

# ROUND THE LAKE



May 2000

Round Lake Property Owners Association, Inc.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Gerry Keech

The RLPOA was incorporated on November 1, 1963 and I have been a member, director, and president since 1996. Over the years the officers of the RLPOA, as a volunteer organization, have tried to serve the membership and the property owners to the best of their ability.

There are presently eight committees with a director overseeing each committee. The **FISH** Committee has installed 135 fish cribs and planted 4100 Walleyes and 500 Trout in the lake. **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH** has established 35 Neighborhood Watches. The **SOCIAL** Committee sets-up the Fall Dinner. **GOVERNMENTAL AWARENESS** keeps abreast of proposed activities of Hayward and Round Lake Townships and Sawyer County which affect the Lake, by attending their meetings. **MEMBERSHIP** maintains membership records and mailing lists. The newly formed **COMMUNICATIONS** Committee edits and publishes the newsletter twice each Summer and is developing a brochure describing RLPOA's purposes and functions. The **WATER SAFETY** Committee installs and removes the navigational buoys and coordinates with the DNR and Sheriff's Department to patrol the Lake. The **WATER QUALITY** Committee has requested property owners **NOT** to fertilize or rake leaves into the Lake and was instrumental in getting Sawyer County Zoning and Sanitation to inspect **ALL** the septic systems on the Round Lake shoreline and to assure correction of faulty systems. The **WATER QUALITY** Committee has coordinated inspection and treatment of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) infestation since 1991. EWM was discovered in '97, '98, and in '99 at or near the boat ramp at The Round Lake Marina and it was thought to be isolated to that area. Last Fall a large area of infestation was found in Leder Bay. This is discussed in more detail under the next section - **WATER QUALITY**.

## ROUND LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSN.

P.O. BOX 1070, HAYWARD WI 54843

### OFFICERS

President	Gerry Keech	462-3904
Vice President	Cliff Stoner	634-4908
Secretary	Marge Shifflet	462-9272
Treasurer	Kurt Kretschmer	634-2524

### COMMITTEES/BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Communications	Charlie Klotz	462-4022
Fish	Al Reinemann	462-3272
Governmental Awareness	Cliff Stoner	634-4908
Membership	Marge Shifflet	462-9272
Neighborhood Watch	Kurt Kretschmer	634-2524
Social	Gerry Keech	462-3904
Water Quality	Loren Nickley	634-6124
Water Safety	Bob Strachota	634-5748
Director at Large	Arvid Tveit	462-9691

## WATER QUALITY

Lorin Nickley

The collection of data from Round Lake for the water quality study was completed by late autumn 1999, and after laboratory work and analyses were performed throughout the winter months, the results were compiled and analyzed by Dan Tyrolt, Brett McConnell and Kristine Giese at the LCO Conservation Department who will attend the RLPOA membership meeting on **June 3**, to explain the study and answer your questions

### The Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) Problem

By now many of you have learned about the large bed of EWM discovered by Mark Helm on October 28, while removing a dock at the Luse property on Leder Bay. Jim Bartlett (Lake Management, Inc.) was notified and arrived on November 6 to confirm the identification. After several telephone conversations with DNR Aquatic Biologist Frank Koshere a permit was issued to Jim authorizing treatment of the problem. There was concern about a successful chemical treatment of the EWM because of the approaching cold weather. However, because of the mild temperature at the time (upper 60s to low 70s) and the size of the EWM mass, estimated to cover approximately nine acres, Frank felt it wise to proceed with treatment but he recognized that a second application of chemicals would be required in the Spring. Jim arrived on November 13 to apply the treatment. The weather was very mild (60s) and the bay calm. The cost paid for by RLPOA was slightly over \$3000

Many of you know that our grant applications to the DNR for State funding of EWM inspections have been rejected for the last several years. We have been informed that there is no DNR program for funding treatment of the EWM. We've also been advised that eradication should no longer be considered an attainable goal in treating EWM. Rather we need to seek ways to manage and control its growth. EWM is now prevalent in rivers, streams, and lakes throughout the U.S. and Canada. Because our deeper, larger areas of Round Lake do not easily support plant life, we are more fortunate than many other lake-side dwellers in this region; however EWM is now with us and we need to do everything possible to control it. This could be a very costly experience but the alternative is not pleasant either.

Frank Koshere of DNR will attend our membership meeting on **June 3** to discuss the EWM problem and answer your questions.

## GOVERNMENTAL AWARENESS

*Cliff Stoner*

Several meetings of the Town Boards of Round Lake and Hayward were attended by committee members and volunteers. No action appears to have been taken that is adverse to the best interests of the owners of property on Round Lake. Pro-longed discussions were held on various subjects affecting zoning, road-way openings, building set-backs and sale of Town owned parcels on the lake, but no known detrimental decisions were made.

### The Proposed Docking Facility

Notice of the Pine Cove Condo pier installation application was made known to the Board of the RLPOA. The application is for the construction of

“ a finger pier with moorings for eleven pontoon boats. The proposed pier would extend out into the water 102 feet to the four foot water depth contour. “

(The location of the proposed pier is on the Southwest shoreline of Fishermen's Bay, West of the new single-family condos which are located at the intersection of Pearson and South shore Roads.)

The Board adopted a resolution to request a public hearing on the proposed project and formal requests for a hearing have been filed. Several lakeshore owners have also requested a hearing, and some have expressed strenuous objection to the size and placement of the proposed pier. Any successful opposition to the application will need to be supported by competent evidence in the form of expert testimony and exhibits at the public hearing, if the DNR, grants the request for a public hearing.

**Anyone wishing to oppose the application and who has competent and relevant information should contact the writer of this article by letter or FAX as soon as possible.**

The information should consist of names of experts capable and willing to testify concerning the detrimental effect (if any) that would result from the installation of the pier as proposed. Current and historical data and records relating to spawning grounds and aquatic life, sediment suspension, aquatic plants and fauna, water depth, fish cribs, boat traffic, and similar matters both in the immediate area of the proposed location and the lake in general will be extremely valuable. Such information may be sent to me and it can then be made available in determining what position the Association is to take.

The applicable statute and regulatory provisions require that any proposed pier must not constitute impairment to navigation, and must not be detrimental to the public interest in navigable waters. Additionally, the local town and county ordinances requirements are supposed to be met.

I encourage all persons interested in maintaining the quality of the environment of Round Lake to provide as much assistance

as possible in providing valid information to the hearing officer. All interested persons should also plan to attend the hearing(s), and any preparatory meetings that are scheduled. Please share with Association, its members, and your neighbors, any notices or awareness of meetings or hearings being scheduled concerning this application.

**JUST BEFORE PRESS TIME FOR THE NEWSLETTER, NOTICE WAS RECEIVED THAT THE APPLICATION FOR THE 102 FOOT LONG PIER HAD BEEN WITHDRAWN. A SIMILAR APPLICATION CAN BE EXPECTED AND THEREFORE YOUR INPUT IS STILL NEEDED.**

## SEPTIC SYSTEMS

*Marge Shifflet and Lorin Nickley*

The second phase of the Round Lake Septic System Survey was started on August 2, 1999 and was completed before the end of the year. Systems were tested on the North shore of Filter Bay, continuing East, North and on the West shore of Round Lake, including Peninsula Road and ending on Preston Road. A total of 306 systems on 302 parcels of property were inspected with the following results:

273 systems passed  
32 systems failed  
1 inconclusive (couldn't gain access to property)

The final results of the entire Round Lake Septic System Survey are:

582 systems inspected  
483 systems passed  
94 systems failed  
2 owners require legal counsel  
3 inconclusive (couldn't gain access to the property)

The overall failure rate of total systems is 16%. This represents a substantial quantity of raw sewage going into the ground water table which eventually enters the lake. A rough estimate would be (94 homes x 50 gallons/day x 365 days/yr) 1.7 million gallons per year. That's a lot of pollution.

The above statistics were compiled by Jerry Gawlick, who works under the direction of Mert Maki, Sawyer County Sanitarian. Mert will attend our meeting on **June 3** to provide details about the survey and answer your questions.

Thank you all for your cooperation in making this informative survey possible.

## WATER SAFETY

*Bob Strachota*

### NAUTICAL RULES OF THE ROAD

This is a review of nautical rules and common misunderstandings. As the skipper of your boat you are expected to follow specific nautical traffic laws as you cruise Round Lake.

When passing a boat going in the same direction, you must steer clear of the slower boat because it has the right-of-way. It must hold course and speed for your passing to go smoothly. You can pass on the right or left, but you are to keep clear of it and be mindful of the effect of your wake on the slower boat.

Sailboats have the right-of-way over powerboats so keep clear of them. However, the sailboat must actually be sailing at the time. If the sailboat has its engine on (sails up or down), then it is legally a powerboat and must follow the powerboat right-of-way rules. A quirky situation arises when a fast sailboat is overtaking a slow powerboat. The overtaking boat, whether under sail or power, must keep clear of the slower one.

Who has the right-of-way when two boats are on intersecting or crossing courses? A crossing situation occurs when you and another boat are approaching an intersection; that is your courses are going to cross at something close to 90 degrees. On land a car to your right would have the right-of-way. When you approach a nautical intersection, you must yield to the boat on the right and let it pass ahead of you, but the other boat is required to hold course and speed. Crossing courses do not usually occur at strict 90-degree angles, but you are still expected to give the boat on the right the right-of-way, whether it is approaching you from nearly dead ahead, or as much as a little aft of your starboard beam.

When your boat and another boat are heading towards each other (bow-to-bow), each of you is required to bear to your right unless you are so far to the left of the other boat that you would already pass well clear of each other without making a change to the right.

When you begin to feel uncomfortable about the closeness and speed of the approaching boat, whose captain may not know the nautical traffic rules, it is best to be safe and slow down while turning slightly to the right. Know when you have the right-of-way but be ready at all times to take any reasonable evasive maneuver that may be required to avoid a close call or collision.

Wisconsin law requires one wearable U.S.C.G. approved personal flotation device (PFD) on your boat for each person and it must be of the appropriate size. Any of the following PFDs are permissible to have on board:

1. Offshore Life Jacket (Type 1 PFD)
2. Near Shore Buoyant Vest (Type 2 PFD)
3. Flotation Aid (Type 3 PFD)

In addition to life jacket requirements, operators of boats 16 feet or longer (except canoes and kayaks) must have a throwable PFD on board, immediately available to someone on deck.

Here's to a safe boating season!

## FISH STATUS

*Alan Reinemann*

The local 1999/2000 fishing season came to an end this Spring with a Perch Catching Contest in March on Richardson's Bay, sponsored by Famous Dave's – Grand Pines Resorts.

This was the first perch contest on the lake and about 125 people competed for cash and prizes. Yours truly was one of the lucky contestants. It was a beautiful day and a fine time was had by all participants. The profits were donated by Famous Dave's to RLPOA to assist in EWM control efforts.

This year's early ice out, April 2, promises time for the waters to warm-up faster than normal. An earlier spawn should result in improved conditions for good natural reproduction of the fish. I can't remember a time when the ice was off the lake this early. If weather conditions continue along these lines we should experience a super opening of the fishing season.

Enjoy yourself out on the water; good luck; good fishing.

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

*Kurt Kretchmer*

In 1999 ten additional signs were purchased and distributed to areas identified as needing them. As of this time we believe that all roads have been posted - a total of 35 signs. The signs are posted on or near the entrance to public roads; not at private driveways. Our supply of signs has been depleted and no additional signs will be ordered unless there is a public road that has not been posted.

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

*Gerry Keech*

The RLPOA social event will be the Fall Dinner to be held on Saturday September 20 at **The Fireside** on Highway K. The Social hour will start at 5:30 p.m. and Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Details on menu and cost will be provided later in the Fall Newsletter. Mark your calendar **now** and save the date. Let's have a good turn-out.

There will be a **Round Lake Eurasian Milfoil Control Fund Benefit dinner** to be held at Famous Dave's at a date this season that is yet to be determined. Dave will provide the food at his cost and the proceeds will go to the Fund.

## MEMBERSHIP

*Marge Shifflet with Arvid Tveit*

The good news is that RLPOA has 242 families who were members of the association this past year. Even better is the fact that 36 families paid their dues ahead for this year – 2000. Four families paid for the year 2001 and one family paid up to the year 2002. Your association appreciates this kind of interest and enthusiasm. The more multiple year memberships that there are allows for longer range program planning and implementation. There is a potential market of over 500 memberships and we would like to approach that goal. One of the strategies to increase membership is the broad dissemination of information of interest to Round Lake property owners, members or not. Currently we distribute about 650 copies of our newsletter. If your friends and neighbors are not members encourage them to join RLPOA and participate in our meetings and activities.

Many hours have been spent in updating the mailing addresses as we attempt to make them as accurate as possible so that all property owners and friends might receive our information. In most cases, newsletters are sent to your primary mailing addresses. They are sent with first class postage so that they are forwarded to your summer address if you so desire.

The mailing label on this newsletter will show, according to our records, your current status on payment of dues. The indicator is at the right end of the addressee line. If the label shows 1999 you were paid through the last calendar year. If it shows 2000 you are current with your dues for this year. If there is no number, your last dues paying year was 1997 or before. If your records are not in agreement with ours, please call Marge Shifflet at 462-9272 and help us to make the necessary corrections.

Our Association exists to protect our lake and its habitat so that we can all enjoy its beauty now as well as perpetuating it for future generations. It is up to us, the property owners, to be the watchdogs for our lake's water quality, boating and swimming safety, and fish and wildlife habitat.

What can you do to help keep Round Lake clean and well governed? First of all, be a good steward of your own property and in the use of Round Lake. Second, join the Association and maintain your membership from year to year. Programs cost money and dues are only \$20 per year and funds are carefully spent. Finally, be involved with the Association by attending meetings, keeping informed and participating where you can. There is a lot to do and we need your help!

Please use the tear-off form on the last page of this newsletter to update your address(s) and become current with your dues. Either send it by U.S. Mail or bring it to the June 3 meeting and we will process it there.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

*Kurt Kreschmer*

A complete financial report will be available at the June 3 meeting. The checkbook balance as of 2/23/2000 was \$6735.76 With all expenses to that date paid.

Since the cost of the EWM control activity is expected to be substantial from this point and on, a **separate sub-account is being established** to track the expenditures and income relative to this activity. EWM control costs since the discovery of the Leder Bay growth are as follows:

Expenditures:	- \$3815.80
Lake Mgt. EWM Insp.	\$700.00
Lake Mgt. EWM Treat.	\$3115.80

This has been offset in part by the following donations:

Income:	\$1600.00
Donation-David Willer	\$100.00
Donation- Famous Dave's	\$500.00
Donation- Famous Dave's -Perch Fish Contest	\$1000.00

For the EWM Control Account this nets out to: (- \$2215.8)

With the expected outlay of \$8000 for the next EWM treatment, our treasury may be depleted of funds. **New sources of funding are needed now! We need your suggestions!**

## COMMUNICATIONS

*Charlie Klotz*

The key to any successful organization is the effective two way communications between the members and officers of that organization. Each must be aware of the goals and aspirations of

the other. With the RLPOA, plans and programs are communicated at membership meetings and through the newsletter and other written communications. It is extremely important that the members show their support for these activities and even suggest new courses of action and other ideas at the membership meetings. **Let's keep RLPOA relevant!**