

Fall
2024

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President's Corner

Happy Fall! It's a great time to be at the lake: the color, the quiet, yet still some warm days for a cruise or even a dip.

I arrived hesitantly to the "Lake Lifestyle" opting to stay in our hometown of Princeton in central Wisconsin while my husband, Dennis, brought our 2 kids "up to the lake" - his mom's place- each summer until they graduated from high school. Dennis grew up on the lake too, his parents bought Sunset Ridge Resort in 1969 keeping their 4 boys busy running it seasonally until they retired and sold off the cabins. In February of 2016 Dennis' mom passed and we had to decide whether to invest in purchasing her lake home, a 6 1/2 hour drive from Princeton where we had a busy life as small town entrepreneurs.

In the early summer 2016 we all came up to her house to spend the next few weeks assessing. For Dennis and our kids, there was never a question. For me, being present there for a length of time made me realize how special the lake is: swimming in its' clear, clean water, lounging in its' sugar sand, kayaking near the lily pads as dragon flies zipped by, reading while fishing for bass, falling asleep to the croaks of frogs, waking to the call of the loons, the magnificent sunsets. I was sold- Horseshoe Lake is a gift!

"We didn't inherit the lake from our ancestors. We're borrowing it from our grandchildren." This sentiment, from a friend who is a multi-generational resident of our hometown jewel Green Lake, underscores our association's mission...

to protect, preserve and enhance Horseshoe Lake and its surrounding area. To assure the continued health of the lake's ecosystem, safe and healthy family living, high quality fish and wildlife habitat and survival of these natural gifts for future generations.

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Green Lake (near our home in Princeton, Wi) was recently upgraded from the Wisconsin DNR's "Impaired Waters List" to its' "Waters in Restoration List" by developing an expensive, extensive and long-term action plan to reduce its' high phosphorus levels by 57%! Levels that impair water quality and fuel plant growth that degrades conditions for aquatic species and wildlife. Green Lake's current condition evidences a future that, if members stay true to our mission, can be avoided through proactive and preventative measures.

As our association expends resources to mitigate the influx and impacts of invasive species, abutting homeowners can also help by mitigating other impacts. A pamphlet left by the National Loon Center at our annual meeting provides simple steps that, while loon friendly, can at the same time boost the health of our lake and surrounding wildlife habitat - the essential ingredients that lured us to this lake life! Provide a lakeside no-mow zone to filter runoff, grass clippings and leaves, use phosphorus-free fertilizer or none at all to prevent build up in the water, minimize the use of salt which never dissolves from the lake, plant or leave native plants and flowers on the shoreline and in the shallows to attract birds, fish, frogs and turtles who are voracious eaters of mosquitos.

I look forward to working together with our members to enjoy this gift today but also to ensure we can pass it on, proudly, to our grandchildren!

Kristin Galatowitsch
President

STANDING COMMITTEES

WATER QUALITY

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218-765-3797
147ironwood@gmail.com

AIS MANAGEMENT

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FISHERIES/MANAGEMENT

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LAKE EVENTS:

-Kids Fishing Contest/Potluck

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July 4th Boat Parade

Carla Gillespie 651-983-9421
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CHANNEL BUOYS

Jerry Martin and Bud Hays

COMMUNICATIONS AND

-Membership

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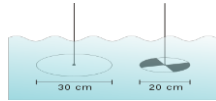
Facebook Page

Dave Baker
Carla Gillispie

Committee Reports, Etc.

Water Quality, AIS, Wildlife,
Membership, Lake Items

WATER QUALITY



A Secchi disc is a black and white disk that is lowered by hand into the water. The distance at which it vanishes from sight is recorded. The clearer the water, the greater the distance. Jerry Martin has been taking Secchi readings on Horseshoe Lake for many years.

The reading on Sept. 15, 2024:

West basin- 16'5"

East basin 17'5"

To compare:

The spring reading on May 6:

West basin—26'

East basin—30'

According to WaterRangers.com

Typical values are:

Murky lakes: 1' – 3.5'

Typical lakes: 3.5' – 24'

Very clear lakes: 33' – 196'

MEMBERSHIP

Thank you all who have paid '24/25 fiscal year dues, plus a special thanks to those who added an optional donation to the lake fund. If you have not paid, you will soon receive a friendly reminder. Payments made in August—at the start of the HLPOA fiscal year—ensure that your payment is applied to the current fiscal year and make our dues processing more efficient.

Selling your place? We hate to see you go! Or maybe you have new neighbors? We'd love to welcome them and pass on information about HLPOA. In either case, please reach out to Judy at mdeis@comcast.net so we can update our contact list. Thank you all!

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Horseshoe Lake Property Owners Association (HLPOA) ended its fiscal year that runs Aug 2023 through July 2024 with a \$9,896.00 increase to reserves. The largest disbursement/expense was Lake Protection efforts against aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) for boat & trailer inspections at our public launch. This area accounted for 65% of the expenses last fiscal year. Our total expenses for the year were \$5,356.00.

We begin our new fiscal year 2024-2025 in a good position. Our beginning balance of \$32,608.00, \$7,608.00 in cash and \$25,000 in a bank CD, gives us some cushion for future needs particularly in the AIS area. While early in the year, we are on track to meet our total plan of just under \$15,000.00 in receipts. The spending plan for this year is slightly higher than last at \$6,950.00 mainly driven by more inspection time and buoy channel marker replacements. Anyone desiring more financial detail should feel free to contact me at mamccor2@gmail.com.

Mark McCormick, HLPOA
Treasurer



HORSESHOE LAKE ITEMS



Horseshoe Lake items make great gifts! We have many to choose from: Order clothing items at: <https://horseshoelake.itemorder.com/shop/home/> Cutoff date to order is Sept. 30

The 2025 calendars featuring photos from Horseshoe Lake was a very successful fundraiser! The few remaining are available for \$20 by emailing nancysayresjones@gmail.com Plans are underway for a 2026 version, so pick up your cameras and start shooting seasonal photos of our beautiful lake!

Renae Saunders, one of our Horseshoe Lake artists has graciously donated some of her artwork for sale. The prints depict life on our lake and are available in three sizes. Contact Nancy Jones if you are interested in purchasing one of these beautiful prints. (photos on the back page of this newsletter.)

Proceeds from the calendar and artwork go to the Lake Protection Fund. Thanks for supporting our efforts to keep our lake clean and enjoyable for family and friends.

Boat Parade Winners

Not even the threat of rain could stop the 2024 Fourth of July boat parade. The parade started at noon as promised and featured many fun and creative entries.

Our judges-- last year's winners, the Bonnie Gross family—had their work cut out for them as they chose the winners.

Thank you to all who participated in this treasured event, which adds to the camaraderie and vibrancy of our lake!

Get your thinking caps on and start planning for next summer's parade!



Second place: Octopus/Little Mermaid by the Rogosheske family



Third place: Luau by the Gilbertson family



Kid's Fishing Contest

Bright sunshine and beautiful weather greeted 49 kids in 17 boats who gathered on Saturday morning August 31 for the annual fishing contest. Competition was tough, but everyone had fun! Winners were as follows:

Grand prize:

Cecilia Paske
27 ¼ inch Northern

Crappies:

- 1st place: Theo Haugstad
11 ¼ inch
2nd place: Frances Rudnitski
10 ¾ inch
3rd place: Connor Boeckman
10 ¼ inch

Bass:

- 1st place: Theo Haugstad
17 inch
2nd place: Connor Boeckman
16 ¾ inch
3rd place: Landen Moyer
14 inch

Sunnies:

- 1st place: Maddy Unertel
9 inch
2nd place: August Unertel
9 inch
3rd place: Ali Weiner
9 inch
4th place: Eli Haugstad
8 ¾ inch
5th place: Zoe Weiner
8 ¾ inch

Northerns:

- 1st place: Theo Haugstad
26 ¾ inch
2nd place: Gavin Geatz
24 inch
3rd place: Wally Williamson
22 ½
4th place: Ali Weiner
22 ½

Multiple northerns were taken by:

- Eisele boat: 11 northern
Huestes boat: 9 northern
Gilbertson boat: 5 northern
Rudnitski boat: 5 northern

EYE ON IT



National Loon Center

Loons, our beloved state bird, will soon claim a distinguished place as the star of the National Loon Center, an interactive, educational and recreational center in Crosslake. The Center's temporary facility at The Nest in Crosslake has served as an information center for the past several years, but plans are underway to break ground on a permanent 15,000 square foot facility that will open in Crosslake in late 2026.

According to its website, the National Loon Center will be "a national leader in loon preservation and freshwater conservation and an educational family-friendly destination with a positive impact on the local community, the regional ecosystem and visitors from across the nation."

For more information about loons and the National Loon Center, visit its website at: nationallooncenter.org or visit The Nest in Crosslake Town Square open Thursday-Saturday from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.



Photo credit: Judy Deis



First place: Olympics by Huestis and Trenary family



Stuffed Acorn Squash

- 2 acorn squash, halved through from stem to base with seeds removed
- 4 teaspoons olive oil
- Kosher salt and ground black pepper to taste
- 1 pound Italian chicken or turkey sausage
- 8 ounces finely chopped mushrooms
- 1 small yellow onion, chopped
- 1 medium sweet, crisp apple, peeled, cored and finely diced
- Spice mixture: ½ t salt, ¼ t pepper, ¼ t nutmeg, 1/8 t ground allspice, 2 cloves minced garlic
- 1T chopped fresh sage and fresh thyme
- ½ cup shredded Parmesan cheese, divided

Brush each squash half with olive oil and bake, cut-side up, on a rimmed baking sheet for 40 min. at 400 degrees. Set aside and reduce oven temp to 375. Brown the sausage in olive oil, then add mushrooms, onion, apple and Spice mixture. Cook until vegetables and apple are softened, about 8 minutes. Scoop out the squash flesh and Add to sausage mixture. Add ¼ cup Parmesan cheese and fresh sage and thyme. Mound the filling into the Hollowed squash halves and sprinkle remaining ¼ cup of Parmesan on top. Bake at 375 degrees for 15 minutes. Sprinkle with additional fresh herbs if desired. (also delicious with cooked wild rice added to the sausage mix)

MISSION STATEMENT



- To protect, preserve, and enhance Horseshoe Lake and its surrounding area. To ensure the continued health of the lake's ecosystem, safe and healthy family living, high quality fish and wildlife habitat and the survival of these natural gifts for future generations.

Photo credit to Bryan Stuhlsatz

“Dancing of the autumn leaves on a surface of a lake is a dream we see when we are awake.” Mehmet Murat Ildan



MISSION TOWNSHIP AND PARK NEWS

Check out the Mission Township website for more information on our township developments. <https://missiontownship.org/>.

UPCOMING 2025 HLPOA DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, May 3	Board Meeting 8:30 – 10:00 am
Saturday, June 7	Board Meeting 8:30 – 10:00 am
Thursday, July 10	Board Meeting 7:00 – 8:30 pm
Thursday, July 31	Board Meeting 7:00 – 8:30 pm
Saturday, August 2	ANNUAL MEETING 8:00 – 11:00 am
Thursday, August 14	Board Meeting 7:00 – 8:30 pm
Saturday, August 30	Kids Fishing Contest and Potluck
Thursday, September 18	Board Meeting 8:30 – 10:00 am



Have you spotted these friendly folks living in Mission Park?

Our resident gnomes have recently been featured in a blog in Minnesota Prairie Roots by Audrey Kletscher Helbling, who enjoyed a walk through the park with her husband.

To read the entire charming story, go to:

<https://mnprairieroots.com/2024/07/22/in-search-of-gnomes-at-mission-park/>

[In search of gnomes at Mission Park | Minnesota Prairie Roots \(mnprairieroots.com\)](https://mnprairieroots.com)

Gnomes on a teeter totter by the playground. (Minnesota Prairie Roots copyrighted photo July 2024)

Gnomes at home in the woods. (Minnesota Prairie Roots copyrighted photo July 2024)



HLPOA FACEBOOK PAGE

HLPOA Facebook group is a private page for Horseshoe Lake Merrifield MN. The Facebook page is for currently paid HLPOA members and their family members. To join, go to the Facebook page and request access from coordinators Dave Baker or Carla Gillispie.



HLPOA Membership Yard Signs – contact Pam Heller
Pamheller24@gmail.com

UPCOMING LAKES AREA EVENTS

If you are in the Brainerd Lakes Area, check out all the activities at the website: business.explorebrainerdlakes.com/events (Check before you plan to attend as events can be cancelled)

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
September 26 - 28	All day	Crosslake Days	Various locations throughout Crosslake
Sat., October 5	11:00 – 7:00	Oktoberfest Pub Crawl	Gull Lake area
Thurs., Oct 10	5:00 -9:00 pm	Skiing Through the Eras	Mount Ski Gull, Nisswa
Fri., Oct. 18	9:00 – 2:00	Fall in Christmas Home Tour	Nisswa and Pequot Lakes
Sat., Oct 19	9:00 - Noon		
Oct., 17, 18, 19	7:00 – 9:00 pm	Haunted Trail	Northland Arboretum, Brainerd
Sat., Dec. 3	Noon – 3:00	Holiday at the Dam	Crosslake
Fri, Dec. 13	6:00 pm Fri – 3:00 pm Sat	Off the Rails Market	Northern Pacific Center, Brainerd
Sat., Dec. 14			
Thurs., Jan 30- Sat., Feb 1	9:00 – Midnight	Winterfest	Crosslake
Sat., March 15	All day	St. Patrick's Day Parade and Celebration	Crosslake



The Horseshoe Lake Men's Breakfast/Coffee Group

Meet at Valerie Ann's in Ossipee every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.

The Horseshoe Lake Women's Get-Together

Meet at Valerie Ann's the first and third Tuesday of every month at 9:00 a.m.
Plus every Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m.

The HLPOA Newsletter is published twice a year:

Spring (May/June)

Fall (September)

Please contact any board member with news that may be of interest to fellow HLPOA members!

Horseshoe Lake information is available when you join HLPOA Horseshoe Lake Property Owners Association

- Check out the Website: <https://www.horseshoelakemn.com/>
- Horseshoe Lake Facebook page – HLPOA Members Only

Emergency Numbers to Remember

Crosslake Police

218-692-2222

Mission Lake Fire Department

218-765-3259

CALL 9-1-1

If you have an emergency

Embrace the changing seasons as we say, “see you next spring,” to many of our neighbors!



Artwork by Horseshoe Lake artist Renae Saunders

Prints available in three sizes:

18 X 24 \$50

9 X 12 \$30

7 X 7 \$20

Contact Nancy Jones at nancysayresjones@gmail.com if you are interested in purchasing. All proceeds go to the Horseshoe Lake Protection fund.