



ShoreLines

Newsletter of the Lauderdale Lakes Improvement Association

Spring 2023 • Vol. 46, No. 1

A Walk Through Historic Elkhorn

by Gary Storandt, LLIA Secretary

As the story goes, in 1836, Colonel Samuel Phoenix (founder of Delavan) spotted a rack of elk antlers caught in a tree and proclaimed the area “Elk Horn”. The region’s pristine beauty and fertile soil soon drew the attention of Elkhorn’s first settlers—Daniel Bradley, his brother Milo, and LeGrand Rockwell, all from New York state—who constructed the area’s first dwelling, a log cabin. By 1846, when the first town meeting was held, Elkhorn’s population had grown to 539. That same year, Elkhorn was designated the county seat because of its location in the center of Walworth County.

Today, Elkhorn’s population exceeds 10,000 and is rich in local history. Next time you’re looking for something unique to do, stop by the Elkhorn Chamber of Commerce at 2375 E. Geneva Street and pick up a free Elkhorn Walking Tour Guide. This do-it-yourself tour will take you on a leisurely stroll of less than a mile—all within two blocks of downtown Elkhorn—to see homes, churches, and other buildings of historic significance.

The Walking Guide Booklet will provide you with the details of each attraction. Your tour starts at



The Octagon House, built in 1856, Photo by Debbie Ferrari

the parking lot on the NW corner of Church and Walworth Streets and will guide you past:

The Reynolds-Weed House, built in 1857

St. Patrick’s Church, built in 1905

The Bradley House, built in 1870

The Episcopal Church, St. John in the Wilderness, built in 1853

The Church Office Building, built in 1884

The Congregational Church, built in 1843

Elkhorn’s First Village Hall, built in 1885

The Wales House, built in 1875

The Joseph Philbrick Webster House, built in 1857

The home of Dr. J. Howard Young

The Octagon House, built in 1856

The Grady House, built in 1893

The 1887 School House

The Home of Walter West

The Home of Lloyd Arp, built in 1912

The last remaining section of the original brick sidewalk

Matheson Memorial Library, dedicated in 1930

Veteran’s Park, dedicated circa 1838

The Home of E.H. Sprague

The Ishlam House, built in 1897

Enjoy!

At a glance...

- **June 3:** Open house at the Fire Department Training Tower, 8-11 a.m.
- **June 10: The LLIA Annual Meeting** will be held at Lutherdale on Saturday, June 10. Free breakfast and registration starting at 9 a.m.
- **July 1:** The spectacular **4th of July Fireworks display** will be held Saturday, July 1. Don’t forget to tune your radio to 96.1 to enjoy the simulcast.
- **July 15: The Kids’ Fish Jamboree** will take place on July 15. See Corky’s Corner in this issue for details. LLYC BBQ Fest follows.
- **August 12:** The ever-popular **Fire Department Steak Fry** fundraiser is back at Lauderdale Landing on Saturday, August 12.
- **September 2: The Lauderdale Lakes Lake Management District Annual Meeting** will be September 2nd at Lutherdale.

The LLIA is an All-Volunteer organization devoted to monitoring water quality, promoting water safety, preserving the lakes’ natural habitat, creating a superbly stocked fishery, and keeping lake area homeowners up-to-the-minute on what’s happening around the area. For more information, visit LLIA.org.

Haven’t Joined LLIA for 2023 Yet?

To continue receiving *ShoreLines* and to enjoy your copy of the new **2023 Lauderdale Lake Directory**, please return the Membership mailing you received from us or go to LLIA.org and complete a membership form. It’s still just \$35.

Photo Courtesy of David Hall

LLIA Special Reports

Update: The Spongy Moth Returns

by the LLIA Healthy Lakes Committee

Last summer, numerous properties on and around our lakes saw an infestation of spongy moths. The fuzzy blue and red bumped caterpillars were really pesky in June and July, crawling around everywhere and devouring leaves. The moths have been around for several years, but because of recent years' drought conditions, their natural predators weren't around to keep the population in check.

In a recent webinar led by DNR and UW-Madison experts (view the recording at: <https://youtu.be/E1--rd47ess>), we learned such infestations typically last 1-2 years, depending on weather. Let's hope for a cool wet spring because the winter wasn't cold enough to kill off the millions of eggs that were laid last summer. Now is the time to be scraping off egg masses into soapy water solutions and later in April, putting barrier bands on tree trunks to prevent young caterpillars from climbing back into trees. The following website has lots of good information for property owners to

manage the pests: <https://spongymoth.wi.gov/Pages/home.aspx>. The Yard Tree Management section is particularly helpful. It's important to get the timing right for the efforts to be effective.

Living on or near the lakes, it's really important to understand that chemical management options are the last resort and considerations need to be given to their impact on the surrounding environment on land and in the water. Carefully read chemical pesticide labels; they provide important safety and



Egg masses you may find attached to different surfaces.

application information. Consult with certified arborists about how best to care for your trees. Otherwise healthy trees often will survive spongy moth damage. Stacking stressors may lead to mortality and the goal is to reduce such damage.

Another excellent resource is Julie Hill, our Horticulture Outreach Specialist with UW-Madison, Division of Extension. Her email is: Julie.hill@wisc.edu. Office phone is: 262-741-4958 and cell phone/text is: 262-374-4191.

Also see the following articles in past *ShoreLines*, all available on our website at **LLIA.org**:

"Taking Steps Against Spongy Moths in Fall and Winter" *LLIA ShoreLines*, Summer 2022 (page 2)

"Be Aware. The Spongy Moth Has Arrived at Lauderdale Lakes." *LLIA ShoreLines*, Spring 2022 (page 2)

Healthy Lakes & Rivers Update

by LLIA Healthy Lakes Committee

Did you know you may be eligible for a grant? Healthy Lakes & Rivers is a Wisconsin DNR program that includes 5 simple and inexpensive best practices to improve habitat and water quality on shoreland property. For purposes of this program, shoreland properties include land within 1,000 feet of a lake or 300 feet of a river. LLIA is now an eligible grant applicant and we are getting this program rolled-out on our lakes. We are excited to have gotten approval for 2 grants this year! We'll keep you posted on the progress of these projects as they happen this summer.

For more information about the program, go to healthylakeswi.com. Check out the assessment tools offered, including "Choosing Best Practices" and "Score My Shore". If you are interested in

potentially applying for a grant, this has to be done in the fall for approval early the following year. The actual project work cannot be started until after the grant has been approved. The website offers lots of good information even if you aren't interested in applying for a grant.



We are here to help answer any questions you have—email us at LLIAHealthyLakes@gmail.com. We'd like to see the program grow at Lauderdale Lakes and would like to help several more property owners apply for grants in the next cycle.

Here are the highlights of how the program works:

1. Shoreland property owner prepares a plan for improving lakeshore property with Healthy Lakes practices.
2. LLIA Healthy Lakes Team conducts a site visit and reviews plan with the property owner.
3. LLIA helps the property owner apply for a Healthy Lakes grant (up to \$1,000 for each of the five best practices) in the fall.
4. After the grant is approved, the property owner completes and pays for the work, keeping necessary records.
5. LLIA helps the property owner complete a request for reimbursement and sends the reimbursement funds to the property owner.

Update on Water Quality

by Mark Curcio, LLIA Water Quality Committee Chair

The 2022-2023 ICE ON/OFF data is listed below. ICE ON is defined as continuous ice from shore to shore across the deepest point on each lake. ICE OFF tends to occur very quickly and is easy to verify.

there are also negative impacts to the ecosystem to both fish and native plants. You can find the article at https://issuu.com/wisconsinnaturalresources/docs/wnr_winter_singles_final/s/17637140.

	Green Lake	Middle Lake	Mill Lake
ICE ON	12/27/22	12/19/22	12/19/22
ICE OFF	3/14/22	3/14/22	3/13/22
Total Days Ice Cover	77	85	84

There is a great article in the recent *Wisconsin Natural Resources* magazine (Winter 2022) titled “On Thin Ice: Lake Data Paints Clear Picture of Wisconsin’s Changing Winter Climate”. Data show that the ice fishing season in Wisconsin is about 24 days shorter than it was in the 1970s. That obviously impacts ice fishing tournaments, festivals, and all the wintertime fun on frozen lakes. However,

Similar trends are seen on the Great Lakes. For a deeper dive (pun intended), you can check out the article posted on Wisconsin Public Radio titled “Average Ice Cover Great Lakes Tie Third Lowest Record Year” which can be found at <https://www.wpr.org/average-ice-cover-great-lakes-ties-third-lowest-record-year-superior-erie-michigan>. See you on the lake!

“Watersports Wednesday” Returns to Lauderdale Lakes in 2023

by Jourdan Thunberg, Adaptive Adventures

Adaptive waterskiing and kayaking will be back for its 7th season on Lauderdale Lakes this summer with Adaptive Adventures. Adaptive Adventures is a nonprofit organization that provides progressive outdoor sports opportunities to improve quality of life for children,



adults, and military veterans with physical or visual disabilities and their families. A number of individuals in our lake community volunteer for this program on our lake! The program takes place on Wednesdays from 10am – 3pm on



June 7th, 14th, & 28th, July 12th & 26th, and August 9th & 23rd. The program will launch from The Landing and will utilize Middle Lake. For the safety of their participants and volunteers, they kindly ask you to utilize either Green Lake or Mill Lake during this time.

To participate or learn more about this program, please contact Jourdan Thunberg, jourdan.thunberg@adaptiveadventures.org or visit <https://adaptiveadventures.org/>

LLIA MEMBERS: DON'T MISS OUT!

The Lauderdale Lakes Improvement Association (LLIA) will hold its Annual Meeting on June 10th at Lutherdale, starting at 9 a.m. Enjoy a free breakfast as you learn about all the latest happenings around Lauderdale. And don't forget to pick up your new copy of the LLIA Directory.

Water Ski Show is Back for Another Season!

by SWU Ski Show Team

The 2023 Southern Wakes United (SWU) Ski Show team is ready to hit the water and entertain you! We are the ONLY water ski show team in Walworth County. Our season schedule is set with shows at a number of venues in the county. We perform on Whitewater Lake at Scenic Ridge Campground, **Lauderdale Lakes at The Landing** (new owners, new menu), Elkhorn Lake at Babe Mann Park, and Turtle Lake at the Turtle Tap. The full schedule can be found on our website, southernwakesunited.com.



If you are interested in joining SWU, contact membership@southernwakesunited.com. You do not need to have your own equipment or any water ski experience. Members on our team range from 6-75 years old. So, grab the family and join us for some fun in the sun!

Lastly, please consider making a donation to secure the future of show skiing in Walworth County. We are a non-profit, 501 (c)(3) charitable organization. All donations made to SWU are used for club expenses, including (but not limited to): purchase of boats & motors (and gas!), insurance, maintenance, costumes & wetsuits, and skis, ropes & theme props.

Corky's Corner

Let's Hook Up For Another Great Fishing Season!

By Jim "Corky" Corcoran, LLIA Fish Committee Chair

Corky here...time to come out of hibernation, drop the boat in and head out on the lake! This winter was one of the more mild ones we have had in a while. I was worried about the ice conditions for Fishapalooza 2023 but we ended up with enough ice and the fish cooperated so it turned out to be a great event! We had several large Northern Pike



caught and quite a few nice Walleye and Bass. We surpassed our fundraising goal significantly and I would like to thank all our sponsors and community members who donated to our raffles. Without their contributions we would not be able to host such a great

event. I would also like to thank all our volunteers and The Lauderdale Landing for hosting the event. This is the last year my wife, Eileen, and I will host Fishapalooza. I wish the new hosts the best of luck and I know they will continue to provide the community with a fun and rewarding experience.



Another event to celebrate from this past winter is Hardwater Heroes—a group of local volunteers who, since 2018, have provided a guided ice fishing event for military veterans and first responders. On January 28th, 35 vets and first responders participated, with the LLIA providing financial support as a sponsor. Each participant received a bag full of goodies and I would like to thank all the wonderful sponsors and volunteers for their support and help. The morning started with a hearty breakfast followed by a morning of ice fishing guided by our finest local experts! The anglers were then invited back in for a pizza lunch donated by the Lauderdale Landing! There was also Bingo, a meat raffle, and a silent auction to raise funds for Healing Patriots.

As for this past ice fishing season I heard of many quality Northern Pike caught, some over 40 inches!

And the average Walleye was quite impressive as well. I also heard of many catches of Perch, some of which I would call "jumbos." Our stocking efforts for Perch are paying off. And our Walleye population is in great shape. As a matter of fact, all species seem to be in great shape.

More good news ... I have been speaking with Travis Motl, the DNR Fisheries Biologist for our region, and we are on the list for a comprehensive fish population study this season. We are on the short list along with Geneva Lake and hope that we are the lake to get the attention this season. If we do get the comprehensive study it will happen soon, perhaps before you read this. You may notice nets set along the shorelines used to capture Walleye and Northern Pike during the spawning season when they are in the shallows. Then sometime later in early May the Bass and Bluegill will move up shallow to spawn and the biologists will then use an electrofishing boat to target those species when they are more easily caught. The survey usually concludes in the fall with another Walleye sample and then the data is compiled, statistical analysis is completed, and a report is written. From that data we will gain terrific insight into population densities, overall fish condition, and size densities for the gamefish populations. We will then use that data for stocking planning and basic management plans as we move forward. The last time we had a comprehensive fish population survey was in 2013.



This summer, we plan to continue our crib building efforts and would like to have any and all volunteers out to help. We will continue to host Wednesday evening build dates as well as try to host a Saturday morning here and there. The goal is to build a few shorter cribs to be able to utilize some shallower drop sites and perhaps a couple more large cribs to enhance some of the sites that currently have cribs. If interested, please contact me via email. The LLIA

website (LLIA.org) will also have contact info and dates and times of the crib builds. We will again be building in the Lauderdale Landing parking lot from approximately 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.



The Kids' Jamboree will take place on July 15th in conjunction with the LLYC BBQ Fest! We will be hosting the Kids' Jamboree, fishing contest, and Corky's School of Fish that morning and registration will be both online on the LLIA website and in person that morning at the Lauderdale Landing beginning at 7:00am. **Even more good news: to encourage participation, this year the event will be FREE (though Corky's School of Fish will still be \$15). The fishing contest will take place from 8:00 am to 11:00 am.** As always, lunch is provided. The School of Fish will take place from 9:00 to 10:30 on the docks at Lauderdale Landing. Each participant (maximum of 15) will receive a rod and reel and tackle to keep with each paid registration! A parent must be present during the instruction time, we hope to provide instruction to both the kids and the parents. The purpose is to instruct the parents so they can confidently take their kids out on the pier or boat and have a fun and productive fishing experience. Please come out and enjoy this terrific experience. Following the Kids' Jamboree will be the LLYC BBQ Fest! This year the participating docks will choose a meat and side of choice. There will be a party at Lauderdale Landing following the BBQ Fest. Raffle tickets will be available throughout the day and a grand prize will be awarded at the party.

That's it for my spring update, and remember, take a kid fishing!

Kids' Fishing Jamboree Now FREE for kids

This year, kids can register and join the fishing contest FREE OF CHARGE. Note that Corky's School of Fish will still cost \$15. Register on our website at LLIA.org!



History Column

Ice Harvesting on Lauderdale

By Kathryn Ingle Calkins, LLIA History Chair

This past winter our lakes did not see a lot of ice. Our LLIA team reports that the “ice out” date happened right on the historical average of March 15. However, while we held the Fishapalooza event, the Fish Committee told the History Column that a relatively thin 6-8 inches of ice prevented anyone from driving their trucks out or setting up permanent shacks for fishing on the ice surface this year.

Thin ice was not generally a problem in winter 100 years ago, when farmers around our lakes regularly cut ice blocks from the lakes. They stored and sold them as a seasonal business or used them to chill food and dairy products during the rest of the year at a time when refrigeration was not yet widespread. In fact, ice from the inland lakes of Wisconsin was highly prized in places like Milwaukee by the 1870s, because it was much more pure than ice from rivers, which were becoming filled with industrial pollution.



According to the Wisconsin Historical Society, small ice harvesting businesses began to appear in the state in the 1850s. These gave way to larger firms as meat packing and brewing industries took off and the demand for ice grew. The Historical Society reports that “during the 1880s, Milwaukee’s breweries used more than 335,000 tons of ice per year.” Wisconsin was even “exploited” by large companies, which developed their own ice harvesting operations in order to avoid paying the state’s harvesting companies. Firms in Chicago, for example, favored ice from lakes around Madison, which were close to rail lines.

Not being very close to a rail line, Lauderdale was not exploited in this way. However, people around the lakes had ice houses, and Green Lake ice was certainly used to chill the products of the La Grange Creamery and butter factory, which sat on Highway 12 at its intersection with County Trunk H. Floyd Ewing, a lifelong resident of La Grange, wrote a memoir in the 1980s that captures the town and the shores of

Lauderdale in about 1900. He mentions that while the town had no paved roads, no cars, no electricity and no running water in homes, it did have the benefit of refrigeration by “stored ice”.

As a young man, Ewing joined the stockholders in the Creamery, which was a cooperative, where small farmers could bring their milk to be processed and turned into butter for sale in markets like Milwaukee. Ewing was assigned various “chores” associated with Creamery operations, one of which was “to fill the ice house with ice from Green Lake” in winter. While Ewing does not describe ice harvesting in detail, he writes about heading to Green Lake with a man named John and a team of two horses for this purpose. One horse, Seth, was “ungainly and bowlegged and with a nervous, mischievous disposition.”

“It was our job to prepare the ice field from which ice would be taken the next day and make other preliminary arrangements,” Ewing wrote. The horses were left on the shore while the men cut the ice into cubes, probably using saws about five feet in length. As they worked, Seth the horse and his partner “took off at a lively clip for La Grange” and got three quarters of a mile before Ewing was able to retrieve them and turn them back toward Green Lake. Ewing

reported that he and John then “marked out our first line of ice field rather crookedly.” Interestingly, Ewing also remembered that for several years the ice in Green Lake was “polluted... and so the ice was taken from Pleasant Lake.”

Photos from this period and earlier in Wisconsin suggest that larger operations used a horse drawn, plow-like apparatus that had several saws in parallel, allowing the ice to be cut in precise grid patterns. The horse and plow were later replaced by an engine powered circular saw set on runners that a person pushed or pulled over the ice.

An article from February 21, 2021 in Minnesota’s *Sun Sailor* publication states that harvested ice blocks were usually 16-18 inches thick, meaning that this was generally the thickness the lake ice had reached when harvesting occurred in January. Blocks were 22 inches square and weighed between 250 and 300 pounds. Once they had cut the ice, men could dislodge and

push the cubes through the open water left behind using breaker bars and long, hooked poles. Once at the shore, the ice was loaded onto wagons or directly into storage houses on the shores of lakes.

Ice houses had thick walls stuffed with either sawdust or straw as insulation. The *Sun Sailor* article suggests that “well built and well maintained ice houses could preserve ice for a year or up to the next harvest.”

Many cottages on Lauderdale had ice boxes in their kitchens or pantries for storing ice and keeping food cold, said lifelong summer resident, William Ingle Jr. An ice box was a small cabinet, often of quarter sawn oak lined on the inside with tin. It had several doors set in the front. Ingle noted that an ice block of perhaps up to 40 pounds was set in the top and slowly melted, its water collecting in a pan set in the bottom of the box that had to be emptied periodically. The ice kept the box cold for food storage.

At least some larger capacity ice houses could be found as well. Ewing recalls a large one on Mill Lake, owned by Fred Wolf. Wolf “stored ice in the winter and delivered it to homes on the lakes in summer,” making a small business of his harvest. Another ice house Green Lake serviced a resort hotel there called Gripp’s Landing.

It is likely that Fred Wolf delivered his ice to cottages by boat. When scuba diving at Lauderdale in Green Lake, Ingle remembers finding a large sunken boat with compartments lining both of its sides. He assumed it was a tour boat, but when he asked his father about it, William Sr. said, “That sounds like the ice man’s boat.” Both Ingles had grown up spending summers at Lauderdale.

An ice house still stands on Ingleside Point along the western shore of the channel. It was converted to a bunkhouse with the addition of windows and a small bathroom in the early 20th Century, but property owner Carolyn Johnson, William Ingle’s first cousin, recalled that it was always called the “ice house.” At one point, it had to be moved across a property line. During the process, sawdust fell out of the bottom of the structure. “The new owners were worried that the building was full of termites, but it was the sawdust from the walls,” that had served as insulation for the ice inside, Johnson remembered. The Wisconsin Historical Society notes that refrigeration technology came on the scene around 1910 and began to replace ice harvesting, which had mostly disappeared by the end of World War I.

Member's Post

Important Reminder!

Last summer, lake property owners received an address sign to be posted 4 feet above water level on the lake side. This will help first responders in the event of an emergency. If you haven't already posted your sign, please do so. It's the law.

All LLIA members are invited to contribute to the MEMBER'S POST. Maybe you have a favorite recipe to share...or a great photo capturing the alluring beauty of our lakes...or maybe you'd like to pass along a thought, suggestion or reflection about life on Lauderdale Lakes. If you have a message to share (in 75 words or less, please) email us at LakeViews@LLIA.org. And please specify if you would like to remain anonymous.

Walk Against and Bike With!

Many people walk and ride bicycles on roadways around the lake. To help everyone safely enjoy our beautiful lake area, please follow the following rules:

- Pedestrians should walk **AGAINST** the flow of traffic, so they can see the vehicles closest to them as they approach.
- Cyclists should ride **WITH** the flow of traffic (using the bike lane where available), since cyclists are considered "vehicles" for most intents.
- In all cases, it is safest to walk or ride in single file as close to the shoulder as possible so drivers have adequate space for oncoming vehicles, particularly on hills and curves.



New Deakin Island bridge is COMPLETED, and quite impressive! Photo by Jeff Adams



Back in a winter with thick ice. Photo by Debbie Ferrari

Check Out LLIA.ORG!

Important topics and upcoming LLIA events can be easily accessed from the Home page with one click.



Photos above by Laure Beisswanger

Lake House Fixin's

Sweet Dill Pickle Slices

Just in time for the summer season. These sweet and crunchy pickle slices will take your burgers, dogs and sandwiches to another level.

Submitted by: Tom Molidor

Ingredients

- 1 32-oz. jar of your favorite dill pickles (whole)
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 cup pickle juice
- ½ cup white vinegar

Directions

1. Drain the pickles, reserving 1 cup pickle juice.
2. Cut pickles into slices, as thick or thin as you like.
3. Return sliced pickles to jar.
4. In a small sauce pan, bring sugar, pickle juice and vinegar to a boil.
5. Let cool. Pour over pickles and refrigerate for 3 days before eating.



Winter Slow No Wake. Photo by Debbie Ferrari

SMILE! Please send your own favorites to LakeViews@LLIA.org

- I can explain it to you but I can't understand it for you.
- If you're going to try cross country skiing, start with a small country.
- If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
- You're only young once, but you can always be immature.

Other Lake Organizations

Yacht Club Launches Another Great Season

by JJ Jilek, LLYC Commodore

We had a record membership last year of 225. We'd like to take it to 300 this season. So, join the club that offers tons of fun on the lake. Help us in our goal to:

BRING THE LAKE TOGETHER!

Visit our website at llyclub.com!

2023 Officers

Commodore - JJ Jilek

Vice Commodore - Linda Johnson

Rear Commodore - Anthony Cecola

Secretary - Cindy Klima

Treasurer - Anne LaBarge

Marketing Master Chief Officer - Patti Brose

Safety & Education - Patti Jilek

Fireworks Lieutenant Commanders - Jeff Angst and Andy Brown

2023 Schedule

June 3rd Cocktails with the Commodore (Everyone's invited!)

June 17th Rock'n in the Bay (Sterlingworth Bay)

July 1st The 4th of July Fireworks

July 15th BBQ Fest afternoon at the Landing (Fish Jamboree in the morning)

Aug 5th Venetian Night (join the parade or decorate your pier)

Aug 25th TGIF Pleasant Lake Party

Aug 25th Annual Board Meeting

Sept 9th Photo Scavenger Hunt (test your knowledge of the lake)

Bits & Pieces From The Town of LaGrange

By Don Henderson, LLIA Planning & Zoning Chair

Public Boat Launch Ramps

Total fees collected during the 2022 season were \$25,667, some \$5,000 more than 2021. Town expenses maintaining and improving the four launch ramps and related maintenance of piers, ramps, buoys, signs, porta potties, parking lots, and registration forms increased substantially in 2022. The major increase in cost was the repaving of the West Shore Boat Launch Ramp driveway and parking area during the fall of 2022. The center portion of this ramp was paved in concrete costing \$62,390 and the parking areas paved with asphalt costing \$27,546. Boat launch fees are used to make these improvements.

Lauderdale LaGrange Fire Department

A contract has been signed to purchase a new ambulance to replace the current unit purchased in 2009. By purchasing a Demonstrator ambulance for \$237,956 the

Department saved in excess of \$50,000 over ordering out a new unit. This purchase is being paid for using Town of LaGrange American Rescue Plan Act funding. An order for \$350,000 has been signed to purchase new radios to comply with county wide fire and police radio requirement. The Training Tower Building is nearing completion, and we will be holding an open house on June 3rd from 8-11 AM. Again, the Department Fire Fighters are grateful for the financial support received from all the members of our community. We thank you for supporting our Spring fund raising appeal and August Steak Fry event. This year the Steak Fry will be held Saturday, August 12th, so mark your calendars!

For more information on Town of LaGrange items, please see the Town of LaGrange Newsletter 2023 that was mailed recently, and also visit the Town website at townoflagrangewi.com

Lutherdale Under New Leadership

by Tracy Polzin, Executive Director

2022 was a season of transition at Lutherdale. We thanked Jeff Bluhm for his 25 years of faithful service in November with a retirement party and the dedication of the new Hope Courtyard build in his honor. We also wished David Box farewell and Godspeed as he moved from his position at Lutherdale to serving in a congregation this fall. We welcomed new Executive Director, Rev. Tracy Polzin (tracy@lutherdale.org) and new program



director, Grace Crevier (grace@lutherdale.org).

We are continuing to build our programming for adults and families. Plans are underway for a travel day trip and an onsite day program for each month from May-December. Check out our website, lutherdale.org, to find out more information about the many wonderful programs we have planned. All are welcome! Summer registration is open now.

Our Dinners at the Lake return in April with the popular fish fry. Please plan to join us: April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, and September 8th. Dinner is served from 4:30- 7:00 each week. We hope to see you then!

Our 37th annual quilt auction will be held on Saturday, September 12th from 9:00-3:00. The live auction starts at 10:00. It is a wonderful event that helps to support the ministry at Lutherdale. This outdoor event will have craft and fabric sales, gift gallery, baked goods, silent auction bidding, and a LIVE quilt auction.

Do You Understand The Roles of Our Various Lake Organizations?

We know it's confusing. There are so many different organizations serving the lake district—all for the greater good. If you'd like to get a handle on what's what and who's who, take a gander at the chart below. Your taxes support the Lauderdale Lakes Lake Management District (LLMD) but most of the other

organizations are funded by your donations and all are run by volunteers. Please join your friends and neighbors by supporting those you feel you can. More importantly, jump in and volunteer to join one or more of these groups. You'll be glad you did!

Roles of Lauderdale Lakes Organizations

Government Units

LL Lake Management District (est 1991)

Funding: tax levy & charges, user fees, DNR grants & reimbursements, Town of LaGrange

- Lauderdale Lakes Country Club and Community Center
- Water Safety Patrol
- Weed Harvesting
- Dam
- Septic pumping
- Pier inspector
- Clean Boats Clean Waters
- Identify, monitor & manage pollutant sources

Communications: *District Dialogue*
www.lauderdalelakedistrict.com

Other Government Units Impacting Lake Community

Towns of LaGrange & Sugar Creek

- All local laws ... boating, piers, fireworks, buoys, sensitive areas, speed limits, parking, etc.
- Local roads and boat launches
- Refuse, recycling and yard waste

Walworth County

- Zoning (including Shoreland)
- Law Enforcement (Sheriff)

State of Wisconsin

- Laws covering fishing, boating and all water related structures and activities in and on water (DNR)

Community Organizations

LL Improvement Association (est 1902)

Funding: annual memberships, donations and Directory advertisers

- Monitor water quality
- Fish stocking, crib building and Kids' Fishing Jamboree
- Promote water safety
- Preserve lakes' natural habitat
- Communication includes all groups
- Monitor legislation impacting lake; engage where appropriate
- Document history of lake area

Communications: *Shorelines & Lauderdale Lakes Directory*
www.llia.org

Kettle Moraine Land Trust (est 2000)

Funding: annual memberships, donations & Directory advertisers

- Was Lauderdale Lakes Conservancy
- Accredited land trust serving the Southern Kettle Moraine region
- Works with public and private land-owners to protect critical resources
- Owns 4 preserves, holds conservation easements and partners to maintain additional properties
- Connects people with nature and education activities for all ages

Communications: *Nature News*
www.kmlandtrust.org

Social/Special Interest

LL Yacht Club (est 1953)

Funding: annual memberships, event fees, donations

- Numerous social events on and off lake
- Annual BBQ Fest and Co-sponsor Kid's Fishing Jamboree

Safety & Education Fund

- Annual 4th of July fireworks

Communications: *The Flag Hoist*
www.llyclub.com

LL Sailing Club (est 1967)

Funding: annual memberships, event fees, donations

- Race each Sunday from first Sunday in June to Labor Day
- Social events

Communications: via website
www.lauderdalesailingclub.com

Other Social/Special Interest Groups:

Lauderdale Lakeriders (snowmobiling)

Lauderdale Lakes Lake Management District: Keeping You In-The-Know

by Dean Bostrom, LLLMD Chairman

Golf Course & Municipal Land Planning Committee

The LLLMD Board approved the Municipal Land Planning Committee's recommendation to hire McCormack + Etten Architects, at the January 14th meeting, to design a new club house. The architects were provided design parameters by the Committee that were necessary to begin the club house design. Survey work has been completed around the immediate area of the old club house to provide accurate grade detail, providing information to properly design a new club house with one floor level.

Design sketches have begun with the architect's preliminary design proposal scheduled to be presented at the LLLMD April 15th Board meeting. According to McCormack + Etten the proposed new building

design and its desired uses are both feasible to be on a smaller footprint than the old building as well as targeting our budget considerations. A final design, budget, and the financial implications to lake district residents are scheduled to be approved at the LLLMD's May Board meeting. Throughout the summer, the Committee and Lake District Board members will be informing lake district residents of the proposed new club house design, overall project budget and the financial implications to lake district residents. Lake district residents will vote to approve or not to approve the new proposed club house at the Lake District Annual Meeting scheduled on September 2nd.

Boat Launch Parking

As a reminder, each of the boat launch ramps have signs posting a designated number of parking spaces. Vehicles with trailers that are not parked within the designated parking spaces on nearby roads may be ticketed and towed.

Don Jean Bay Shoreline Restoration

The contractor selected by the Lake Management District completed the shoreline restoration last summer in Don Jean Bay. Grant reimbursement funds from DNR have been received. We are pleased with the project and will be

monitoring the effectiveness of the installed improvements this spring as well as the growth of the vegetation that was planted.

Watershed Plan

Our consultant completed the plan and a copy of it is available on the website. The DNR has reviewed and approved the plan and released the grant reimbursement funds. We will look at the recommendations for improvements to see how items can be implemented. We hope to work with the Towns of Sugar Creek and LaGrange on their upcoming road projects around the lakes.

Water Safety Patrol

The Water Safety Patrol had a busy 2022. Body cameras for the officers were implemented to allow encounters with the Water Safety Patrol to be recorded to reduce discrepancies or concerns about how a situation was handled. We trust that this will help in keeping our lakes safe. The Body Camera Policy is available on the website.

In 2022 we issued 81 citations and 16 warnings. Please make sure that you have a proper fire extinguisher and the correct number of PFD's in your boat. Please also make sure that drivers needing a boater's safety certificate have one. If you were born after 1/1/1989 you need one. **We are hiring!** If you know a law enforcement officer that may be interested in working for our Water Safety Patrol please have them contact Chief Chris St. Clair at cstclair@lllepatrol.com.

Dam

The dam continues to operate as designed. The previous improvements are functioning well and provide a

2023 Greens Fees

	Walking	Riding
Weekends And Holidays:		
9 Holes	\$17	\$25
18 Holes	\$24	\$36
Weekdays:		
9 Holes	\$16	\$24
18 Holes	\$20	\$32
Twilight (After 2:00):	\$15	\$23
Seniors (Over 60):		
Monday - Friday		
9 Holes	\$13	\$20
18 Holes	\$18	\$28

Juniors (15 & Under): \$15 For 9 Holes, walking or riding with paying adult, Weekdays & Weekends After 11:00

\$8 Mondays (Open - 5pm) \$8 \$16

Wednesdays & Fridays: Twilight Rates Run All Day!*

*Limited up to 18 Holes



much safer structure. Our water levels continue to be a little lower than previous years, due to a lack of rain, but are still controlled effectively by the dam. We continue to work with the DNR to maintain the dam and adhere to their requirements for inspections. A bi-annual inspection will be completed by our consultant sometime this spring or early summer. National Dam Safety Awareness Day is May 31. Put it on your calendar and celebrate! Feel free to stop by the dam to see how our lake level is controlled.

Aquatic Plant Management

We will commence harvesting with our new cutter after Memorial Day in Sterlingworth Bay, then to Don Jean Bay and generally proceed in a counterclockwise direction. In June, the aggressive invasive species appear first; this harvesting helps the native plants. Joe Johnson continues to be our crew chief and drives weed hauling trailer. We harvest Monday through Thursday, 10-hour days. A reminder, we are not allowed to

harvest the navigation channels in Bubbling Springs or other designated sensitive areas until after June 30. We are permitted to harvest from pierhead to open water. Pulling your raft or floating toys behind your pierhead allows us to do a more thorough harvesting.

Piers

Any questions regarding piers or permit applications please contact: Board Member John Gilmartin (312-485-5875) or Pier Inspector Kai Cook (262-903-8351). Pier permit applications can be found on the Lauderdale Lake District website, lauderdalelakedistrict.com

Septic

Any questions regarding the lake district septic program please contact: Board Member John Gilmartin (312-485-5875) or Associates Septic Services (262-495-7004)

As always, check out our website for updates on all our programs at lauderdalelakedistrict.com



Double Rainbow. Photo by David Stang



Photo by Sara Nason



ShoreLines

Lauderdale Lakes Improvement Association

P.O. Box 542

Elkhorn, WI 53121



Photo by Amber Bixler