

Shorelines



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WWW.LLIA.ORG

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MESSAGE FROM THE LLIA PRESIDENT

The other day I was chatting with several of my Lauderdale Lakes neighbors, and we ended up having a lively discussing about boating etiquette. For the most part, I was aware of many of these unwritten “rules,” but I also learned about some new ones such as the three minute rule at the boat launch and trolling in the same direction as others that are fishing a particular area. Personally, I am guilty of violating the three minute rule at the boat launch – it takes me 10 minutes just to back my trailer in straight. After we had our share of complaining under our belts, things lightened up and we all agreed that at some point in time, we’ve all been guilty of these faux pas. Below is my consolidated list from our conversations. All of these issues have been raised at LLIA meetings, so I decided that they are worth noting here:

1. **THE BIG BANDLEADER** - If the music of nature or the sound of your fellow residents enjoying a summer day isn't good enough for you, that's fine. But please don't enlighten the entire community with your musical tastes. If you **MUST** play loud blaring music, how about playing "Send in the Clowns" so everybody knows who is coming.
2. **THE POWER-TURN POWER-TRIP** – Power turns are recommended when the safety of a skier or tuber is in question and a quick retrieval is necessary. This maneuver creates huge wave action and is disruptive to all boaters and swimmers in close proximity to your boat. In recent years, some folks utilize power turns as a

way to thrill tubers and skiers. Where you chose to do this on the lake is key. Living near Lauderdale Landing, I certainly see my share of power turns in the waters opposite the piers of the Landing, and I've also seen people get tossed around trying to fuel their boat, dock their boat or simply get on/off their boat. The advice here is to avoid busy docking/loading areas if you are on a power-turn power-trip.

3. **THE LITTER BUGS** – Everyone knows that littering is bad. Please keep things secure in your boat so they don't go airborne and fly into the lake. If you see things floating in the lake that don't belong in the lake, be a “good neighbor” and scoop it up with a fishing net.

4. **THE BULL IN THE CHINA SHOP** – Skiing and tubing is a team effort. Someone has to drive the boat and another person has to be the spotter to make sure the skier or tuber is safe. On some occasions, drivers seem to also want to be the spotter. This makes for an unsafe situation as the other boaters in the immediate area are now forced to guess where the boat with the skier/tuber is going.

5. **THE FLOTILLA** – I love to do this with my friends. We meet up on the lake, tie our boats together and visit. It's a great way to socialize on the water. The key here is to anchor in a way that is courteous to the shore line residents. Always anchor far enough from the shore to allow safe and easy access to piers. Back to #1, keep music and noise at a level that allows everyone to enjoy that lake. As usual, we have a terrific shorelines edition for you with excellent content and boat-loads of information. For you fishermen, check out the Fish Committee report by Brian Walsh and the Blue Gill

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Tactics article by Corky. Herb Sharpless has a very informative article about Purple Loosestrife – an invasive plant that is quickly spreading around our lake community at an alarming rate. As always, Kathryn Ingle Calkings provided us with a fascinating article about the early settlers in the Lauderdale Lakes area. This is a must read.

Stay warm, stay safe and enjoy!!!

Dave DeAngelis

LAUDERDALE-LAGRANGE TOPICS

By Don Henderson

Town of LaGrange Highway Department

We have all enjoyed a very warm and sunny summer at Lauderdale Lakes. Now that fall is here and most of us have taken our boats out of the water for the winter, we are not looking forward to the cold days of winter, unless you really enjoy ice fishing. Yet winter is just a few weeks away as this article is being written.

The Town Highway Department has already been preparing for winter for several weeks. Highway Commissioner Pat Hoffman and his crew have been mowing the grass along all the Town roadsides, cutting back brush and trees along the roads, and also mounting plows and sanding equipment on the three town work trucks used for winter snow removal.

So it is important that we review the Town ordinances regarding snow before the winter storms arrive. This will make our Town Highway Department job easier and make our roads safer during the winter months.

The LaGrange Town Board passed an Ordinance regulating the placement of snow on roadways by Town Residents in March 2008. Excerpts taken from ORDINANCE NO. 2008-01 follow:

- SECTION 1 states there shall be no placing of snow on any roadway in the Town of LaGrange that would create a hazardous condition for vehicle travel and persons shall not plow snow across the roadway from their driveway.
- SECTION 2. COSTS AND PENALTIES. A. Penalties. Any person adjudged to have violated any provision of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction thereof, forfeit \$50 together with the costs of prosecution per for each offense.

- SECTION 3. ENFORCEMENT AND BOND
This ordinance may be enforced by a Town of LaGrange Road Commissioner or the Walworth County Sheriff Department issuing a citation pursuant to the provisions this ordinance, as amended from time to time.

The homeowner or renter is responsible for snow placement, and you are responsible for the snow regardless if you hire a person to plow snow for you. Snow on your property should stay on your property, and **it shall not be pushed across the road when you clear your driveway and walkways.** Please inform your snow plowing contractor if you hire this work.

Please drive with care when following a snowplow truck

Pat has three snow plow routes and in total over 63 miles of Town roads are cleared and sanded with each snowfall. Driving a snow plow truck is demanding as the snow often swirls up across the cab and limits visibility both forward and backward. Wisconsin law requires motorists following a Snow Plow Truck to stay back 500 feet. Town Highway Department employees ask all motorists to use extra caution and please stay back the required distance. This is especially important at intersections when snow plow trucks often need to plow around a corner and then back up before turning to plow the other direction.

Plowing snow off the many winding and hilly Town roads around the Lakes is the greatest challenge. Pat asks all of us to please keep our boats, utility vehicles, ATVs, cars and trucks, and garbage and recycling containers well back from the road side. It is important to have area alongside the road free to plow snow onto so that the road width is not reduced during the winter months.

The garbage and recycling containers continue to be used, and John's Disposal Service will make the collection on the regular assigned day which is Monday for most of the Lake properties. PLEASE ASK A NEIGHBOR THAT LIVES NEAR YOU YEAR AROUND TO MOVE YOUR CONTAINERS BACK TO YOUR HOUSE AFTER COLLECTION IF YOU

ARE THERE ONLY ON WEEKENDS. The containers may interfere with snow plowing and certainly they detract from the beauty of our property when left next to the road all week.

Following these procedures will make The Town Highway Department snow plowing more effective and our Town roads will be safer for all to use.

PIER PERMIT APPLICATION IN ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREA 3 UPDATE By Don Henderson

The Shorelines reported a property owner in the west end of Middle Lake filed a pier permit application with the DNR to locate and build a pier in Sensitive area 3. A public hearing was held at the Town of LaGrange Hall by the WI DNR on May 14, 2013. The homeowner requested the DNR approve their application to construct a 140' long by 5' wide pier to allow them to reach a water depth of 3.0 feet. At the end of the pier the applicant request two boat lifts. Almost all of this proposed pier location is within the very shallow water that serves as fish and wildlife habitat. There are also several springs in this area that supply water to maintain our lakes. This proposed pier would end in the navigation channel that current home owners use to traverse from the west end of Middle Lake to the East.

The LLIA, LLLMD, and the KMLT all testified at the DNR public hearing that this pier should be denied. It exceeds the Town of LaGrange ordinance for piers on Lauderdale Lakes, and it is proposed in an area of the Lake that a Town of LaGrange ordinance prohibits piers from being constructed. It is proposed to be built in the most sensitive area of Lauderdale Lakes as defined by the WI DNR in years past.

The DNR staff reviewed the input for 60 days after the Public Hearing and issued a letter accepting the pier with several limitations on July 13, 2013.

The LLLMD filed a formal Contested Case Hearing request with the DNR in early August to have this DNR pier permit reviewed and denied. The WI DNR accepted the LLLMD request for a formal contested case hearing. The DNR requested the Wis-

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consin Division of Hearings and Appeals initiate and hold the public hearing per Wisconsin Statutes. **This review will be conducted in the Basement Meeting Room, Walworth County Government Center, 100 West Walworth Street in downtown Elkhorn, beginning at 9:30AM, January 22, 2014. The hearing will continue if necessary on January 23 and 24, 2014 in the same location.** The procedure that will be followed at the public hearing will closely resemble that followed at a Court Hearing. The public is welcome, although only witnesses called by to testify will be allowed to speak. The LLIA is cooperating with the LLLMD in this effort and supporting data has been provided by the LLIA for use in this request for review and denial.

Lauderdale-LaGrange Fire Department

All the members of the Lauderdale-LaGrange Fire Department extend their thanks to the 700 people that attended the August Steak Fry. The annual event was very successful this year, and the profit of \$10,000 has been designated toward the purchase of a new vehicle to replace the older Suburban.

This was the fourth year the Department worked with the current owners of The Lauderdale Landing Restaurant. Fire Chief Duerst related "The Landing Staff were very supportive and great to work with". All the Fire Department members wish to extend their appreciation and thanks to the Healy Family for the use of The Lauderdale Landing Restaurant and Grounds for their Annual Steak Fry Fund Raiser.

Fire Chief John "Curly" Duerst said, "A volunteer fire department takes the dedication of many people. The volunteer staff we have is totally dedicated to providing the best Rescue and Fire Fighting techniques and equipment to assure the support and safety of people and property in this area. The area property owners and residents are true partners in this effort by supporting our Department through gifts and fund raisers. I extend my personal thanks to all of you for making the Department very successful."

Additional Fire Fighters Are Needed

Additional Fire Fighters and Emergency Rescue Technicians are needed to increase the active Lauderdale-LaGrange Fire Department Volunteer staff to the 42 approved staff level. Both men and women with an interest in serving in this volunteer organization are encouraged to contact Chief Curly Duerst now.

Volunteers are provided excellent education and skill development to prepare them for Fire Department staff duty prior to active participation. Please contact Chief Duerst at 262-495-2610 if you have an interest in becoming a Department Volunteer member. Also please pass this request on to your friends and neighbors to spread the word that the Lauderdale-LaGrange Fire Department is seeking new members.

Does Your Home Have An Alarm System?

Many homeowners in The Town have alarm systems to provide security and also to send an automatic notification if a problem occurs while you are away. Alarm Systems are effective; however it is very beneficial to have a "Key Holder" nearby. The Key Holder is someone that lives close to your home, and an individual that can unlock the home if the Fire Department responds to an alarm call.

Rest assured that the Fire Fighters have the tools to enter your home and they will if there is a fire observed. It is the alarm calls answered where no problem is observed then it is best to have a Key Holder available to unlock your home and let the Fire Fighters in for follow up. Chief Duerst recommends that each home with an alarm have a Key Holder to help in case of emergency. It will be very beneficial if you provide this information to Fire Chief Duerst each year to assist in quickly resolving any automatic alarm response to your home

Home Fire Safety Tips

The Lauderdale-LaGrange Fire Department Volunteers ask all property owners and residents to think and practice fire safety. Test all of your Fire Alarms. Be sure that an alarm is installed in each bedroom. Even the fire alarms wired into your electrical system have a battery back-

<u>CALENDAR OF EVENTS</u> <u>2013 & 2014</u>	
<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
12-1-2013	Acquire election nomination forms
1-7	LaGrange nomination papers due
1-22	DNR Hearing
2-8	LLIA Directors Meeting
4-1	LaGrange Supervisor Elections

up. Be sure you have new batteries in all the alarms every year. A good time to change alarm batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide alarms is when you change your clocks from daylight savings to central time. That day has passed this month, but please take time to change these batteries now.

Furnace inspections by qualified technicians assure the combustion process is correct and the all exhaust gas is going outside and not into the house. Many homes have wood stoves and fireplaces that enhance the ambiance of the home and also lower heating costs. Fireplaces and wood stoves are effective, but be sure your chimney is free of creosote and the stove vent pipes are not blocked as you will not want a chimney fire or a home full of smoke. Clean them now before you want to use them in the winter.

The Holiday Season will soon be here. As you decorate your home, be careful to keep decorations well away from hot lights, stoves, fireplaces, and candles. Also be sure you extinguish candles when you are not in the same room, as you may forget they are lit and as they burn down cause a fire to be started. If you have a decorated Christmas tree, be sure it is away from the fireplace and other open flames. Fire Fighters recommend using low wattage electric lights that will not ignite the needles.

Please keep your driveway clear of tree limbs and branches. If you have a problem, you will want the fire truck or rescue ambulance to reach your house without being damaged by your tree limbs. And with winter snow soon to arrive, please keep your driveways and private roads plowed wide and frequently so that an ambulance or a fire truck may quickly reach your home during an emergency. The Town Highway Department

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plows snow on all Town owned roads, but many homes around Lauderdale Lakes are located on private roads and/or long drive-ways. The home owners have total responsibility for private driveways and roads. Make your snow plowing arrangements now to assure a clear roadway for the emergency vehicles to reach your home should they be needed this winter.

Call 911 if you need to report a fire, medical emergency or an accident. And last but not least, have a fire safety plan for your family. Review it with your family members and practice the plan so your family will be safe should you experience a fire in your home.

New Truck Project

A new truck to replace the current 1995 Chevrolet Suburban is being specified and cost quotations will be obtained this winter. The truck will be used to pull the large trailer that carries the Department Snowmobile and the all-terrain utility vehicle for rescue missions.



As you can see in the picture the trailer is large, and a larger truck is being specified to assure safe highway and off road transport of the trailer to all emergency calls. This vehicle will also be used to transport Department Fire Fighters to Mutual Aid Fire Calls and for offsite Fire Department training and education seminars. The new truck specifications being prepared list a crew cab, diesel engine, automatic transmission, heavy duty dual wheel rear axle, and option for four wheel drive.

2014 Town of LaGrange Election

The Town Board Chairman and the First Side Supervisor positions will be up for election in 2014. Elections are held the first Tuesday in April, which is April 1, 2014. Candidates elected

to the Town Board serve two year terms of office. Candidates must file formal nomination papers to be on the election ballot, and the closure date is January 7, 2014. Candidates must be Town of LaGrange residents. The first day nomination papers may be obtained from the Town Clerk, Crystal Hoffmann, is December 1, 2013, and they must be filed with the Town Clerk before the closure date. Frank Taylor is the current Town Board Chairman, and Dan Wilson is the current First Side Supervisor.

LAUDERDALE SAILING CLUB By Peter Van Kampen

Sailing Club

One thing about the LL Sailing club we have lots of winners. Our handicap system is designed to give everyone the opportunity to win a race on any given Sunday. We have 14 season races and this year we had 11 different first place winners. They were: Joe Kovarik, Christian Zenger, Curt Bullcock, Jim Johnson, Dave Asbach, Doug Ward, John Hamilton, Peter Van Kampen, Bruce Bauman, Bill Ingle, and Jack Sorenson.



Winners of the 14 race series:
Peter Van Kampen
Jack Sorenson
Jim Johnson
Dave Cleveland



Winners of the LLYC Regatta Series:
Peter Van Kampen
Bruce Bauman
Jim Johnson
Rob Paddor

We averaged 17 boats on the starting line each Sunday and on two occasions we had 20. Spectacular site on these little lakes with all those sails out there. Its beautiful.

Many thanks to the spectator boats who come out to cheer on their favorites. The sailors truly appreciate you guys being out there. You can always get the current standings and race results on the web page: www.lauderdalesailing.com

If anyone is interested in sailing with us or just to try sailing to see if it would be something you would like to take up please contact any club member,(easily identifiable by the boat in front of their lake home with the 28 ft mast sticking up) they are all friendly so you can choose anyone. Or contact me at 742 2567 or pvk@elknet.net and we can go sailing some time.

If you have not already seen the future of



Dave Cleveland was named Sailor of the Year for his consistent good sailing and his first time finishing in the top 4. Dave is a relatively new sailor but shows up and gives it his best every week. Congratulations.

sailing by watching the America's cup races this fall go to www.americascup.com and take in a few of the video's. These 72 ft. boats are sailing 45 mph in 18 mph winds. They use a wing instead of a sail and fly off the water on a 22" foil. Truly amazing stuff. To top it all off the American boat was down 8 wins to 1. One more win by New Zealand and they win the Cup. The American's came back, won 8 in a row to finish 9 to 8. Unbelievable comeback!

LAUDERDALE LAKES LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT TOPICS

By Peter Van Kampen

Septic Pumping

Every third year each septic system in the Lake District is inspected and pumped. This includes your septic tank, dry well, holding tank, or lift tank.

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The Lake District puts the contract out for bid and the current provider is Associates Septic Services. This company not only does the pumping and inspecting but can also be contacted for needed repairs. Their contact information is: Lance 262-495-7004 or email associates@networx.net. You pay for this service on your tax bill. One third of the amount is included in your tax bill each year. You will be notified before they come to your place. It really helps if you locate and mark the tank before they arrive. Here is Lance's take on additives sold to help your septic work better. Septic systems are alive, or should be. If you have active and well populated bacteria in your tank, there is no need to put additives in. These 'good' bacteria are very capable of doing the job of breaking down waste.

Pier Inspector

Some people find it more convenient to have a new pier put in during the off season. If so, no problem. You can contact the pier inspector anytime. Easiest way is to find his contact information is on the Lake District web page. www.lldmd.org On the home page click on the pier permit link and you will see the application form. You will see Dave's contact information at the top of the form. Thanks for your cooperation.

MUSKRATS ON LAUDERDALE **By Scott Mason**

The Lake District has contracted with a licensed trapper to reduce the muskrat population on the wetlands property. He is willing to trap for private land owners and the following is his contact information:

Travis Schroeder
Cell # 414-732-2172
MuskyMaster2002@yahoo.com

SEPTIC TALK **By: Lance Petrusek, Owner of Associates Septic Service**

People ask me every day, "What is it safe to put down my drain?" The answer is pretty simple: #1, #2, and toilet paper. That would be ideal for your septic system. Often what I see in tanks is a broader spectrum of things that are very detri-

mental to septic systems. Here is a list of things that should not be flushed or poured down the drain.

- Wipes of any kind, even if they say septic safe or not.
- Condoms
- Feminine products
- Paper towels
- Cigarettes
- Fats, oils or grease
- Candy wrappers
- Unused medication
- Garbage disposal should be used, use it minimally, it is best to compost your potato skins or peels.

A septic system is like a filter; eventually it will be plugged and need to be replaced, just like the oil filter in your car. So if you would like to extend the life of your septic (filter), keep an eye on what you run through it.

LAUDERDALE LAKES HISTORY ARTICLE **By Kathryn Ingle Calkins**

The Early Lauderdale Farm

James Lauderdale, James Stewart and Orison Ewing were the first Caucasian settlers to purchase land bordering our lakes in the 1840s. The Wisconsin Territory had been established in 1836, and conflicts with Native Americans had largely ended, making the area safe for settlers. Miners had already established towns like Mineral Point west of Walworth County and begun taking valuable lead from the ground. People started settling in Elkhorn in 1837. However, few roads had yet been established in our area, which made travel difficult and meant that the fertile farmland had yet to be claimed from the government.

Like others settling Wisconsin at the time, Lauderdale and Stewart started out from upstate New York, traveling on foot most of the way to Wisconsin. James Lauderdale's great great Grandson, John Thompson of Madison, WI, notes that James was the fourth son in a large family. Most likely the family land in Geneseo, NY had gone to older siblings. Lauderdale and Stewart purchased 318 acres— including lakefront—at \$1.25 per acre from

the government of President John Tyler. The property stretched from the northern boundary of Lutherdale south along the east shores of Green, Middle and Mill Lakes.

The men returned the next year to New York to collect their families and a few necessities and traveled back to Wisconsin; first by ferry through the Great Lakes from Buffalo to Milwaukee and then by buggy to their claim. Initially, the Lauderdale's lived in a log cabin that was located on the Lutherdale property. According to *A History of the Lauderdale Lakes* by Robert Brown and Patricia McCormick, James Lauderdale "rolled up" the cabin himself—a reference to rolling the logs up ramps to their positions forming the walls. It was 10' by 12' with a single door and window. Boards for the roof were rough sawn at the Bigelow sawmill, located at the point where Mill Lake empties into Sugar Creek. In the door frame hung a piece of carpet or oilcloth. If it was tied back, passing Native Americans stopped to visit. If down, they moved on.

Lauderdale began farming wheat, which was sold in Milwaukee, according to a manuscript published by the La Grange Aid Society called *LaGrange Pioneers*. The document reports that wagons required three days to reach market, with two usually traveling together. The price of wheat ranged from \$0.50 to \$1.00 a bushel. The farmers in the area also raised cows and gathered hay in late summer in the Honey Creek Marsh, which was still owned by the government. "Each one respected the rights of others in staking a hay claim," the document reads. "The hay was cut and raked by hand, then carried to a stack on long poles."

By 1855, says Thompson, the family had found their cabin near the lake too lonely and began construction on a large farmhouse by the road (today's Highway 12) that had by that time gone through. Thompson, who now owns the farmhouse and restored it in the 1990s, says that its construction is unusual for the area. Vertical timbers used to build the two-story section of the original house rise in one piece from the basement to the top of the second floor. They were notched, Thompson says, at the first and second floors to hold the flooring. The family

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brought out two or three carpenters from upstate New York to build the house, which took a year to complete. It is quite large for its era in rural Wisconsin, and the carpenters brought with them intricate moldings for trimming around windows, walls and doors in the parlor. "I don't know how they afforded it," Thompson says of his ancestors.

The house's foundation is cobblestone; that is, the carpenters took local glacial rocks of many colors and split

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them to form flat surfaces, using these as the basis for the foundation. "When I updated the house, the foundation was still really solid," Thompson says.

The original house had a formal parlor with a second story above it. This was at-



tached to a single-story kitchen and eating area, where the family lived most of the time, Thompson says. In the early 1900s, Walter Lauderdale added a second story over the kitchen to form two more bedrooms. Thompson notes that in adding the rooms, the builders created a long, mysterious hallway that thrilled him as a child.



A step that stood at the end of the Lauderdale's front walk. The stone was intended to make it easy for a lady in a dress to walk into a carriage. It was moved when the state widened Highway 12.

According to *LaGrange Pioneers*, the Lauderdales welcomed many travelers to their new house on the road. "Directly in front of the house was a pump and watering place for the horses.... Mr. Lauderdale, especially in later years, was out to greet the weary wayfarer, give words of encouragement, and glean from him news of the outside world." *Pioneers* claims that James Lauderdale came to be known as "Uncle Jim" and that he "was a great favorite with the summer people around the Lake".

"He was always doing something to make them have a happier vacation. Perhaps he was helping the man who didn't understand about putting up a tent, or it might be the boy who had gotten into some difficulty, but Uncle Jim was always ready to help.... Mr. Lauderdale was always thinking of others. Even on his death bed when his children had all gathered about, he said, 'Put your horses in the barn; there is ample room for all.'"

Thompson, whose mother was Helen Lauderdale, a schoolteacher, grew up in Green Bay but spent many vacations in the Lauderdale farmhouse. "The house wasn't insulated," he recalls. "They would burn wood in a furnace in the basement, and the heat would rise through a vent in the floor to heat the house." The vent was about four feet square, and covered with a grating that felt uncomfortable when one walked on it with bare feet. It sat directly above the furnace, and Thompson remembers that people congregated around it in winter to stay warm. The second floor was heated by opening the door to the stairway, so it remained in the 40s around Christmas time, Thompson says.

Thompson also recalls that a relative a few generations before his had used a wooden leg. "When he died, they buried him, but they kept the leg. They had it in an upstairs closet." He remembers the pleasant, creepy curiosity the object inspired.

Following the deaths of James Lauderdale and his wife Margaret, the house passed to their son Walter. It then passed to his son Roy, followed by Roy's

daughter Mildred. Mildred left the house to her daughter Cheryl, who was Thompson's aunt. Each generation lived in the house until his or her death, suggesting it must be quite a comfortable and comforting spot..

KETTLE MORaine LAND TRUST BY Jerry Petersen and

The Trust is working diligently to amend the Conservation Easement (CE) which the Lauderdale Lakes Lake Management District donated to the Trust on their Lauderdale Lakes Country Club back in 2003. The District wanted to be sure that the property will remain open space forever. Conservation Easements are best legal tool to do this. CE's are additions to the deed of a property that go with the land to all future owners, and which the courts recognize as a perpetual constraint on the use of the land. In recent years, the courts have made findings that require a couple of changes in the Country Club CE. Most important the courts have found that the two boardwalks to Don Jean Bay are legal, and that the show viewing bleachers, and nearby storage units are not "structures" per the County Ordinance so long as they are removed seasonally. This was not a Land Trust issue, but rather an County Zoning issue. Fortunately, since Land Trusts are empowered to make CE amendments, so long as they do not reduce the conservation value of the land, we are proceeding to make changes consistent with the court findings. We are also making wording changes which will make the document clearer, and easier to understand and enforce. The CE is the reference Land Trusts use to perform their required annual monitoring of their CE sites. The Lauderdale Lakes Lake Management District has been doing a great job in this regard. They have clearly established their right to permit water ski shows to continue along Don Jean Bay. This has never been an issue with the CE, but rather an issue with the County Shoreline Zoning Ordinance. Anyone interested in more details please call Jerry Petersen on 262-742-2367.

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This fall the Trust actively participated in Walworth County's Octoberfest (October 19th) in Elkhorn. Peoples Bank sponsored a 5K Run, and we are grateful for their including the Trust as an event beneficiary. Over 50 booths were set up in the County Square and it was a festive all day activity.

The photo shows the Trust Booth with our Program Manager Maggie Zoellner, and two of our Board members, Debbie Ferrari and Sue Heffron. The weather was good and the runners had fun. The course was



Trust using the below return form. Many thanks in advance.

LLIA PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE CONTROL PROJECT By Herb Sharpless

In the August 2012 Shorelines, I introduced the lake community to the invasive, but pretty plant, Purple Loosestrife. The centerfold of that edition of Shorelines included a color insert to help lake property owners identify and report this plant. You can access and print a copy of the insert from the LLIA website.

During the summer of 2102, LLIA applied for a WDNR permit to spray this plant with the herbicide called Rodeo, an aquatic friendly version of Roundup. Dave DeAngelis and I treated the large population of Purple Loosestrife on the mudflat located in Don Jean Bay. As it was late in the growing season when the permit was issued, we cut off and bagged the seed heads and applied Rodeo to the plant leaves for over 200 plants. We also treated a few plants along the edge of the western wetlands on Don Jean Bay.



designed by his team. We plan to add a new plaque to this triangular trophy each year, and move the trophy to public viewing locations throughout the year. Please send your membership or additional gift with any new contact information to the

laid out around the County Fairgrounds. Our goal is to educate our County property owners and friends on the value and capability of the Trust.

We are growing our memberships, but we need some additional support from current and past members. Last year we had a very generous Board member who provided a \$10,000 matching donation, and many of you helped match it. We also enjoyed a \$10,000 unexpected donation from the Donnelley Foundation to recognize our National Accreditation in 2012. We don't have these bonuses this year, so **we really do need your added support.** I ask those who have given \$100 recently, please consider making an added \$150 donation to reach our \$250 level where we will place an engraved brick for you in our Island Woods Preserve Overlook. Those who gave \$250, please join me, and many others, who donate \$1,000 to become one of our Legend Builders.

The photo shows Walker Johnson displaying a mockup of our new Legend Builders trophy

Become a Kettle Moraine Land Trust Member

Join us in becoming a Kettle Moraine Land Trust member with your tax-deductible membership. In addition to supporting KMLT work, members receive newsletters and notices of special events.

Yes, I would like to become a Kettle Moraine Land Trust member!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Please mail this completed form with your check to:

Kettle Moraine Land Trust
P. O. Box 176
Elkhorn, WI 53121

KMLT is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

Membership levels:

Member	\$35 - \$99	_____
Conservationist	\$100 - \$ 249	_____
Naturalist	\$250 - \$499	_____
Visionary	\$500 - \$999	_____
Legend Builder	\$1000 and up	_____

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The good news is that this process did kill all the plants on the mudflats, and I was able to treat the new seed sprouts (less than 50) during early July and then again in early August this year. By treating them as they flower, it avoids viable seeds from developing and the seed bed established in previous years starts to deplete.

In my article, I asked property owners to notify me if they saw this plant blooming



cover the wetlands of Jackson Creek Preserve). Treating Purple Loosestrife is a challenge when it is located in wetlands (as the photo below shows). Plants located near the edge can be approached by kayak and sprayed, but plants growing more than a few yards from the edge of the wetlands cannot be reached from a boat, and the wetland soil is too liquid and deep to support walking, even with waders! My plan is to try to set these plants back in the winter, when ice has formed and I can walk in the wetland. I will cut and bag the seed heads and cut the plants off near the roots. Rodeo cannot be used to kill the roots, as the plant is dormant and will not take in the herbicide, so the plant may regrow next year!

During 2014, LLIA will greatly expand the requested permit area to include all the Don Jean shoreline, the southern portion of Middle Lake and the Middle Lake location

anywhere around our lakes. I had two reports, one near the western wetlands and another along the southern shoreline of Don Jean Bay. It was great that these folks helped me understand where other plants were growing, so we could treat them! The bad news is that there were so many instances all along the shoreline of Don Jean Bay! I was able to treat some of them, but not all, since they were located outside the area requested in our 2013 WDNR permit. This photo shows a typical cluster of Purple Loosestrife that has been established for several years. I also got a report later in the summer about a large cluster growing in Middle Lake.



near LL596. I have started work with the East Baywood Association to control the large population growing on their property, and the Lake District will continue to treat Purple Loosestrife growing on their portion of the wetlands. As each property owner where the permit is granted must be notified about the planned treatment, LLIA will send postcards to all these shoreline property owners to meet this notification requirement and a copy of the permit will be posted on the LLIA website. Not all notified properties have Purple Loosestrife growing along their shoreline this year, but enough do that it makes sense to have the permit span all the possible locations, including where seeds may form new plants in 2014.

I have wondered why this invasive plant has become established on so much of the Don Jean Bay shoreline, but not much in other areas? This plant does prefer to have its roots wet, thus the shorelines location versus the interior of these properties. I believe it spreads by seeds blown on the water surface and across the ice during the winter. Since the prevailing winds are mostly from the west, it has taken several years to spread from the eastern shoreline towards the west. Most likely, it got started where the wetlands on the eastern boundary of Don Jean Bay are close to the roadway. Road shoulder mowing is a common way the seeds of invasive plants like Phragmites, Teasel and Purple Loosestrife are spread over great distances. Herb Sharpless

LAUDERDALE LAKES YACHT CLUB

By Commodore Jean Henderson

LLYC Making Changes

Previous Commodore Nancy Thelen ended her 2-Year term in style with a grand celebratory party Sept 27, wishing new Yacht club leaders well as the next term begins.

Jean Henderson who is now LLYC Commander will serve as the Lauderdale Lake Yacht Club's head from 2013 to 2015

coordinating the group's many summer functions and events. She welcomes all lake or off-lake residents who want to



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participate in the club's activities. We'd love to see some new faces as well as returning seasoned LLYC partners Jean notes. It's a great way to have fun and enjoy a variety of planned and casual happenings AND get to know a whole lot of amia-



ble fun-loving others. Many long lasting close friendships have developed over the years for our members as they attended and at times helped plan some of the fabulous functions our group's consistently held throughout the summer season.

"I'm excited to start my new role as Commodore" Jean shares. My husband John and I have been enjoying our lovely lakes for years and been part of the group for some time. Some of our best times on the lake were yacht club parties and events and we want to make sure they keep happening! "

Jean previously worked in career counseling at Gateway Technical College but is now "blissfully retired" and ready to take on some new challenges in this new position.

Make some new friends and be part of some exciting enjoyable LLYC activities she suggests. Look for future info and our web page as plans develop.

FISH COMMITTEE REPORT By Brian Walsh

It has been a busy few months for the fish committee. Since the last Shorelines, we have improved the fish habitat, increased the number of fish in the lake, and added a new fishing report section for the Shorelines. All of these projects would not have been possible without all of the volunteer time donated by so many people, and the many monetary donations we have received. To all of the people who have volunteered time, money, or both I would like to say THANK YOU.

On September 7, 2013 we launched 4 completed fish cribs into the Lakes. Once again, Roscoe and his team from Dependable Pier Service stepped up and donated the use of their barges and time to install the cribs. Speaking of Roscoe, if you are considering any shoreline work or pier work, make sure to give DPS a call at 262-



The "small" barge from Dependable Pier Services moves the four fish cribs out to their new homes on 9/7/13

749-8181 or check them out on Facebook. I guess the saying is true that you grow wiser in old age because with another year under our belts, the installation of the cribs was much easier this year. The cribs were installed when the water was warm enough to swim and there was no snow, which was nice. The cribs were positioned in two locations this year. Check out the pictures of the installation day.

We are planning on installing many more fish cribs in the future. **However, we are running out of places to install the cribs. If you, or any of your neighbors would like some fish cribs by your property, please contact Jeff Angst or me.** We do need at

least 12' of water to safely launch the cribs. If you would like to know where the cribs are located, as was the case last year, I can be bought. Make your checks out to the LLIA.

On September 20, 2013, the fish committee released over 500 Northern Pike into the lakes. The largest one of the fish I saw released was already over 18". These fish have a great chance of surviving being released into the lake and making it to adult hood. It was a lot of fun releasing the fish and they were



Dependable Pier Services fleet, manned by the fish committee volunteers, prepare to give some fish a new home.



Thad Wolf gets ready to release one of the Northern Pike stocked on 9/20/13 to its new home. And yes, this is the largest fish Thad has ever caught on Lauderdale.

released into all of the lakes. Currently, the only funds used for the fish stocking is from member's

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On a beautiful September morning, the fish committee gets ready to release over 500 Northern Pike into Lauderdale Lakes.

donations. We do hold a few small fundraisers, but the majority is from your donations. Thank you for your generosity and making the fish stocking program a success.

Some people have asked why we did not stock Smallmouth Bass this year. The reason is the WDNR is finishing up their fish survey of the lake and they did not want YOY (year of young) bass introduced into the lake until the study was completed. We are awaiting the findings of the recent study to help us better manage the Lauderdale Lakes Fishery. As soon as the study is published, I will forward it along to the LLIA. In 2014, we will once again be stocking Walleyes into the lake.

In closing, I would like to draw your attention to a new topic in the shorelines called **“Fish Bites”**. A few months back, a father and son at the Marina approached me. It was brought to their attention who I was, and the father jokingly teased me about the Walleye in the lake. He proceeded to explain he was a member of the LLIA, fished the lakes for years, donated to the stocking program, and had never caught a Walleye on Lauderdale Lakes. I did my best to explain to him where he should try, different tackle tips and even times of the day to try. They were very appreciative and I hope they caught some ‘Eyes. It got me thinking that we have a lot of great fishermen and fisher-

some great fishing tips. So in the next few shorelines, I will get one of these individuals to give some pointers on where and how they target different species of fish on the lake. They won’t give out their honey holes, but hopefully it will allow for anyone who wants to try to catch some fish, a better chance. And if the angler’s tips work, please remember to practice catch and release when appropriate.

Happy Holidays,

FISH BITES **Bull Bluegill Tactics** **By James Corcoran (“Corky”)**

One of the best tactics I have found to catch big bull bluegills will seem a little odd to most Bluegill anglers. But once you understand the science behind it, it will make you a believer! And when you have a pile of bull bluegills to fillet you really will be a believer!

Big bluegills leave the shallows after the thermocline sets up in any lake deep enough to stratify in summer. Once this occurs, plankton will be concentrated in the zone where the warmer, less dense water and the cooler, denser water, mixes. The baitfish will then begin to follow the plankton and feed aggressively on the plankton. You can see the thermocline on your electronics because of the concentration of plankton in this zone, as well as suspended sediments also trapped in the thermocline. The depth will vary by lake,

but in Green Lake this usually sets up in the 12-15 foot depth by middle June.

Once you have an established thermocline and you can see the plankton cloud on your electronics, look closely and you will begin to see marks just above this band of fuzz on the screen. The marks will be bull bluegills, big ones, feeding on minnows which are eating the plankton! The big bluegills, and when I say big I am referring to gills over 7 inches, become piscivorous when they reach that size. That only means one thing, if you want to eliminate the small gills from your live-well then use crappie minnows for bait!

The tactic is simple; set up a rod with a light jig, about 1/16 to 1/32 ounce will get you down to the depth necessary. If the thermocline is deeper, then use a split shot above the jig about 20 inches. Do not go to anything larger than the 1/16 ounce jig because it will have too large a profile for the bluegill to want to feed on. Keep the crappie minnow on the small side too. Position your boat so that you can drift with the wind and keep the bait in the zone just above the thermocline. I usually drift with two rods, one with a plastic bait and a minnow on the jig and one with just a minnow. I cast out a ways to keep the bait both at the proper depth and away from the boat so as to not spook the fish. The length of line will also determine the depth of the drifting bait; the more line out the deeper the drift. You have to experiment with this until you get into the fish zone. Once you begin to hit the zone try to remember how much line to let out so you can stay in the zone. Hits will NOT be subtle, they will smack it! There are times when fishing with two rods is difficult because the fish are aggressively feeding!

This tactic seems to work best with a west wind and if the wind is too light or too breezy it significantly slows the bite. If too windy, you can use a drift sock to slow you down. If too light, go bass fishing! And if an east wind, go golf or do honey do’s! But if you want to have a tasty fish fry, give this method a try, you will fill the live-well with some of the biggest gills you have ever caught! Good Luck!
Corky

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AQUATIC PLANTS IN YOUR LAKE

By Audrey Greene, Lake Specialist & AIS Coordinator for Walworth County Land Use & Resource Management

Stanley Nichols stated in the introduction to his book *Distribution and Habitat Description of Wisconsin Lake Plants*,

that "Lake plants as a group are not well understood, but the need for understanding them is great". This was true in 1999 and although there has been much educational success, it is still too often true today. While studies have shown that many lake users understand that aquatic plants are essential to a balanced and healthy lake ecosystem, they are often unhappy about lake plants that cause them any kind of inconvenience. It is important that lake lovers, lake residents and lake managers understand that a healthy lake must have a diverse, native aquatic plant population. There are many different types and species of aquatic plants. And, while it is true that there can be times when some species can grow to nuisance levels, for the most part; they provide a wide range of benefits for the lake.

Of the native plants and plant like species in lakes, algae are frequently the most vilified, but algae are in fact important components of the lake ecosystem. Planktonic algae are microscopic, free-floating species that are found in the first couple of feet in the water column and may escape notice until high concentrations, called 'blooms' change the water color and reduce visibility. These algae form the base of the food chain by producing energy through photosynthesis. This energy is then passed on when the algae are consumed by tiny invertebrates, which are then eaten by baby fish. The energy moves up the food chain when smaller fish are eaten by larger fish. Filamentous algae are also single celled species but they form long chains and often look like mats of wet wool in the water. These mats are usually attached to the lake bed, rocks or plants but when they die and are decaying, they often float to the top of the water looking like big black blobs. Although filamentous algae are not eaten, they do provide habitat for aquatic invertebrates which are eaten by fish and waterfowl. Chara and Nitella, also known as stoneworts, are complex algae that grow in a fashion resembling vascular plants. The branched structure of Stoneworts provide habitat for invertebrates and the rhizoids, rather than true roots, anchor these algae to the sediments which helps stabilize the lake bottom. Algae can and does become problematic in many lakes but with good best management practices that reduce the

amount of nutrients going into the water, algae blooms can be reduced.

The plants that most people notice in the lakes are the vascular aquatic plants, also known as macrophytes. Native macrophytes provide several important benefits for water bodies. Root systems can stabilize sediments, which helps improve water clarity. Leaves growing above or floating on the water surface absorb erosion causing wave energy and provide shade for fish. In addition, aquatic plants produce oxygen during photosynthesis, which is essential to all lake creatures. Plants in the lake help reduce algae blooms by using excess phosphorous and nitrogen. Macrophytes also provide essential habitat and food sources for fish, aquatic invertebrates and other wildlife such as ducks, geese, deer, beaver and muskrats.

Aquatic plant populations, like lakes, are sensitive to weather, water levels and nutrients. Since these elements change often, changes within lakes are also common. A recent example is the 2012 drought. During the latter part of 2011 and through 2012 the lack of precipitation resulted in low lake levels. Many Walworth County lakes saw a huge increase in aquatic plant growth because when water levels decrease, sunlight is able to penetrate areas of the lake that it can't under normal water levels. The increase in plant growth caused concern for lake residents but once the drought ended many of the issues that came with it ended as well. However, some issues will take a little more time. Cattails thrive in shallow water and the drought provided a larger shallow area in many lakes so, in some areas cattails expanded. According to Heidi Bunk, Lakes Biologist for the WI Department of Natural Resources (DNR), we can expect that, with a few years of normal water levels, most of those cattails will recede.

Lakes, and the life in them, are not static. It is not unusual to see some changes every year. Lake monitoring, via the Wisconsin Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN), is an excellent way to keep track of what's happening on your lake. Any interested citizen can receive free training to monitor for water quality, native plants or invasive species. For more information please feel free to contact Audrey Greene, Lake Specialist/Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator for Walworth County Land Use & Resource Management at 262-741-7902 or agreen@co.walworth.wi.us.

WATER QUALITY REPORT BY Dave DeAngelis

Water Quality Update

With water testing for 2013 in-the-books, it seems like a good time to talk about how our data from this past year compares to previous

years. Overall, the water quality of our lakes appears to be gradually improving.

Secchi disc readings (or water clarity readings), are important indicators of water quality. During peak season (July-August), there has been an improving upward trend over the past 8 years.

Ice Safety

David Lee Roth once said that he loved to jog except that the ice cubes would fall out of his glass. Colder weather is upon us and we are certain to see our fair share of ice on Lauderdale Lakes in the near future. Historically, our lakes are well on their way to developing ice cover by the end of November. With our lakes on the verge of being frozen, it's time to think about ice safety. Gauging the strength of ice is very difficult.

There is no such thing as 100% safe ice. With that in mind, here are a few ice safety tips:

- 1) Never walk on cloudy ice.
- 2) Only walk on clear, thick ice.
- 3) The thickness of ice is never consistent - it will be flat on top, but not on the bottom. If you are unsure about the ice thickness, stay off of the ice. If there are ice fishermen in the area, ask them. They will know.
- 4) Snow covering the ice acts as an insulator - it makes ice warmer and weaker. Walking on ice with excessive snow, especially early or late in the season can be risky.
- 5) Extreme cold snaps will actually weaken the ice.
- 6) Ice formed over running water (rivers & streams) is more dangerous than ice formed over standing water (lakes & ponds). Be especially wary of ice that forms over springs. Stay off!

Regarding ice thickness, here are some general guidelines to follow:

- 1) Less than 3" - STAY OFF!
- 2) Ice that is 4" and thicker should be safe for walking and ice fishing on foot.
- 3) Ice that is 6" and thicker should be safe for ATV or snowmobiling.
- 4) Ice that is 12" and thicker is probably safe for small cars or light pickups.
- 5) Ice that is 15" and thicker is probably safe for medium trucks.

Noisy ice doesn't necessarily mean unsafe ice. It's just the layer of ice shifting and moving on top of the water. Remember that the safety of ice is ever-changing and it depends on a multitude of factors including ice thickness, age of the ice, temperature, snow cover, water depth under the ice, water chemistry, currents and distribution of weight on the ice.

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Shorelines



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Never go out on the ice alone. If you are planning a hike (short or long) on the ice, here are few things you should have with you:

- 1) Foot wear that will provide adequate traction and keep your feet warm and dry. Walking on ice is slow going compared to walking on land. In wet snow, your feet can get cold (and wet) quickly.
- 2) A throw rope to provide a way to pull someone out of the water if they fall through the ice.
- 3) Ice picks – keep these in a pocket that is easily accessible. If you fall through the ice, you can use these to pull yourself out of the water.
- 4) Flotation device – if you fall through, you float! In icy water, hypothermia sets in quickly.
- 5) Spud bar – basically a walking stick with a nail at the end to help keep your balance as you walk on the ice and probe for unsafe ice.

Have a safe and FUN winter!

**LAUDERDALE LAKES
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
WEB SITE
By John Antonicic**

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An EPA site concerning water of all types and a site named “A Guide to Landscaping and Gardening” that might be of interest to homeowners. Both of these sites can be found under LINKS/Environmental.

New in TOPICS, find information about the danger of Electric Shock Drowning and how to prevent it. Also, info on an invasive plant named Elroda and an article titled Protect Your Pond that explains how to keep invasive species out of lakes and ponds. Note! Pond article comes in sideways, right click and rotate to enjoy. I also have put related subjects into folders in an effort to clean up the TOPICS menu.

August meeting notes and Aug. Shorelines have been added to the site. The History Archive list has one new entry, The Names of Places.

Visit our website at: WWW.LLIA.ORG.
I can be emailed at:
jantoncic@hotmail.com or telephone 630-964-0393.

NOVEMBER SHORELINES RETRACTION By Bud Vance

In the August *SHORELINES* on page 2 in the article describing the backgrounds of the Board members it stated: “Treasurer Herb Sharpless has been on the lake since 1985. His father was involved with the building of the Lauderdale Dam. It should have said Herb’s wife Jan’s Grandfather, Al Boysen, designed and managed the reconstruction of the lake dam. Mr. Boysen was also a past president of the LLIA.

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