



The Christmas Lake Home Owner's Association Newsletter
Spring 2010

From the President

Another summer is quickly approaching and Christmas Lake will soon be busy with boats and water activities. It was a wonderful winter, and I hope many of you had the opportunity to enjoy the lake over the winter months. I thank Steve Midthun and whoever else may have helped him groom the lake over the winter months for those who enjoy cross-country skiing and walking on a groomed trail; it was absolutely beautiful this winter.

The Christmas Lake Homeowners Association Board continues to deal with many issues including: water quality, exotic species management (weeds and animals), Lake Safety and social activities.

This summer Debbie Kelly, in conjunction with WOW (Walk on H₂O), will be offering a boat safety course. WOW has just completed the production of a boat driving instructional video, thanks in part to Dave and Peggy Schultz. We will show a preview of this video at the Annual Christmas Lake Homeowners Association Meeting and a copy of this video will be available to anyone in the Association who is interested. I have seen the video, it is very well done, and I would recommend it to anyone who drives a boat. I understand the video complements the boat safety course (which I plan on taking this summer) and I would recommend this course to all who drive a boat on Christmas Lake. We are in the midst of putting the details together and will have more information at the Annual

Meeting. If anyone is interested, please contact me or look on the Christmas Lake web site where we will have more information.

The Board continues to recommend harvesting or pulling of Eurasian water milfoil. With this in mind, it was of interest to hear that chemical treatment of Eurasian water milfoil on Lake Minnetonka will not be expanded this year because of what the Department of Natural Resources reported as, "Troubling changes in the water." They reported some desirable native plants disappeared and water clarity dropped in some areas treated with chemicals. Some say it is too early to know what caused the loss of native plants and the loss of water clarity in these areas of chemical treatment but water clarity and plant diversity have been two of the main concerns the Christmas Lake Board has had when considering chemical treatments of Eurasian water milfoil.

Just to review some considerations the board has had when discussing Eurasian water milfoil treatment options. Phosphorus is one of the rate limiting nutrients of algae growth (algae causes a lack of water clarity). Nutrients, including phosphorus, are bound in plants and when bound by plants these nutrients are not available for algae growth. When Eurasian water milfoil is removed from the lake, by harvesting or by pulling, these nutrients are also removed from the lake. On the other hand, when plants are killed by chemical means, the dead plants decompose in the water releasing their

nutrients (including phosphorus) and this increase in water nutrients can lead to algae blooms. Also the roots of plants stabilize the lake bottom, this helps prevent waves from stirring lake bottom sediments which would also decrease water clarity.

Another point to remember is Christmas Lake is like a basin, it has a relatively small watershed and when water (and whatever else) enters Christmas Lake it stays in the lake for a very long time because very little water leaves the lake. Many other lakes are kind of like slow moving rivers where water (and other things) enter the lake, then slowly move through the lake exiting at a creek. Being like a basin is one reason Christmas Lake stays so clear but it also means any changes that occur to our water quality may be with us for a long time to come. This is one of the reasons we hired Blue Water Science to compile past lake data from all know sources (DNR, State of Minnesota, Hennepin County, Carver County, private sources, etc.) and to monitor the lake annually. By doing this we now have all the lake's data in a central location, better enabling us to detect water quality changes that may occur.

I hope everyone has a safe and fun summer. If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Ron Mason

Annual Meeting

The Christmas Lake Homeowners Association Annual Meeting will be held on May 27 at 7:00 pm in the Excelsior Elementary School Auditorium. We hope to have a large turnout.

Last year, the Board agreed to hire Blue Water Science to perform analyses of the lake and present the findings to the Board last fall for better decision making to preserve the future of Christmas Lake. The

findings will be made available to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

12th Annual Christmas Lake Run/Walk

The 12th Annual Christmas Lake Fun Run/Walk will be held on Memorial Day, May 31, at 9:00. Last year, we contributed \$2,140 to the Intercongregational Food Shelf. This year's proceeds will be sent to a deserving charity chosen by the Association Board members. Suggestions are welcome.

Annual Dues

This year's dues will be set at the Annual Meeting.

Boating Safety Classes

The details will be covered at the Annual Meeting. In the meantime, if you would like more information, please contact Ron Mason.

July 4th Activities

Last year's theme for the parade and dock contest was "Rock and Roll". There were many outstanding entries. Below are pictures of the winning entries and the annual poem. The 2010 theme will be announced soon. We are looking for a volunteer family to host this year's after party. Please contact Ron Mason or Harley Feldman if you would like to host the party.



**Eagle Boat – “Deep Purple”
(Szalapskis)**



**Shark – “Old Time Rock n Roll”
(Jabs and Pollads)**



**Eagle Dock – “Jackson Kelly Five”
(Kellys)**



**HM - “Purple Rainey”
(Rainey)**



**Eager Beaver – “Jail House Rock”
(Newhouses and Feeneys)**



**HM - “Elvis”
(Twifords)**

Christmas Lake – July 4th, 2009

by Harley Feldman

Here we are again, the Fourth of July to be sure
A day of festivities, with enjoyment that is pure.

Running the race starts the day, there are runners with a passion
Then it's onto the parade, with many in fashion.

The theme for this year, was chosen as "Rock and Roll"
The winners will be decided, by the judges by poll.

The judges were Irene Joseph and Ron Mason, Jack and Deanne
Carolyn Peterson son's Greg, and yours truly Harley Feldman.

The Eagle Awards, are given to the very best
That special dock and boat, that the judges attest.

The Eager Beaver Award, goes to the best group well done
It's the very best result, that could not be outdone.

The Shark Award is very special, it goes to the display that is outstanding
Typically crude or very funny, the result quite commanding.

American Bandstand, the Joyces in splendor
The music was awesome, and oh so tender.

Splish-Splash for Lot 11, and the Punkes had soap beards
The balloons were blue and white, and everyone cheered.

Purple Rain was the favorite theme, Beddors and the Raineys
The children were all singing, was that Julie in training?

Rock N Roll from the Novaczyks, they missed the musical theme
And the rock and the roll, seemed a very bizarre scheme.

The Twifords had Elvis, he was signing away
The girls were excited, throwing their bras as they swayed.

Deep Purple was the Szalapskis, the music was fair
Where did Ed Szalapski, get all of that hair?

Hall of Fame musicians, were evident on the Mackays
That old wooden boat, was a very special display.

The Jabs and the Pollads, were Old Time Rock and Roll
Can you believe the great moves, as Tom stole the show.

Jimi Hendricks was jamming, Swirtzs were singing along
Newhouses were Jail House Rock, the music was strong.

The Fields they delivered, the birth of Rock and Roll
That was the ugliest mother, and the baby was a troll.

Sgt. Pepper and the Beatles, inhabited Schultz's double decker
There were musicians galore, they even had a groupie heckler.

Cunninghams had many family, "You Can't Always Get What You Want"
Bernie Madoff and the others, were ever a taunt.

Another Purple Rain on the Wetzels, they attempted signs that were fine
The Larsons found Johnny Cash, and June Carter walked the line.

Hunka Hunka Burning Love, the Larsons pretended Elvis
The women were topless, and shaking their pelvis.

Bad Moon Rising was such a jolt, the Overstads were real crazy
The Fagerlee's Hall of Fame musicians, they were definitely not lazy.

The Jackson Five invaded the Kellys, in memory of Michael to be seen
The whole family was dancing, their moves were a scene.

On to the awards.....

For Dishonorable Mention, the Larsons went topless
For Honorable Mention, the Purple Raineys boat was spotless.

And Elvis was special, on the Twifords boat
A little more crooning, as the award was real close.

The Eagle Boat Award, goes to the people with much hair
The music was live, Szalapskis won fair and square.

The Eagle Dock Award, was for dancing smooth like jelly
The whole family was in sync, and it goes to the Kellys.

The Eager Beaver Award, were Jail House Rockin away
To the Newhouses and Feeneys, the kids were all singing away.

The Shark Award is real special, it was for a unique Dad
It goes to the Jabs and their friend, the incomparable Tom Pollad.

A special thank you is deserved, the arrangements they did wield
We owe a big debt of gratitude, for the family Frankenfield.

Thanks to the Kelly family for the theme, it could not have been better
Everyone had great fun, it was perfect to the letter.

The rest of the day is for eating, boating and great fun
The parties will run, until we lose the sun.

Then race to the lake, two city's explosions to see
Rubber necking to see both, and at the end we will flee.

The Fourth is always special, for everyone's sake
Meeting again in a year, for everyone on Christmas Lake.