September). Total Cass County inspection hours were 14,616 over 103 inspection days.

The Outing Decontamination Station did 100 decontaminations over 585 hours.

In 2020, over \$350,000 was spent by Cass County on boat inspectors and decontaminations, which was 71 percent of the 2020 AIS Management and Prevention Budget for the year.

Finally, I'd like to welcome three new partners who are and will continue to be very instrumental in all of our LWA/AIS efforts.

Jim Thielen, CLT Board Chairman

Nicole Kovar, Invasive Species Specialist, MN DNR

Dana Gutzmann, Cass County AIS Technician

Please continue to be vigilant for AIS, and if you have questions about identifying any aquatic species you may find, please don't hesitate to contact me directly at rossakura@aol.com.

By Ross Lindmeyer

Get to Know a Board Member



I'm Mark Wolf, one of the newest LWA board members. My wife, Laurie, and I purchased our lake home on Lake Washburn in 2012 and started commuting up here from Lakeville on weekends and vacation days as often as possible. We hadn't been familiar with the Washburn area until our realtor talked us into seeing one last lake home, which we thought was too far from the Cities. However, as we drove down the beautiful tree-canopied roads and pulled into the driveway, we knew this was where we were meant to be! We moved up here full time in 2017.

Our blended family includes seven adult children and 13 (and still growing in number) grandchildren. Living at the lake has provided so many opportunities for family

gatherings and making memories. Watching the kids grow lake roots, enjoying the water, the surroundings, bonfires, s'mores, and doing all the things that only those who are part of a lake community fully understand, brings us incredible joy. We also have two golden doodles – three-year-old Riley and almost one-year-old Jonah – who are always a part of these activities. We had no idea that doodles are both water - and snow-loving dogs!

Although Laurie still works full-time (remotely) for her company of 28 years, we're looking forward to retirement at the lake. We're enjoying getting to know more and more people in the Lake Washburn and surrounding communities. We love spending time on the lake in a boat, on a pontoon, in kayaks – however we can get there! And if we're with friends doing these things, even better. We have grown to love the reduced stress of a simpler, more reflective lifestyle, reminding us of the importance of taking time to see, smell, and hear our surroundings. And we frequently remind visiting guests to do the same or they just might miss something amazing.

I look forward to serving on the LWA Board for years to come to help ensure these experiences for all members of our lake community.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Crooked Lake Township Clean-Up Day on June 12

Annual Clean-Up Day for Beulah Township and Crooked Lake Township residents will be held on Saturday, June 12, from 8 a.m. to noon.

NEW LOCATION: North of Outing on State Highway #6 to County Road #48 (Washburn Lake Road). Turn left and go approximately half a mile. Look for signs.

Materials accepted include: tires, appliances, electronics such as televisions, computers and monitors, old useless furniture, carpeting, scrap iron, lawn mowers, EMPTY propane tanks (20-lb. and 100-lb.), car batteries, nickel cadmium rechargeable and button-type mercury batteries, fluorescent bulbs. Please separate the items on your trailers such as tires, electronics, scrap metal, etc., to help things move along more quickly.

Items not accepted: demolition materials or wood waste, household garbage, hazardous waste - including paint, pesticides or chemicals.

Questions? Contact Connie Glass at (218) 838-1619 or Pat Bennington at (612) 749-0632 or visit www.crooked-lake.govoffice2.com.

Monofilament Recycling

As you clean and prep your tackle boxes for the upcoming fishing season, remember to dispose of any monofilament line properly by recycling it at the collection tube at the Public Landing.



Fish Kills

The MN DNR seeks the public's help in reporting fish die-offs in lakes and streams. People can contact the state duty officer, at 651-649-5451 or 800-422-0798, 24/7. Early reporting allows timely water sampling and other response actions. It's very helpful to know what fish types and sizes were seen in the die-off. See the MN DNR website for more information.

Lake Water Level Measurement

Lake Water Level Measurement has resumed on Lake Washburn! LWA volunteer, Rick Snyder, was tracking and reporting this information to the DNR's Lake Level Minnesota Monitoring Program.

The gauge will be placed in May, and training has been completed.

Recycling Reminder

PLEASE Never Recycle These Things

Mirrors

Aerosol Can

Bubble Wrap

Medical Needles

Power Cord Cables

Plastic/Styrofoam Food Containers



Dishes

Plastic Toys

Paper Towels

Plastic Hangers

Plastic Bags of any kind

Clothing, Towels, Bedding

NEWS YOU CAN USE



The MPCA will not be having in-person Lead Tackle Exchanges this season due to pandemic safety concerns. If you have tackle to dispose of, please contact

Susan Tyra at susan_tyra@sbcglobal.net and she will make arrangements with you to pick it up.

Is your tackle made of lead?

To determine if your tackle is lead, rub the item on a sheet of white paper. If it's lead, it will leave a chalky grey trail. Lead and lead dust from fishing gear can contaminate tackle boxes and other surfaces. Always use soap and water if you have to handle lead tackle. Unfortunately, due to supply chain issues related to COVID, many bait shops are having difficulty acquiring and stocking non-lead tackle. It can be found online however, using tungsten, steel, ceramic or tin tackle as keywords. Contact your local bait shop for updates on availability.



Plants for yards, ponds, and shoreline for natural mosquito control

The following plants for your garden and/or shoreline will help attract dragonflies - who eat mosquitos - thus removing the need for spraying toxins into the air that kill pollinators, and eventually leach into our lake.

For the garden:

Black-eyed Susan



Swamp Milkweed



Joe Pye Weed



Meadow Sage



White Yarrow

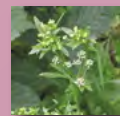


For ponds and shorelines:

Arrowhead



Wild Celery



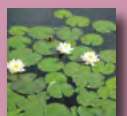
Water Horsetail



Cattail



Water Lily



Score Your Shore

Start by completing the following questionnaire. Save your score and document your progress each year.

10 Points for each NO

1. Do you use fertilizer and lawn chemicals and/or broadcast spray insecticides and pesticides?

YES NO POINTS_____

2. Do you have clean rip rap, or rip rap that is sprayed or weeded?

YES NO POINTS_____

3. Do you mow right to the water's edge?

YES NO POINTS_____

4. Do you remove overhanging or downed trees and limbs from the water?

YES NO POINTS_____

5. Do you have a receding shoreline or a bank that is undermined and collapsing?

YES NO POINTS_____

10 Points for each YES

1. Is your septic system regularly tested and working properly?

YES NO POINTS_____

2. Does 75% of your shoreline have at least a 10 foot buffer that is unmowed and/or includes native grasses, plants, trees or shrubs?

YES NO POINTS_____

3. Does 75% of your property from the shoreline buffer to the access road include trees, shrubs and natural ground cover?

YES NO POINTS_____

4. Are emergent and/or floating leaved plants (example: rushes, lily pads) present along more than 50% of your lot?

YES NO POINTS_____

5. Do moderately to dense submerged plant beds cover more than 50% of the lake bottom along your lot?

YES NO POINTS_____

TOTAL POINTS_____

SCORING AND INTERPRETATION: 100 possible points

80-100 points: Come share your knowledge and help us spread the word!

0-80 points: Join us as we learn how our practices and our shorelines impact our lakes and join the challenge to put into practice what we've learned.

Remember, if you want to modify your shoreline by recontouring, planting or removing trees, bushes or vegetation, or by building structures on or near the shore, you will need to review relevant rules and may need one or more permits. In Crooked Lake Township, governing rules are those of Cass County. Check with the Environmental Services Department - they can help steer you through the process.

For more information, check out the DNR website at www.dnr.state.mn.us/rys

Reprinted courtesy of RALALA; Created by Anne Bonnerup

WATER SAFETY PATROL RETURNS

After a pandemic pause, the Water Safety Patrol will return to Lake Washburn in 2021. The WSP was established to help educate boaters about the importance of safe boating.

Both WSP training and the patrol boat, are provided to us by the Cass County Sheriff's Department. Our volunteer deputies consist of both seasonal and year-round residents. Teams of two patrol for a few hours, two to three weekends during the summer. These volunteers primarily look for compliance to DNR regulations related to numbers of life jackets on board, throwable PFDs (personal floatation devices) available, speed limit guidelines, and maximum capacity violations to name a few. They also offer assistance to stranded boaters if needed.

The LWA equips the patrol with educational materials for adults, including a copy of the 2021 MN DNR Boating Guidelines as well as handouts to help identify AIS. The DNR has also provided our team with comic books, posters and coloring activity-books for children, all geared toward promoting water safety.

If you're interested in joining the Water Safety Patrol on Lake Washburn, please contact Pat Maranda at patmaranda49@gmail.com or any member of the LWA Board.

By Vicki Lipstreuer

2021 Lake Washburn Association Spring/Summer Membership Update

Hopefully, this newsletter finds you and your family healthy and enjoying the beginning of a great summer at Lake Washburn. Membership support continues to be robust. Clearly, many of you have embraced the annual membership drive which started in January. Thank you!

There are a few numbers I would like to share about the membership, as of May 8, 2021.

- 260 LWA memberships
- 33 sustaining members
- 75 donations to the General Fund
- 108 donations to the Ted Johnson Memorial AIS Fund

We have not yet reached our high point of 299 LWA members at the end of 2020, but are confident that we'll break the 300 threshold this year.

The LWA relies on support from its members and now, you can easily keep your membership current when you become a "sustainer." To become a sustainer, simply fill out the membership form (see page 23), including your credit card information, check the Sustaining Member box and your contribution will be automatically made to LWA each year in January, until you tell us differently in writing.

LWA members have been very generous through the first half of 2021. The General Fund and the Ted Johnson Memorial AIS Fund, have received \$3796 and \$4557 respectively. This is an amazing result and shows a clear commitment by our membership to helping the LWA take care of Lake Washburn.



Another way to support LWA is to use AmazonSmile when shopping on-line. Go to the Smile.Amazon.com website, and

designate The Lake Washburn Association as your charity. If you've already started to shop at Amazon.com and then remember you want to use Smile, leave everything in your shopping cart, log off Amazon and then log back in using Smile.Amazon.com. Your purchases will still be in your cart, and LWA will receive the Amazon half-percent donation on qualifying purchases. Last year, the LWA was able to add \$100 to the general fund via Amazon Smile!

Over the past few years, questions have arisen about LWA membership and how contributions are applied to households and extended family. Below are some guidelines.

1. Memberships are paid on a calendar year, January through December, not on the specific anniversary date of your dues payment.
2. The \$25 membership dues can be one of the following categories:
 - a. Single persons
 - b. Couples

- c. Primary ownership families (including dependent children)
- d. Extended adult families (including dependent children)

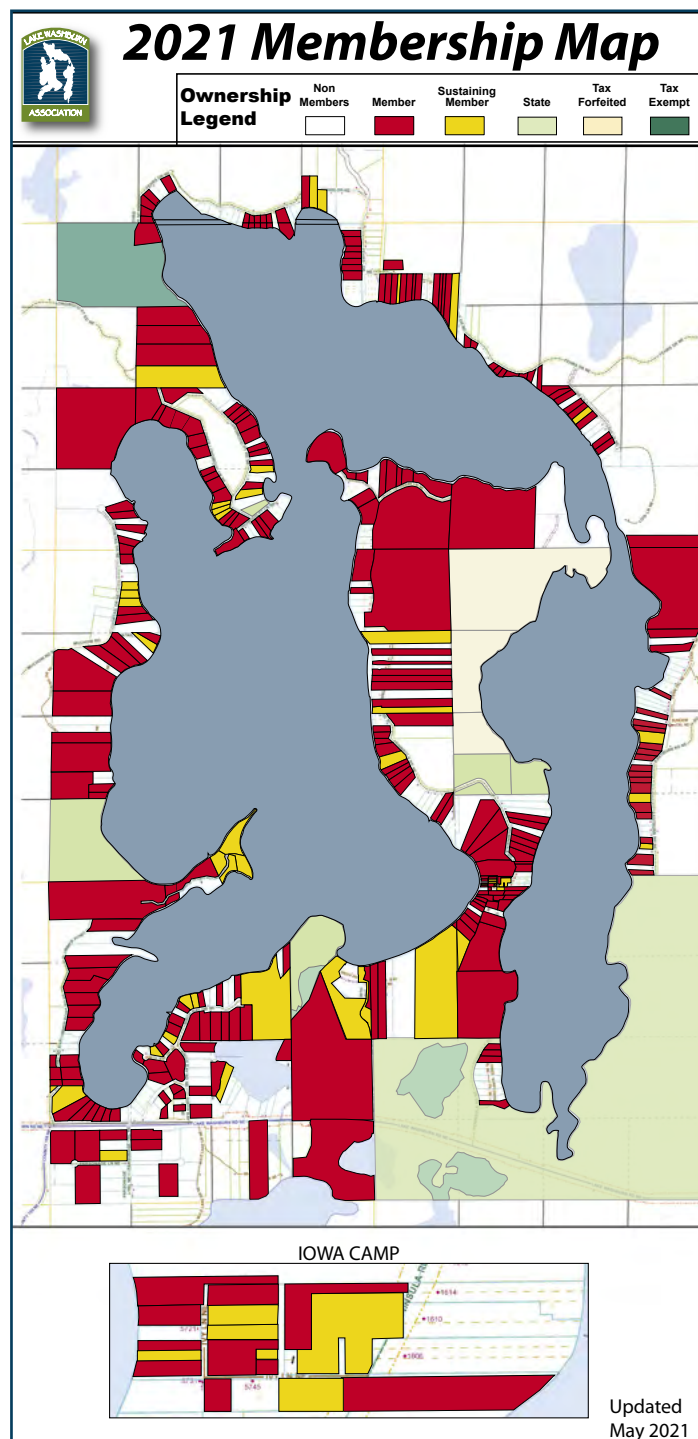
I hope this helps clarify the membership options.

Please contact me directly if you have any questions, and thank you, LWA members!

Glen Goodwin

218-792-5289

LWAgoodwin@icloud.com



Celebrating One of Lake Washburn's Oldest Residents

A Conversation with Glen Mechelke - November 2020



Glen Mechelke was born in Mahtomedi in 1923 and may be the oldest resident on Lake Washburn. Glen's neighbor, Barry Pederson, arranged an opportunity for me to sit with this charming 97-year-old gentleman, so in a light snowfall, I walked to Glen's home. He looked inquisitively at me and said, "I don't remember if we've met, but I knew your dad. My friend, Norman Mogren, brought your dad over here to meet me, and we set up bottle-gas service right then and there." My dad, Clem Nelles, had started Nelles Bottle Gas in 1950, a business that provided 100-pound gas cylinders to area homes and resorts.

I asked Glen how he came to Lake Washburn, and he said that at first it was because he loved to fish and hunt. Then, as a young married man, Glen had completed two years at the University of Minnesota when he asked his wife Pat, "Should I go for the four-year degree, which I'll never use, or should we go up north and buy some land?" She said, "Let's go up north!"

Glen and Pat bought 40 acres on Lake Washburn in 1948 and began building Birch Bay Lodge the following year. Glen's parents helped with the construction. "Our building materials came mostly from Emily and Outing. We'd separate out the shiplap if it had some nice knotty pine to it and use it for the inside finishing. We worked hard." When completed, the resort had the lodge, over a dozen cabins, a small store, a snack bar, a square dance floor, and lots of activities for both kids and their parents.

Glen told me one of his happiest memories was taking kids on summer hayrides. "I had an old Jeep, a trailer, and lots of hay bales. We all really enjoyed that. We'd also take resort guests to dinner to local eating places. Some of our guests came to the resort for many years, and they're part of the family now - the Mogrens, the Lundquists ..."

Glen remembers the early roads saying, "It was dirt all the way from Crosby to Lake Washburn. County Road 48 would bog down in the spring, near the east end of the lake. That stretch of road was always a problem until they filled it in." He remembers that everyone along 48 stuck together. "We looked after one another; we got along well."

Cabins at Birch Bay Lodge were rented out from early spring through deer hunting season, and then the resort closed for the winter. Glen said, "Deer hunting was nine days long

WASHBURN LAKE

29. BEAR PAW LODGE. Modern hskpg. cabins. Dining room. Along our fine sandy beach we have: waterskiing, playground facilities, and beach suppers. Send for folder. Jim and Mae Witkus, Box 2, Outing, Minnesota. Phone Outing 1-R-30.

30. BIRCH BAY LODGE. Modern hskpg. cabins, central shower. Sandy beach, playground, recreation room, waterskiing. "You'll long remember beautiful Lake Washburn." Write for folder, G. Mechelke, Outing, Minn. Phone 1-R-4.

31. FEHR'S RESORT, Lake Washburn. Roomy hskpg. semi-modern cabins. Good boats, sandy beach, playground equipment, fine for children. Phone Outing 2-R-30. Mrs. Ann Fehr, Remer, Minn.

32. MUCHOW'S RESORT, Outing, Minn. Fully equipped modern hskpg. cabins on Lake Washburn. R.E.A. electric refrigeration. Running water, central shower, Inside flush toilets. 16-ft. fiberglass and Alumacraft boats. Reasonable rates. Linen is not furnished. Good fishing, small and big game hunting. Also self serving boat livery on Lake George.

33. PLUMMER'S POINT — Ideal family vacation spot on a beautiful, secluded bay. Cabins with knotty pine interiors, fully equipped kitchens and bathrooms, two bedrooms. Excellent, sandy beach. Water skiing. 16-foot boats. \$65 per week: Write 4929 Knox Ave. S., Mpls. or Outing, Minn.

34. WASHBURN LODGE. Modern cabins and lodge for group meetings. Tennis court, central showers, finest beach in the Northwest. Martin & Irene Axelson. Phone Outing 1-R-40, Outing Minn., or Crosby 509.

back then, at the end of November." When questioned about harsh winters, Glen said, "Winter wasn't bad, but it was long. We had snowmobiles and a fish house. It was nothing to spear big 25-pound northerns from our fish house. We ate a lot of fish."

Today, Glen has family close by and good neighbors. He's a Minnesota Twins fan but notes, "The coverage up here isn't very good." When asked if he thought he'd live to be 97, he said, "Well, I never thought about it. I think I've been in the hospital only once, can't remember for sure. I've had good health."

While building a resort was a huge accomplishment, also noteworthy is Glen's contribution to Crooked Lake Township. When I asked him about that, he sat up tall and said, "I got the township board started. There were so many 100-foot lots being sold and cabins going up - there was no system, no organization." And when I inquired about the establishment of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Outing, he told me, "You bet I was involved. I carried the first board to start the construction!" His neighbor, Barry, leaned into our conversation and noted that Glen not only helped build the church, but donated the land for it, as well as a parsonage-on-Parsonage Trail with access to Lake Washburn. Glen commented, "I guess they named a street after me in Outing, I'm not sure why."

We know why. A community strives to honor its people. To share Glen Mechelke's story, is to honor a life well-lived and a community that benefited greatly from the decision that he and Pat made a long time ago. "Let's go up north and buy some land!"

By Ellen Leger



Lake Washburn Association Adopt-A-Highway 48 Clean-Up



May 15

CASS COUNTY



Coordinator: Mark Stange

Gary and Kathy Bochman

Steve and Hallie DeVries (not pictured)

Pat and Mary Pat Fitzpatrick

Glen Goodwin and Vicki Lipstreuer

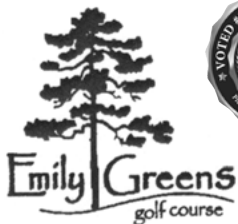
Jackie Hagel

Bob and Shannon Nagle

Bill Pudwell

Randy and Jenny Wachter

Mark and Laurie Wolf



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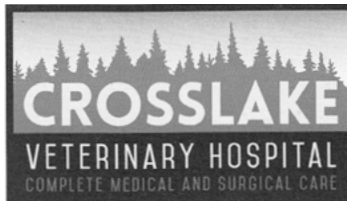
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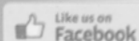
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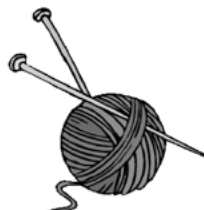
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Swimmers' Itch

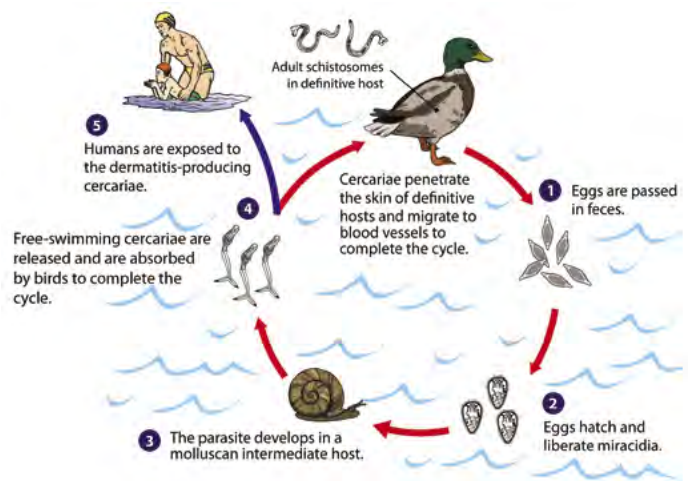
If you've ever had swimmer's itch, chances are you're not likely to forget it! This itchy rash is an allergic reaction caused by contact with water-borne, microscopic parasites (schistosomes) that burrow into your skin after you've been swimming or wading in water where they are present.

At various times during their life cycle these parasites are carried by waterfowl, small mammals, and aquatic snails. Eventually, the snails release the parasites into the water where they may come in contact with humans.

Most swimmers itch rashes appear shortly after exiting the water and can vary from very mild to quite severe itching/burning and discomfort. Some individuals, especially children, may develop a fever as well. Symptoms usually last for a day or two but may last longer in some cases.

Tips to avoid Swimmer's Itch

- It may help to apply waterproof sunscreen to skin and let it dry before going into the water; reapply as necessary.
- If you don't have waterproof sunscreen, get out of the water every 15 minutes or so, and sluice the water off your body with your hands, and towel off vigorously. Swimmer's itch usually only affects exposed skin, so focus on those areas.
- Swim in deep water, from boats or rafts if possible, as the organisms that cause the itch are likely to be present in greater numbers in the shallow, warmer water near shore.



- Towel off completely when you're finished swimming, and shower with non-lake water.
- Avoid swimming where swimmers itch has previously been found. A combination of factors favorable for the development and proliferation of the parasite may exist in that area.
- Swimmer's itch can usually be managed with over-the-counter medications. If the itching persists for more than two or three days, or if an infection or fever develops, you may want to contact your physician.

For more information:

Minnesota DNR website at www.dnr.state.mn.us
mayoclinic.org

Jumping Worms - An Invasive Species

Jumping worms are a type of earthworm that exhibits unusual behavior when disturbed. They move around like snakes and sometimes appear to jump. These worms are native to Asia and were confirmed in Minnesota around 2006. They most likely spread throughout North America as a result of the moving and transporting of potted plants, soil, compost, mulch and fishing bait.



A light-colored ring extends around the body of a jumping worm and is more prominent than in other earthworms. The rest of the body is brown and grey. These worms are about 4 to 5 inches long when mature. European night crawlers are about the same size but are pink and reddish.

Invasive species like the jumping worm can cause recreational, economic and ecological damage to lands and waters. Studies have found that non-native earthworms can dramatically change forest soils by eating the leaf litter layer, thereby impacting soil chemistry, soil organisms and

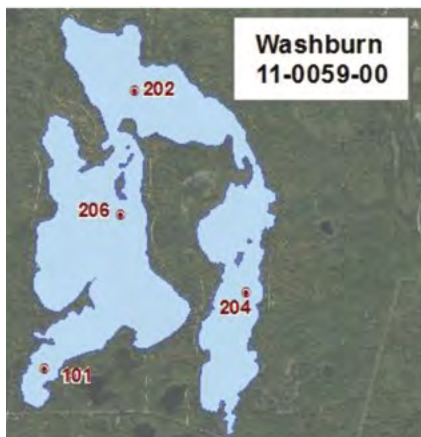
plant communities. When the soil changes in this way, the forest can't support the same plant and animal species it did before the worms arrived, and erosion may increase.

How you can help!

- Dispose of all unused bait worms in the trash, not into or near the water.
- Don't buy worms advertised as jumping worms, snake worms, Alabama jumpers or crazy worms for any purpose.
- Remove debris from boots, gear, pets and vehicles before leaving a recreation site to help inhibit spread.
- Don't move any material that might be harboring jumping worms.
- Be on the lookout for jumping worms in soil, potted landscape plants, mulch or compost. If you find one, take a picture and contact the DNR for further guidance. (see link below)

Information provided by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. For more information, go to www.dnr.state.mn.us and search for Jumping Worms

Water Quality Report



We have been using RMB Environmental Laboratories for water quality testing at Lake Washburn since 2005, and are currently monitoring four sites on the lake as seen on the map (to the left), to quantify the physical, chemical and biological conditions in our lake.

Washburn is considered to be a mesotrophic lake - one with moderate levels of nutrient enrichment - with the TSI mean at our monitoring sites scoring in the low 40s.

TSI numbers at all four sites on Washburn remain stable, with no statistically significant trends at this time, relating to the levels of phosphorus, chlorophyll-a, or Secchi depth. While these results are encouraging, it's important to understand that with vigilance, we can avoid any deterioration, and maintain - even improve - the water quality of Lake Washburn, by making conscientious decisions about how we use the land and the water.

Water quality can be evaluated by measuring the levels of phosphorus, chlorophyll-a, and Secchi depth (water transparency). Since these three numbers are measured differently using different units, it's difficult to compare them to one another. In order to be able to do so, we convert the numbers to a Trophic State Index (TSI). The overall TSI is the average TSI for phosphorus, chlorophyll-a, and Secchi depth. The three lake classifications are:

- Oligotrophic 0-40 TSI
- Mesotrophic 40-50 TSI
- Eutrophic above 50 TSI

If you are interested, an excellent one-page summary of the most recent water quality information about Lake Washburn, is available on the RMBEL website at rmbel.info.

The MN DNR has information about water quality on their website at www.dnr.state.mn.us - search Water Quality.

A third resource for online information is:
[1W1P at bwsr.state.mn.us/one-watershed-one-plan](http://1W1P.at/bwsr.state.mn.us/one-watershed-one-plan)

By Dave Snesrud

Pollinators are Key to Minnesota's Environmental Health



Without them, we wouldn't have some of our favorite foods. They are vital to a healthy environment. They're also beautiful and fascinating to watch. They're pollinators, and education is important to understanding, appreciating and helping them.

Bees, butterflies and hummingbirds are some of the pollinators we need to pollinate plants that provide Minnesota food crops such as fruits, vegetables and herbs. Some of these foods are important for wildlife, too. Black bears, for example, eat raspberries that are pollinated by bumble bees. Honeybees and native pollinators contribute millions of dollars to Minnesota's agricultural economy.

Pollinators play a critical role in keeping our environment healthy. They help maintain the health of the many plants

that stabilize the soil and prevent erosion. These plants also buffer waterways, store carbon, and provide habitat for other wildlife. Plus, flowering landscapes are beautiful. Without pollinators, our environment would look very different. "Pollinators are so important, not just to flowers but to our whole environment, and there are many simple things Minnesotans can do to help them thrive.

To Help Pollinators ...

- Plant a variety of flowers, especially those that are native to the area.
- Reduce pesticide use.
- Keep gardens blooming all season long; choose plants that provide pollen and nectar in the spring, summer and fall.
- Provide nesting sites by allowing dead branches and logs to remain, leaving bare earth for ground-nesting insects, or installing bee nesting blocks.
- Become a citizen scientist and help researchers collect data about pollinators and their habitat.
- Tell friends and family about pollinators and inspire them to take action.
- A list of pollinator resources is available on the MN DNR website.

Article courtesy of the Minnesota DNR
For more information go to: dnr.state.mn.us



Early ice-out likely means early walleye spawning. This, combined with a late fishing opener in Minnesota (5/15), means that the walleye should be well dispersed.

Updates

- **Northern Pike:** On Washburn and other area lakes, anglers can keep ten northern pike, but not more than two pike longer than 26 inches. Any pike from 22 to 26 inches must be released. As always, you are encouraged to keep and eat the small northern pike you catch! To see a video about how to fillet a northern pike go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=puGdrWNhV8A>
- **Sunfish:** This doesn't impact Washburn yet, but there are new limit restrictions on sunnies and crappies in nearly 100 Minnesota lakes. This new regulation is in place to help maintain a healthy, larger breeding stock. "Sunfish grow slowly. When anglers keep the largest sunfish, the remaining small males don't need to compete with larger males to spawn. Once the larger males are gone, the smaller males devote less energy to growing and instead, devote energy to spawning at younger ages." (MN DNR). Catching and releasing larger fish is a great way to improve the fishery of any lake.
- **Lead Tackle:** Due to the continuing poisoning of loons and other birds when they accidentally ingest lead, a bill is pending in our State Legislature that could ban the manufacture, sale and use of lead fishing jigs and sinkers in Minnesota. At some point, this legislation (Bill HF-157) is likely to become law, as Minnesota follows other states in banning this toxic material. Hearings on the bill are being held now, but results will not be available before we go to press. Check this site for updated information. www.house.leg.state.mn.us and search HF157 2021.

Consider buying lead-free tackle when replenishing your tackle box. Doing so now may save you from having a stockpile of lead tackle you can't use.

DNR Fishery News

- **Stocking:** The DNR expects to resume walleye egg harvesting and thus be able to stock frylings in the autumn. If frylings are not available, they'll try to stock fingerlings. Washburn is on the DNR's stocking plan for 2021.
- **Lake Plan:** The development of a plan for Washburn will be done in stages. The DNR plans to consolidate years of data based on netting and electrofishing that will include the results of gill netting here this year. This background work will occur this coming winter. A draft of a plan will be developed in 2022 and we'll be asked to provide input and feedback. A small group from our lake should participate in the process. The plan will be finalized, and then implemented in 2023. Until then, the DNR will try to follow the Washburn plan which expired several years ago.
- **Lake Study:** The DNR is preparing a study of the impact of zebra mussels on the walleye population. Sixty-five lakes, including Washburn and Thunder, will be included in the study. Lakes without zebra mussels will be compared to lakes with that invasive species. Washburn is one of the lakes that appears to be without zebra mussels at this time. This will be a long-term study over a 10-15 year period. At this point, nothing is expected of us, except to continue to actively prevent AIS from entering our lake.

Washburn in 2021

- Gill netting will be done later this summer, over a one week period likely beginning August 9; it will include 15 gill nets and 15 traps.
- Walleye stocking and electrofishing will occur in the fall.

By John N. Harris, DNR Liaison



Sport Fishes in Lake Washburn



Walleye



Northern Pike



Largemouth Bass



Smallmouth Bass



Black Crappie



Yellow Perch



Bluegill Sunfish



Pumpkinseed



Rock Bass (red eye)



Tullibee (cisco)



Black Bullhead



Yellow Bullhead



Bowfin (dogfish)



White Sucker



Sophie Muchow's Raccoon

When we were weekenders at the old Muchow Resort cabin we bought, we were regularly greeted by birds that buzzed and dove at us outside the front porch. We didn't understand why.

One day, I met up with one of these creatures outside our rickety old outhouse. At first, I assumed the piteous mewing I heard was a lost cat of a cabin owner up the road. He'd bought the old Muchow Resort lodge, installed an in-out cat-door and left two or three cats behind when he was absent from his rehabbing project.

"Here kitty, kitty, kitty," I called.

The branches parted and a medium-sized mewing raccoon rushed at me. I grabbed the outhouse door and jumped inside, but not fast enough. The raccoon jumped in, too, and grabbed one of my legs, still crying and climbing. The wind blew the door shut. I shook the raccoon off, yelled some unfriendly words and kicked the door back open, but the raccoon, determined to climb my leg, came at me again, this time grabbing onto my shoe.

The outhouse door blew shut again and I shook the animal off for a second time, and scrambled up onto the bench seat, tangling my hair and arms in cobwebs. I kicked the door back open and in the process, knocked both "lids" off the bench. For an instant, the uncovered holes seemed huge

and my fear changed to something worse than a bite from a raccoon! I shook the crying animal to the floor, jumped down and ran outside to the cabin, the raccoon loping after me.

It hung around crying for a few hours until I coaxed it back near the outhouse with a shred of bread. I didn't want to encounter its mother, but hoped she and the raccoon would find each other there.

The raccoon hung around the cabin for a few days, hiding in nearby brush, waiting for me to come outside. I tried to sneak to the outhouse to avoid its cries, and then some neighbor dogs discovered it and chased it down to the shoreline. After that, I didn't see it again.



Years later, Howard Dutton explained it. He said that one of his boys was doing some yard work when a bird flew into his hair and just wouldn't be brushed away, but kept trying to land on his shoulder.

"I think that bird - and others - had flown over here from Sophie Muchow's," said Howard.

He told us that Sophie regularly fed birds, not from feeders, but from her hands. She fed other animals too and those birds and animals became acclimated to the seeds and corn kernels she offered, and now with Sophie gone, the birds - and likely Sophie's raccoon - recognized me and other humans as a food source.

By Diane Dubay

Adopt-a-Buoy on Lake Washburn!



Adopt-a-Buoy is a new LWA volunteer opportunity for lake residents to assist in keeping an eye on one or more of the 30 or so buoys in Lake Washburn. These buoys help keep boats and boaters safe.

GPS coordinates of the buoy(s) that are adopted will be provided to the volunteers, as will GPS training if it's needed. Volunteers will be asked to monitor their buoy(s) at their convenience, and in many cases, we expect that will mean visually from the shore, or safely from a non-motorized boat.

While it's unlikely that buoys will move very much over the season, one buoy on Lake Washburn did end up about 100 feet from its original location last year. Clearly, monitoring is especially important after storms or high winds.

If a buoy shifts significantly, appears to be damaged, or disappears, the volunteer who

adopted the buoy will notify me, and after an evaluation of the situation, a determination will be made about returning the buoy(s) to their original location(s) or replacing the missing or damaged buoy(s).

Volunteers will not be moving buoys but will monitor their buoy(s) only for changes to buoy location, condition or absence.

Please consider becoming a volunteer for the Adopt-a-Buoy program - this could be a fun family effort that can help improve safety on our lake!

If this sounds like an activity you'd be interested in, please contact me for more details.

Teresa Reding - Program Coordinator
612-986-9431 or btreding@comcast.net

By Teresa Reding



Get to Know Minnesota Lakes & Rivers Advocates
Minnesota Lakes and Rivers is an advocacy group solely focused on protecting Minnesota's lakes and river heritage for current and

future generations, by forging powerful links between lakes, lake advocates and policy makers. The LWA is a supporter of MLR. Check out their website at mnlakesandrivers.org to learn more.

Some recent MLR articles prepared by Jeff Forester, Executive Director at MLR, may be of interest.

Full length articles, described below, can be found on the LWA Website using the following link:
lakewashburnmn.org/news

The One Watershed One Plan Process Presents a Remarkable Opportunity for Minnesota's Lake Associations

In a survey conducted by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, fifty-six percent of Minnesota lakes were listed as impaired. Most experts agree that aquatic systems are far more complex and difficult to restore than terrestrial environments. Some even believe that restoration is

impossible, and instead use words like rehabilitation and improvement. That's the grim news - now find out how you and the LWA can help!

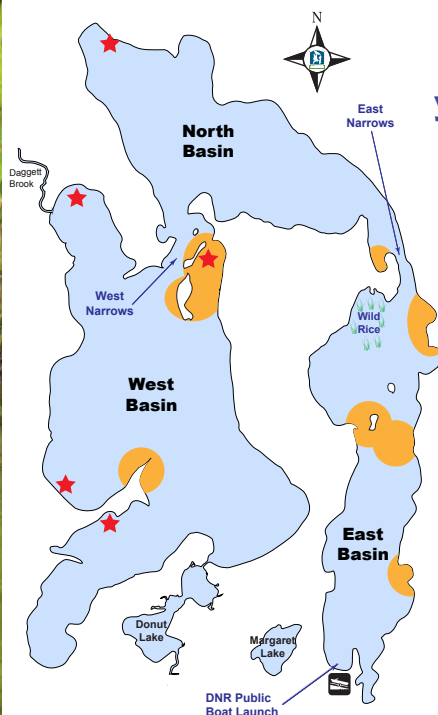
Wake Board Boats Exciting New Lake Based Sport AND Water Quality Threat

In the summer of 2020, MLR partnered with the University of Minnesota and other organizations, to complete a comprehensive study of the effects of both wake board boats and wake boarding, at the oldest fluid dynamics lab in the U.S - the St. Anthony Falls laboratory. Results are expected later this spring.

Water, Water Everywhere ... but not a drop to sell

Minnesota has incredible water resources, but recently there have been rumblings about whether Minnesota should recognize our state waters as a commodity and allow private companies to sell this resource on the open market. While it has not happened yet in Minnesota, this issue is not likely to go away. Last December, the nation's first water market launched on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, with over \$1 billion in contracts tied to water prices in California.

LAKE WASHBURN LOON NESTING LOCATIONS



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families around
Lake Washburn.**

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about the lake.**

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-  Loon Platform Locations

**Thank you to our 2021
Loon Platform Volunteers**



The Last Ride on the Hood



In the summer of 1951, my dad, Clyde Hegman, asked my sister and me if we'd like to accompany him into Emily. He needed to place a business phone call at the Emily Telephone Company, using that antiquated crank/bell ringing system run by a little old lady operator. We jumped into the 1950 Dodge sedan for the ride into town. Our cabin was on Peninsula Road. The road was very narrow with grass in the center, big trees close, and several curves. We had only a few neighbors: Washburn Lodge, which was owned by Martin Alexson, and Iowa Camp.

Arriving in Outing, Dad "filled 'er up" at Jim Olds' gas station, and then we'd visit Cliff Barridger, Outing postmaster. Cliff was a nice man who set aside new-issue sheets of three-cent stamps for me, a budding stamp collector, to purchase. The Outing Post Office must have been the smallest in all of Minnesota!

Driving the winding Highway 6, and passing "Old Outing," we finally arrived in Emily and the phone company, as I recollect was in a small wood house. We sat next to Dad as he finally got through to his office.

Now it was time to go back to the cabin! But not until we stopped at Emily Hardware where Dad ordered a couple more tanks of bottle gas from Bert Sturdivant. Finally, a stop at Emily Cafe for pop, doughnuts and pie!

The trip back to the cabin was uneventful until we had just turned off Highway 48 onto Peninsula Road. That narrow road might accommodate one and a half cars. My sister and I convinced our dad to let us ride on the front hood, hanging onto the Dodge ornament. As we were slowly passing Lake Margaret, out of nowhere appeared a large light-brown Russell's Ice Cream Truck, at a pretty high speed. They had just finished delivering at Washburn Lodge. Dad quickly swerved our car way off the narrow road. We kids leaped off the hood with not a scratch and the truck veered into the ditch, just avoiding going into the lake. The truck driver apologized for his speed as he finally got the vehicle backed out of the ditch. The rest of the way back to the cabin, the three of us realized that there would be no more riding on the hood of that old 1950 Dodge.

By Mark Hegman



The Lake Washburn Association
Needs Your Help!!!

If you are interested in working
on any LWA committees
or volunteering in any way,
We would love to hear from you

Please contact us by email or by
connecting with any of the
committee chairs listed in the newsletter.
lakewashburn.mn@gmail.com

The success of the LWA relies on people like you!
Thank You!

Around Washburn

Contributions by:

Brandt Family

Estvold Family

Glen Goodwin

Greg Hosch

Dan Laakso

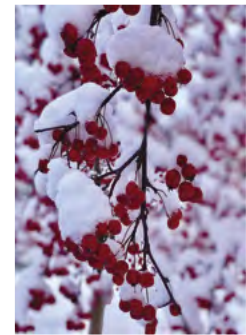
Vicki Lipstreuwer

Lisa McCloud

Rick Snyder

Tom Brinkman

Brian Wheeler



2020-2021

Remembering Friends



Mark and Jackie Hegman

Jackie Hegman passed on August 20, 2020 following a long battle with ovarian cancer. Mark Hegman passed on September 29, 2020 following a brief battle with leukemia. They are survived by daughter Jenny Higgins, son-in-law Mike, and grandsons Charlie, Cameron and Teddy.

The family cabin “up at the lake” on Peninsula Road was Mark and Jackie’s cherished happy place. Over the years, they enjoyed family time, canoeing, birdwatching, gardening, hiking, countless sunsets, ice cream runs to Owls-n-Things, and watching the wildlife during all seasons.

Mark’s parents, Elsie and Clyde Hegman, built their family cabin in 1950. Mark and his sister Nancy loved to spend time

there as youths, and Mark in particular loved to help his father harvest trees at their working Christmas Tree Farm on County Road 48 in Outing.

In later years, the Hegman’s loved having family visit, in particular their three grandsons who always kept things very lively. Mark’s birthday was on July 6, so an annual family gathering would always take place to celebrate both Mark’s birthday and the Fourth of July.

Mark and Jackie married in 1967. Mark was the president and owner of Minnesota Store Equipment, manufacturing walk-in freezers and coolers. They lived in Edina for 45 years. Both are greatly missed by their family.

Read more about Mark and Jackie here:

<https://www.startribune.com/obituaries/detail/0000370242/>

<https://www.startribune.com/obituaries/detail/0000365876/>

By Jenny Higgins



Howard Dutton

Howard Dutton was a man you couldn’t forget. His circle of hunting and fishing buddies, resort connections and church membership created a multitude of friends who could say, “I remember Howard Dutton.” He was a kind man, a storyteller. He seemed to have an eternal twinkle in his eye

and a smile, as he engaged you on his front step. His stories were history lessons of our lake.

Howard grew up in North Dakota, obtained a degree in Forestry from Colorado A&M and came back to this area to shape the history of Lake Washburn and Outing. He became part of the Fehr’s Resort family in August 1955, when he and Barbara Fehr were married. Barbara had grown up at the resort, and she and Howard managed the seven cabins after her father died. Fehr’s Resort was Howard and Barb’s home for 65 years.

In the 1950s, cabins at Fehr’s rented for \$30 a week. By the 1960s and 70s, there were 20 cabins, according to Art Downey’s 2014 interview with Howard for our history book. A foot path just a few feet from the water, ran in front of the cabins all the way to the resort. Everyone felt free to use that path to go for bait, and kids often played Ping Pong or read the comic books in the recreation room at Fehr’s. For a time, Fehr’s had the only telephone on the lake. If anyone had to make a call, this is where they went. If you received a call, it would be on hold until they found you!

Managing a resort and raising a family took different skills. Howard supplemented the family income by trapping, catching and selling minnows and night crawlers, selling gasoline, breeding and selling puppies, and developing a small trailer park where people could leave their trailers year-round. Howard also served as the local Fire Warden and local Township Assessor with Cass County, and was a former Foreman at the United Wild Rice Processing Company in Outing. He also worked for the U.S. Forest Service in Remer.

My last visit with Howard was on a warm, sun-filled autumn day. I carried a framed photo that I had taken of a quaint, stone-front business called Dutton’s Buttons in Ilkley, England, that I thought Howard would enjoy. We conversed about the lake, changing times, and the 2016 election. He offered counsel that not much changes in the woods from one year to the next. He didn’t think politics was a priority along the shores of Lake Washburn. Life was simple.

Fehr’s Resort remains a landmark on Lake Washburn. Many current lake residents will tell how they came to Lake Washburn because they first stayed at Fehr’s, either in a cabin or at the campground. After Barbara’s death in 2008, the cabins continued to be rented out seasonally and a returning community of folks has kept the resort alive.

Howard passed away at age 88 on December 26, 2020. He is and will remain part of the legend of Lake Washburn.

By Ellen Leger

2021 Calendar of Events

Lake Washburn

Surrounding Area

May 15	Adopt-a-Highway 48 Clean-Up
June 19	LWA Membership Meeting <i>Sorry, CANCELED</i>
July 3	4th of July Boat Parade
Aug. 14	LWA Membership Meeting
Sept. 4	Adopt-a-Highway 48 Clean-Up
Sept. 4	FLOATING ICE CREAM Social
TBD	Youth All Pike Fishing Challenge
	Stay tuned for more updates

June 12	CLT Clean-Up Drop Off
June 19	Over the Hills Gang ATV Pork-n-Ride
July 9-10	Remer Big Foot Days
July 3	Outing 4th of July Fireworks
July 7	Emily Day
July 13-14	Pequot Lakes Bean Hole Days
Aug. 12	Cass Cty Hazardous Waste Drop Off
Aug. 21	Lakers Lions Corn Feed



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TOTAL	=	\$ _____

WASHBURN WEAR CAPS AVAILABLE

LWA baseball caps are now available in an assortment of colors and styles. LWA baseball caps are now available in an assortment of colors and styles. Choose from black or tan cotton with a velcro adjustment, or navy washed chino twill with a brass sliding buckle adjustment. All feature an embroidered LWA logo.

The hats cost \$19 each and can be picked up in Outing. Free delivery can be arranged within the Outing/Remer area. Shipping is available using the U.S. Postal Service One Rate Packages, and will be an additional cost.

All proceeds from cap sales will be deposited into the LWA Ted Johnson Memorial AIS Fund.

Show your pride in the LWA with Washburn Wear, while helping the LWA protect our lake for generations to come.

Contact Vicki Lipstreuer at
goodwinltg@mac.com
to purchase your hat today.





Lake
Washburn
Association

2021 Membership

Annual Membership Dues and Donations

Annual Membership Dues: \$25

Please complete the entire form so we can keep our database current.

Mail forms to: LWA Membership, PO Box 26, Outing, MN 56662

Please double check the mailing label for your membership status.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

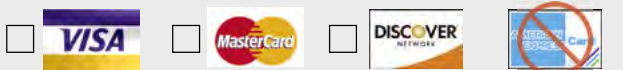
Lake Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Year you purchased property on Lake Washburn: _____

☐ I prefer to receive my newsletter by email instead of US Mail.

METHOD OF PAYMENT

☐ CREDIT CARD ☐ CASH/CHECK



ACCOUNT NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE CVV BILLING ZIP CODE

Signature: _____

☐ Add 3.5% to the total to help pay for the credit card processing fees.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

ALL contributions are tax-deductable

*General Fund (GF) Donations
are used for operational expenses,
Newsletter, Ice Cream Social,
Insurance and other expenses.*

Dues: \$ _____

General Fund: \$ _____

Ted Johnson
Memorial
AIS Fund: \$ _____

*Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)
donations are restricted for
AIS efforts only.*

Total: \$ _____

☐ **Sustaining Membership**

Bill my credit card every January for the total listed
above until I notify LWA in writing of a change.

I am interested in participating in the following areas: Check all that apply

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| ☐ Sheriff's Water Safety Patrol | ☐ County Road 48 Clean-up | ☐ Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention and Treatment |
| ☐ Board or Officer | ☐ Welcoming Committee | ☐ CL Township/AIS Committee |
| ☐ Committee Chair | ☐ Fishing Challenge | ☐ Water Quality Testing |
| ☐ Buoy Markers | ☐ Newsletter | ☐ Other _____ |

The LWA does not sell, trade, swap or in any other way use your data except for official LWA business.



Lake Washburn Association
PO Box 26
Outing, MN 56662

Forwarding Service Requested



Double Double

The impact of your membership!

**Make your membership donation go even further.
Ask your employer if they
have a matching donation program.**

LWA can provide proof of membership if requested.

www.lakewashburnmn.org

facebook.com/LakeWashburn2017

LWAgoodwin@icloud.com