

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Hello, my name is Tony Novak, president of Lake Lorraine Restoration & Protection Association, Inc. Short version is LLR&PA.

As you know, this year we received a lot of snow and rain. Our lake is up high and will probably continue to be high for a while. Richmond Township installed a culvert under Lake Lorraine Road to let some of the excess water go into the lower area across the road. To date the boat launch is still under water and there is no parking there. There is one house on the South side of the lake that has sand bags in front of their home. There is a no wake in that area to prevent any damage. When the lake recedes down far enough to where the boat landing parking is visible, the culvert will be blocked which will prevent the water from running out. Higher water helps the lake with weed control but we need to keep a balance.

Due to the high water, many bogs broke loose and you saw them floating around the lake. This becomes a safety issue and is very dangerous. The bog could hit a swimmer, boat, skier, jet ski, your dock etc. It could hurt someone and destroy property. We have been aggressively removing the bogs that are at risk and floating around. This is a very hard job to get done. You need heavy equipment, backhoe, tractors and trucks to remove these bogs. I want to thank our Vice-President, Bill Yoss (owner of Yoss Construction) for using his heavy equipment to get the job done. If we had to pay to remove the bogs it would cost more than what it cost for the weed control, which is approximately \$17,000 per year. We would not be able to afford it. Thank you Bill for your time, equipment and fuel that is needed to get this job done. Bill also allows us to spread all the weeds and bogs remains we take out of the lake on his 9 acres. In addition, Ken Maynard, his son-in-law Jason and I spent many hours using the equipment to remove the bogs. We also had many volunteers out there with their pontoon boats rounding up the bogs so they could be removed from the lake. **JOB WELL DONE BY ALL.** Unfortunately, there will be more bogs breaking away and they will have to be removed in the spring. There are approximately 5 bogs that floated around recently and now in front of our houses. We need volunteers' to get this done. Please contact me if you can volunteer.

Today, we have 2 different organizations for Lake Lorraine. One is called the "Skansin's Home Owners Association" (Lake Lorraine Park). Their main function is to keep their park along the shore line looking nice. Their park area is from the boat launch going East and is in front of the first 4 homes on the lake. Jeannie Yaunke is the president of "Skansin's Home Owners Association". "Skansin's Home Owners Association" posts some of our information on their bulletin board and news letters. They also permit us to set up our tent for the ice fishing derby on their park area and co- chair the Annual Picnic/Block Party. I want to thank Jeannie and their association for their help.

The second organization is called Lake Lorraine Restoration & Protection Association, Inc. LLR&PA devotes all of its time and money towards the weed control and keeping Lake Lorraine healthy.

We have a good group of people that live on and around Lake Lorraine. They organized meetings and are always trying to find a way to revive Lake Lorraine. They worked very hard getting things organized and to get the job done. This dedication is what helps make us successful today. It is important that we have everyone support our efforts with dues for membership, donations and donating their time to get the job done.

In February (2008), I along with Ken and Joyce Maynard, drove down to the WDNR office in Waukesha. We had a 3 hour meeting talking about Lake Lorraine and securing the permits for weed harvesting and chemical treatments. We will be going again in February to secure our permits for 2009.

We have been working very hard with the WDNR in trying to get Lake Lorraine back on track. Heidi Bunk and Brooke Robinson from the WDNR have been a tremendous help and asset to our organization. We have submitted a 5 year lake plan to the WDNR. This study costs \$25,830. We were able to get a grant of \$16,700 from the State of Wisconsin for this study. LLR&PA had to pay \$9,130. We have paid all the money we owed on this project and

now have our 5 year plan in place. We did our first mechanical harvesting in 2006. In 2007 & 2008 we did 2 mechanical harvesting and 2 chemical treatments. In the future we plan on doing all that we can to keep Lake Lorraine healthy.

It is only because all of us have come together to make this work. **OUR LAKE IS OUR ASSET.** Together we can work hard to keep Lake Lorraine a good lake to enjoy and have fun.

It takes a lot of work and money. We have made tremendous progress. This year we invested approx. \$17,000 into Lake Lorraine. **It has paid great dividends.** It is great to see the children on the lake screaming, laughing and having fun. The fishing has been great, the main reason I think is because the fish can see in-between the weeds.

We collect our money by Annual Dues and Donations. The annual dues are \$50. In addition we ask for \$250 from each person, (one owner donated \$500) who lives on the shore line, East of the boat launch all the way to and including Territorial Road. These are all volunteer donations and we have everyone except for 4 houses that pay the total of \$300. We also had one person west of the boat launch that donated \$300 for weed removal. We have many members that pay their annual dues and give additional money for the lake. 100% of all the money raised goes towards the weed control and maintenance of Lake Lorraine. It takes money to have nice things, **OUR LAKE IS OUR ASSET,** and if we want to enjoy the lake we all have to pitch in. The more money we raise, the better job we can do.

We have worked very hard the past 5 years organizing and putting programs together. Several people never thought we could do it. I am happy to say that they are now believers, pay their dues and are willing to help out anyway they can. It is amazing what can be done when we all work together. It is nice to see that more people are now active members and willing to get involved. Thanks to everyone for stepping up to the plate. We will only get better and stronger as time goes on.

OUR BOARD

I would like to thank our current board for all the time and effort they donated to Lake Lorraine.

Vice President- Bill Yoss

Secretary- Chris Chmielewski

Treasurer- Rick Pfleeger

Director- Jim Handler

Director- Jeff Lukas

Director- Neil Sawyer

In addition, there are many volunteers that help out throughout the year. We thank everyone for their work.

LLR&PA is also a member of the Walworth County Lake Association. There are meetings every 2 months and we receive a ton of help and knowledge for our organization. Anyone interested in attending these meeting or helping us out in any way, please let me know. As our organization grows we will need more active people helping out with all the things that need to done. Remember, this is our lake and we all have to pitch in. Let me know if you want to be on a committee and help out. In addition we all have skills and contacts that will help us out. Please get involved and let us know how you can help out.

OUR HERO'S

KEN MAYNARD

Ken Maynard took the time and effort to pass the test and became licensed for applying chemicals with the State of Wisconsin. Ken license is good for 3 more years and Ken applied 2 chemical treatments this year to Lake Lorraine. I know other lakes that have paid \$950 per acre to apply chemicals for weed control. Since Ken has the knowledge and license we only have to pay for the chemicals. This saves us about 2/3 the costs of having a private contractor apply the chemicals. Ken even paid for the cost of the license himself.

We treat about 9 ½ acres at a time. We treated our lake twice this year. This kills the weeds on contact from the shoreline out about 120 feet. A private contractor would have charged us approx. \$18,000. We bought the chemicals for \$7,000 and Ken applied for nothing. We saved \$11,000 by doing this in house with our own members. The chemicals that we used are approved by the WDNR. The chemicals do not harm humans, fish, birds and other animals. Signs are posted in the areas where the chemicals are used. These chemicals are very effective on killing weeds. Any new weed growth has to be treated at the next spraying. Joyce, Ken's wife, makes up the signs and posts them on the piers and shoreline. Thank you Ken and Joyce.

GREG WEDEL

Greg is a printer. When asked if he could get our ice fishing derby raffle tickets printed he stepped up to the plate. Greg asked his boss and was granted permission to print our tickets at no cost to LLR&PA. We want to thank **BADGER PRESS** for donating the raffle tickets. Greg prints 5,000 raffle tickets each year. If we sold all of them, 6 tickets for \$5, or 833 books for \$5 = \$4,165 in ticket sales. If each of us would just sell some extra books, we could sell all of them. **The tickets are available; all you have to do is ask for more.** Thank you Badger Press & Greg.

LORI MCGOWAN

Lori is always on the go helping out. Lori works hard at getting donations from different business for our raffles for the ice fishing derby and picnic. In addition, Lori was able to secure a \$1,000 grant from Wal-Mart. Thank you Lori.

JIM MCGOWAN

Jim is our official cook. Jim cooks our food for the ice fishing derby and picnic. Jim was a cook in the **US NAVY**. **Thank you Jim and all the men and women who served in the military. It is because of you, the people who served our country so proudly, allows the rest of us to be safe and free Americans. We live in the best country in the world. Thank you all for serving our country.**

JOE SOPER

Joe you are always available to help us out and we appreciate that. Joe and Randy Dreblow measure and weigh the fish for the ice fishing derby. In addition, Joe always sells the most ice fishing derby raffle tickets, usually more than \$500 per year. Joe collects the money from the donation box at the boat launch. Keep up the good work Joe.

GARY CHMIELEWSKI

Gary brings his entire music center to the picnic each year. Thank you Gary for being our SUPER DJ.

CAROL STANCZAK

Carol is a real estate broker for Shorewest Realtors. When we bring Carol a confirmed buyer or seller of a property, LLR&PA receives a check for \$300. Thank you Carol for your generosity. You can contact Carol at: office- 262-728-3418 ext. 1082 or her cell at: 262-215-0137

JOHN BRINKMAN

John collects water samples for Lake Lorraine and sends them to the lab for testing. All results are on record with the WDNR. Thank you John.

Thank you to everyone who has helped LLR&PA. There are so many, I just cannot name them all. If I forgot someone, please let me know. I will add your name in my next letter.

PONTOON PARTY

We had our 1st PONTOON PARTY on July 12, 2008. This was a huge success. We had 8 pontoon boats and 60 people attended. We tied up all the pontoon boats in the center of the lake. Each pontoon had food and drink on board. We were able to walk from one pontoon boat to the other. We jumped in the water to cool off. This is a great way to see and make new friends. Our 2nd PONTOON PARTY is scheduled for July 25, 2009. Don't worry, if you do not have a pontoon boat, let us know. I think there are enough pontoons where we can accommodate everyone. More information will be available later. Thank you Dorothy Camodeca for chairing this event.

ANNUAL PICNIC/BLOCK PARTY

We had our annual picnic/ block party again this year on August 23, 2008. This was a huge success again this year. We had food, drinks, games, bingo, 50/50 raffle and much more. Everyone had a good time. Our next picnic will be on August 22, 2009. More information will be available later. Thank you to Chris & Gary Chmielewski and Joan Novak for chairing this event. A huge thank you to Marcia & Julius Schwarzingger III who donated the stainless steel and made our new grill. It is 30 inches by 60 inches and you can rent it for your next party for \$35. Call to reserve your date.

NEW MEMBERSHIP

If you have not joined LLR&PA this year, please do so today. See Chris or myself for a membership form. Remember, **OUR LAKE IS OUR ASSET**. We all have to pitch in to keep Lake Lorraine looking good and healthy.

ICE FISHING DERBY

January 17, 2009 is our ice fishing derby. Alternate date is February 7, 2009 **This is our main fund raiser**. We need everyone to show up and donate to the cause. It is a fun day fishing, enjoying the food and raffles. You meet many people and make new friends. Please mark your calendars and bring your family and friends.

We do collect donations from restaurants and businesses. If you have a favorite place that you go to, please see if you can get a donation from the manager. This can be in the form of a gift certificate or item and the donation is tax deductible. Once you have the commitment from the business, please contact myself so we can track the donations. Many nice items are won during our raffles. A list of businesses that donate each year is listed in our News Letter. If you know of a business that is not listed, please see if they would be willing to donate.

CANADIAN GEESE

Canadian geese have been a big problem with all the lakes in Wisconsin. They leave a big mess on land and in the water. Many times beaches have to be closed because of the e-coli that are present from their feces. This has been a big safety concern for everyone. Turtle Lake and Wandawega Lake have oiled their geese eggs the past several years with great success. We do not want to get rid of all the geese, we just want to help control their population. Oiling the eggs is very humane and effective. We oiled the eggs on Lake Lorraine in 2008 and were very successful in controlling the population. We will secure our permit again and oil the eggs again in 2009. Lake Como will be oiling eggs for the first time in 2009.

ANNUAL MEETING

Our next annual meeting will be on April 18, 2009 at 9 A.M. at the Richmond Town Hall.

In closing, I would like to thank my family for all of their help and support. I devote much of my time (**PROUDLY**) to LLR&PA. My family understands that it requires a lot of time to keep things working well and on track. The entire LLR&PA board will continue to work hard for this worthy cause. However, we need you to be part of the solution. Your donations, dedication and hard work will keep LLR&PA strong. If you have a special talent, willing to put in your time on projects or any suggestions, please let us know. We have built a very strong team but there is always room for improvement.

Sincerely,

Tony Novak, President

You can contact me at: IL phone: 708-447-8087 Cell: 708-822-7762 WI most weekends: 608-883-6608

