



Photo: Tom Moser

A Message from Your President

Greetings Diamond Lakers and especially to those who are new residents on the best lake in Wisconsin. Although it has been a very wet spring (shades of last year), I trust that you are looking forward to another wonderful summer on the lake. We, who wintered over, actually survived the Polar Vortex which hit this area with a vengeance. It kind of reminded me of the weather at South Pole. However, that's the beauty of having four seasons; about the time you are tired of one, the next one is just around the corner.

As usual, spring brings with it the emergence of all kinds of critters, not the least of which is our furry friend the black bear. By the time you read this you may have put out your bird feeders and perhaps forgotten to take them in at night. If so, there is a good chance that Mr. Bear gave you a visit in the night and helped our economy out by requiring you to purchase a brand new bird feeder. Won't make that mistake again – at least not this year.

Your Board of Directors met on May 25th and planned both the Annual Boat Parade

and the Annual Diamond Lakers meeting. Be sure to reserve the late afternoon of July 20th (always the 3rd Saturday of July) for this event. Details on both events later on in this newsletter.



BEARLY WELCOME: Monica and Ed Wallen had a bear stop by this spring whether they liked it or not. Photo: Wallen

I attended the Grand View Town Board meeting last month and learned that they

are considering redoing the paved portion of North Diamond Lake Road (see story below). Also, the Forest Service/DNR is discussing replacing the culvert at the boat landing. I was told that the new culvert, if approved, will be skewed at an angle under the roadway in order to improve its function.

Speaking of wet weather, you will note that our lake is very high once again and we respectfully request that you operate your motorized craft so as not to create an excessive wake, especially near the shoreline. Even large wakes created out in the middle of the lake eventually make their way to shore and can cause severe damage during high water conditions. We will be posting a sign at the landing reminding boaters of this condition. Thanks you for your cooperation in this matter once again.

Mary and I will be gone the entire month of June but will be back in time for the boat parade and Annual meeting. Until we see you then, have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Frosty Palmer

Welcome to Diamond Lake

We are pleased to welcome two new families to the Diamond Lakers Association who arrived here late in the fall or early spring and were eager to join our association. Jim Biesecker and Maureen Chapin and Dave and Trina James came to Diamond Lake as the result of recent home sales. If you see a new face in the neighborhood, please introduce yourself and welcome them. Short bio sketches from each of them are just below.

Jim Biesecker and Maureen Chapin

Jim and Maureen relocated to DL from their home on the Kinnickinnic River in River Falls, WI. Maureen's father lives in

Barnes, WI, so they enjoy living nearer to him. They are both 3M Company retirees. Two adult children and 4 grandchildren keep them thoroughly entertained. When they are not at the cabin, you'd likely find them at their beach house on Cape San Blas, Florida.

Dave and Trina James

Dave, Trina, Clara and Lyla (and Tucker the Australian Labradoodle) are super excited to start making memories on Diamond Lake and in Wisconsin's great Northwoods. Dave says, "During the week we live in Stevens Point, Wisconsin where Trina works for UW-Stevens Point and Dave practices law with Anderson O'Brien. The girls are both in elementary school but growing up fast! We hope to spend lots of long weekends enjoying Diamond Lake and the nearby skiing and biking trails. Clara and Lyla are most exciting about spending time on and in the water. Trina has already started enjoying the screened in porch and Dave is keeping busy around the property – making plans to plant more trees in between fishing and biking."

Report on Our Automated AIS Monitoring System

As most lake residents likely know, we installed an automated camera system at the boat launch last summer as part of an effort to help prevent the introduction of aquatic invasive species (AIS) into the lake.

Our efforts followed news that Aquatic Asian (or hybrid) Milfoil was found in Lake Namakagon. Introduced near the Lakewoods landing, it spread to at least one other known location near the lake outlet. In the summers of 2017 and 2018 the bay near the Lakewoods was treated with a potent herbicide in an attempt to control the outbreak.

According to biologists at the DNR, once introduced, invasive Milfoil can never be totally eradicated and Lake Namakagon will need to be treated periodically, perhaps forever.

Our camera system at the boat launch operated continuously from the first week in August until Frosty and I took it down for the winter in mid-October. It successfully recorded hundreds of videos, fortunately none in which vegetation was hanging from trailers or boats. More importantly, the audio recordings alerted lake users to check for hitchhiking vegetation and notified them that the launch was being monitored. Frosty and I reinstalled the system in mid-May this year, and it is up and recording again.

Our experience during the first year has brought to light two problems, both resulting from the fact that our system is not fully automated (I download the videos to a laptop every few days). The first is that we are getting way too many false triggers, videos that are initiated by passing car shadows or wind in the trees, sometimes more than a hundred in just 2 or 3 days.

Downloading and viewing these video files has taken sometimes more than 6 hours a week, far too much time. We have a magnetic sensor that will eliminate many of the false events, but it requires an internet connection to operate correctly. The second issue is that the video time stamps are not precise because the system clock needs to be reset each day from an internet connection.

We have investigated upgrading our system to operate similarly to others of its kind at nearby lakes with an uplink to a cell tower and a connection to the internet. This will also allow us to download and review the videos remotely. There is an

annual cost associated with this upgrade of a bit over \$1000, too much to fund from our dues.

The Board discussed this issue at its meeting this spring and the sense was unanimous that a properly operating system is critical to the continued health of the lake. The Board decided to move forward with upgrading the system and to seek ways to fund it, either with help from the Grand View Town Board or contributions from the membership. The Board welcomes your input and ideas about funding possibilities and the issue will be on the agenda at the annual meeting.

Bob Jacobel, D.L. Treasurer



SERIOUSLY?? The Cable, Grand View area was hit by a late season snowfall May 19. Ed Wallen enjoyed a final cross country ski.

It's Time to Renew DL Membership for 2019

Membership in the Diamond Lake Association currently stands at 54, an all-

time high. We have already been joined by two new residents to the lake this year (see accompanying story) so I am hopeful that we may grow by a few more this year. Our membership currently stands above 80%, a very impressive number I'm told by other associations, and I am hopeful we can add a few more.

Dues this year are again **\$30 per cabin per year**. I have explored methods for electronic payment for those of you with that feature on your cell phones, but our bank has said it's difficult to track (by name) the source of these many identical payments. So rather than have us make an error, we would ask that you pay by old fashioned check and US Mail, as in years past. Please make checks **payable to Diamond Lakers** and send to Bob Jacobel at **PO Box 543 Cable, WI**. There is a form below that you can use if you wish. Thanks! -R.J.



Tom & Jeanne Kracker and family, from 2017. Make your plans for this year's regatta, Friday evening, July 5th starting at 4 PM.

Fourth of July Boat Parade on Friday the 5th this year!

The Diamond Lake Annual Boat Parade will begin at 4pm on July 5th in the usual place near the middle of the lake. Boats may be decorated in any theme, and there will be only one grand prize trophy this year for best all-around decorations. All

are invited to enjoy dinner immediately following the parade at Juels and Sally Carlson's home at 47400 N Diamond Lake Road. Please bring a side or a dessert to go with Old Southern BBQ. Water, lemonade and soda will be available but if you want something more interesting, feel free to bring it along! **RSVP to Sarah Stivland** if you plan to join us for dinner at 651-366-7788 so we know how much BBQ to order.

2019 Annual Meeting

The DL Annual meeting this year will be held on Saturday, July 20 at 4 PM at the home of Ed and Monica Wallen, 20165 North Diamond Lake Rd. Our invited speaker this year is Angelena Sikonra from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Angelena is the Natural Resources Operations Supervisor at the Thompson Fish Hatchery in Spooner and she will talk about fish stocking in local lakes.

Back by popular demand, dinner will be a Wisconsin fish boil and everyone is asked to bring an item to share for hors d'oeuvres or a desert. Ed promises to share his stock of excellent beer, and soft drinks will be provided. If you would like wine or other beverages, please feel free to bring them. There is no charge to attend but **PLEASE RSVP BY JULY 3rd (see below)** so we can have an accurate head count. Also, please bring your own plates and silverware. A form is provided below that can be used to RSVP and also to pay annual dues.

Board Positions Opening

There are four positions on the Diamond Lake Board up for renewal this year, two At Large members, the Treasurer and the Vice President. A nominating committee is seeking volunteers to stand for election at the annual meeting.

If you would like to be nominated for any of these positions, please contact the nominating committee c/o Michelle Veillette (floatingdandelions@yahoo.com). All Board and officer positions renew every two years.

Chip Seal on North DL Road

The Grand View town board will address a proposal to upgrade the asphalt surface of North Diamond Lake Drive at their next board meeting. The proposal will consider processes to be used, including milling the present surface, laying a chip surface and topping with asphalt. Town chairman Jack Iverson said if the proposal passes, a date for the work will be set at the meeting. He doesn't think the road will need to be completely closed during a redo. The meeting will be held June 12 at 7 p.m. at the Firehall located on Pioneer Road where it joins County Trunk D. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Aquatic Invasive Species

from DL Board Member Raye Lahti

As reported above, our Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Monitoring System is up and running again this year, and many lake residents are already aware of the serious implications of AIS. Eurasian water milfoil, zebra mussels and sea lampreys are three widely recognized nonnative aquatic invaders. These and other Aquatic Invasive Species have demonstrated the ability to choke Wisconsin lakes and decimate fish populations.

The Wisconsin State Legislature Administrative Code NR 40.02 (3m) defines aquatic invasive species as: *"Aquatic invasive species' means any invasive species that dwells in water or in wetlands."* AIS have the potential for far-reaching negative impacts on recreational and

economic resources of Bayfield County and Diamond Lake.

At least two decades ago, the County understood AIS to be an adversary that needed serious attention. AIS is not just an isolated local problem, the mechanism for them to transfer from one water body to another is people and their activities. The Diamond Lake Association, among others in our region, has demonstrated our concern with our AIS Monitoring System and our commitment to education about the problem.

We are fortunate to have only 3 reported and verified AIS here in Diamond Lake. Below is a link for each of these, including:

- **Banded Mystery Snail**
<https://www.seagrant.wisc.edu/our-work/focus-areas/ais/invasive-species/invasive-species-fact-sheets/mollusks/banded-mystery-snail/>
- **Chinese Mystery Snail**
<https://www.jakevzlab.net/chinese-mystery-snail.html>
- **Rainbow Smelt**
<https://www.seagrant.wisc.edu/our-work/focus-areas/ais/invasive-species/invasive-species-fact-sheets/fish/rainbow-smelt/>

Beyond AIS, terrestrial invasives come in many forms including plants, animals, insects, fungi and diseases. They affect the health of our forests, prairies, parks, urban landscapes and more. When these landscapes are unhealthy, all the benefits they provide to us are at risk. The good news is, each one of us can make a difference.

For additional information on AIS of concern in our state as well as terrestrial invasive species found in Wisconsin, we provide the following links for your further interest.

Aquatic Invasive Species - Bayfield County

<https://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/invasives/AISByWaterbody.aspx?location=4>

Invasive species – Wisconsin DNR (Aquatic and Terrestrial)

<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/invasives/>

You may also contact:

Andy Teal, Bayfield County [Land & Water Conservation](#) AIS Coordinator

Phone: 715-373-6167

ateal@bayfieldcounty.org

Jeremy Bates, Water Resources Mgt. Spec. Wisconsin DNR, Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Sawyer, Washburn, Iron, Vilas counties.

Phone: 715-392-0807

Jeremy.Bates@wisconsin.gov

Ice out 2019

From DL Board Member Dianne Klump

Diamond Lake shed its ice coat, for the most part, April 25. Over the following week the north end of the lake hosted nine pairs of wood ducks, three pairs of common mergansers, several pairs of hooded mergansers, a pair of mallards, and a pair of geese. It appears some of each are nesting on our lake's north shore. If you are looking for wood ducks, scan the trees, i.e. their name. Agreed, there is something odd about finding a duck in a tree.

As a bonus, a pair of trumpeter swans spent a night and morning on Diamond Lake in mid-May. In fact, three swans landed on the ice early in April. True, swans pretty much look alike, but trumpeters make sure you recognize their voice. The first hummingbird came to our feeder May 11. A group of turkeys hung out nearby all winter long.

Looney Tunes and an Eagle Eye

Audrey and Larry Sanderson report the loon pair that traditionally have nested near their cabin in the bay at the north end of the lake, started incubating two eggs the weekend of the last snow storm, May 19th. Estimated incubation time is 28 days. Last year lake residents Scott Burns and Stan Meschievitz “remodeled” the loon nest under-platform to give it a bit more freeboard. The island made it through the winter in good shape in its original location and we are hopeful of good results later in June.

An eagle was spotted on May 26th on their long-time nest, located on the east shore of the lake near Reichert's cabin. The eagles have had a few unsuccessful years attempting to nest there and we're hoping they are successful this year. –D.K.



PRETTY FOXY: A pair of fox have taken up residence on the north end of Diamond Lake. They might have kits but they are keeping them hidden. Mom and Dad are in excellent shape. Photo: Monica Wallen.

Walleye Spawning at the Lake Outlet – By Raye Lahti



Walleye spawning in the DL outlet stream. Photo clip from the video by Raye Lahti.

The Ice was off of Diamond Lake just in time for the opening of fishing season this year. On May 1, I noticed Eagles and Vultures at the Diamond Lake outflow at North Diamond Lake Drive. One large Northern Pike and a large Walleye were on the shore and were later carried off by the scavengers. On May 5, we noticed 9 or 10 walleye's spawning during the late morning hours. This daytime event is unusual, and where it occurred, equally so: on the downstream side of North Diamond Lake Drive. We are still waiting to ask the WDNR about this event.

The spawning migration of walleye begins soon after the ice goes out, at water temperatures of 38 – 44° F. Spawning in Wisconsin generally occurs between mid-April and early May, although it may extend from the beginning of April to the middle of May. Walleye spawning ordinarily reaches a peak when water temperatures are 42 – 50° F. The walleye is not a territorial fish at spawning time; they usually broadcast their eggs and exercise no parental care.

Typically, Walleye migrate to wind swept, rocky shorelines, flooded wetlands or inlet streams with gravel bottoms to spawn. Males are the first to arrive at the spawning ground, outnumbering the

females 7 to 1. When a sexually mature female enters the area, usually in shallow water 4 feet or less, she will be approached by one or several males. The fish push each other backward with their snouts, raising and flattening the first dorsal fin as they push. This activity is repeated until the males and female rush upward in a tight group and begin to swim. The female is then turned or pushed onto her side by the males and she deposits her eggs while the males release their milt (sperm).

The female walleye will lay an average of 50,000 eggs and generally spawns out completely in one night. The adults provide no protection for the eggs. The eggs hatch in 26 days at 40 degrees F, in 21 days at 50-55 degrees F and in 7 days at 57 degrees F. Once hatched, the fry (newborn fish) must reach a food source within three to five days or they will perish. Because their paired fins are not fully developed at this time, the fry can only swim vertically and must rely on the current to carry them into areas where they can feed on zooplankton and later, insect larvae and fish. (Source: Maureen Mecozzi, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; Madison, Wisconsin Publication FM 708, 2008). – R.L.

You can view Ray's one-minute video of the Walleye spawning by going to the following link. [Video Link](#) Ed. technical note: the video is about 150 MB and may take a few moments to download. It will not open automatically in your browser, but clicking on it after downloading should open it in your video viewer.

Midland Propane Buy-Ahead

This just in: The price for buy-ahead propane for DL members will be \$1.12/gal (compared to \$1.39 last year). More information at the meeting, or contact Frosty to enroll.

Annual Dues and Meeting Reservation Form

PLEASE RESPOND BY JULY 3rd with a check for \$30 for 2019 dues and **RSVP for the fish fry**. Current paid membership determines the eligibility to cast a vote and it is one vote per property.

[] We would like to stay for the meal and social hour. **NOTE:** This year the meal is a fish boil plus potluck hors d'oeuvres and desert. There is **no charge**. Please bring an appetizer or desert to share and your utensils. Drinks will be provided. Number of Adults Attending: _____

[] We cannot attend the 2019 annual meeting but here is my check for \$30.00 for the annual dues along with the option of a proxy vote: **PROXY VOTE:** Section 3 of the Bylaws: Members entitled to vote but unable to attend the annual meeting may vote by proxy. The proxy must be mailed with dues to Bob Jacobel or given in writing to any other voting member in advance of the Annual Meeting.

I, _____ will not be attending the 2019 annual Meeting of the Diamond Lakers and hereby authorize _____ to cast my vote on business that may be brought up during the 2019 Annual Meeting.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Member Name(s): _____

Update Email address: _____

Annual Dues: \$30. Please make checks out to: **Diamond Lakers – c/o Robert Jacobel, P.O. Box 543. Cable, WI 54821.**