



# The Chain Letter



Volume 15 Issue 1

Winter 2014-15

*Special points of interest:*

**Annual Meeting  
Saturday  
June 13, 2015  
10:00am  
Pike Lake  
Firehall**

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Your Pike Lake Fire Dept is in need of:  
**Emergency  
Medical  
Responders**  
If interested, contact Molly Nordrum (715) 892-2009  
Your class will be paid for by the department and your hours for taking the class will be paid after 2 years of service.

## PREZ SEZ by Arnie Clement

During the last board meeting of the PLCLA, the subject of Pike Lake Chain Lakes Association property owners and lake users was discussed relative to becoming and remaining members to support the goals and objectives of the Association. It was pointed out that in 2013 we had 146 members paying dues, while in 2014 our membership dropped to 127. A conclusion could be reached that members are becoming complacent because, during the past 20 years of the Association, we have not had any real crisis. While this is correct, it should be pointed out that your Association has been very active in monitoring our beautiful chain of lakes to make sure problems do not occur. The money that is obtained from our dues has been and is used to pay for water quality testing, maintenance of equipment, monitoring and control of aquatic invasive species, education of board members through attending the annual Convention of Wisconsin Lakes Association meetings (as well as attending other lakes' association meetings) on issues pertinent to our chain of lakes, paying for our annual meeting, which includes a guest speaker, paying for our portion of DNR grants for our lake management plans and updates (including the 2010 Aquatic Plant Surveys, the 2011 Aquatic Invasive Species Assessment, and the 2011 Lake Sediment Surveys) to evaluate the growth potential of aquatic invasive species and sediment phosphorous release. Our dues also pay for our newsletters - including postage, maintaining our web-site, and for liability insurance. This year we retained an engineering consultant to further investigate issues identified in our previously completed Water Quality and Lake Sediment Surveys.

Each and every property owner and lake user should ask themselves the question, "Why should I become, or continue to be, a member of our Lakes Association?" The answer to me is very obvious, **"To support the activities of our Lakes Association to protect the water quality and therefore our property values."** Several studies have shown that lakes with poor water quality, due to aquatic invasive species, have seen property values fall approximately 25%. Paying a mere \$25 per year and becoming involved is your best investment to protect your property value as well as the health of our lakes. **ICANT THINK OF A BETTER WAY TO INVEST \$25! Being a member of the Pike Lake Chain Lakes Association is the RIGHT THING TO DO.** Our lakes system belongs to all of us and we have the responsibility of protecting it and keeping it as clean as it can be.

Our 2015 Annual Meeting has been scheduled for June 13th. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting and on the water this summer.

*Arnie Clement, President*

**LIKE/FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK  
Pike Lake Chain Lakes  
Association, Inc**

Patti Schroeder would like to thank those who donated stuffed animals and items for the Fun Day kids games. They are always greatly appreciated.

**Regulations Updates**

Based on their recent data gathering (including a PLCLA facilitated stake holder meeting in the summer of 2012) the DNR will be placing the following questions on the Spring 2015 Hearings questionnaire, with probable implementation for the 2016 fishing season.

Walleye – Continue to allow 5 walleye (or whatever the current year bag limit specifies) of any size to be kept daily, except only one walleye 14 inches or longer may be harvested per day.

Pan fish – A total daily bag limit of 25 pan fish may be kept , but no more than 10 of any one species.

**Lake Habitat Management**

The DNR has introduced a new program called “Healthy Lakes” to try to get individual property owners more involved in improving/keeping Wisconsin’s lakes healthy. In addition to the current larger scale ‘whole lake’ projects like the PLCLA has been involved in, there now is grant money available for these new, smaller scale ‘practices’. For example, if a property owner would be interested in doing a Fish Stick Practice, and has the suitable shoreline habitat for it, the PLCLA could help in getting the grant, the DNR permit, and work with the riparian owner to make it happen. There are 5 Practices:

Fish Sticks – large woody habitat structures that utilize whole trees (3-5) grouped together and anchored to shore

Native Plantings – planting of native plants suited to the given objective (e.g., increase bird & butterfly habitat)

Diversion of Runoff - building of a water bar diverter and broad-based dip to intercept runoff

Rock Infiltration – building a pit or trench filled w/rock that reduces runoff by storing it underground

Rain Garden – a landscaped shallow depression with loose soil designed to collect roof and driveway runoff

There will be more information presented and how you as a lake property owner can get involved at the PLCLA Annual Meeting on June 13, 2015.

**FUN FACTS from the DNR**

- Forests today cover 46% of Wisconsin.
- Largest Ownership of Wisconsin forests is to private individuals at 57%; County & Municipal 15%; National Forest 9%; Forest Industry 7%; State 5%; Private Corporation 4%; Tribal Lands 2% and other Federal 1%. The percentage of ownership has remained relatively constant since 1956.
- Dominant tree species in Northwest Wisconsin are Aspen, Soft maple and hard maple.
- Wisconsin forests are more likely to burn during the months of April and May. The number one cause of forest fires - "debris burning" followed by fireworks, improper ash disposal, power lines, and children playing with matches etc.



Brushing the trails for the 2014/2015 snowmobile season, and you thought it was the little forest gnomes that cut up all those downed trees! Join the Sno-Droivers today!

Don Benz sent us this picture taken in 1945 of a fox farm located on the west side of Sheep Ranch Road about 1/4 mile south of Hwy 70 and west to Foulds Creek. The fox raised here were platinum in color and imported from Germany.



The Ahles have been seeing coyotes regularly on their trail-cam on Rice Creek Road.



**PIKE LAKE CHAIN LAKES ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**Dues are \$25.00 per membership per year.** Dues cover the period 1/1/2015 to 12/31/2015.

Record membership as: \_\_\_ Individual/Family, \_\_\_ Business, \_\_\_ Trust

Please note: 1 membership constitutes 1 vote, with a Family, Business, or Trust membership, **anyone** in your Family, Business, or Trust is eligible to cast that one vote.

# of Memberships \_\_\_ @\$25.00 = Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME(S) :** (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Email addresses are used only as a means to forward information from within our chain of lakes, such as meeting dates, lost and found items, and Pike Lake Chain area events, etc, addresses are not made public.

Place of Residence (If different from address label on front of newsletter):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Residence Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Residence Address (If different from Place of Residence)  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate your areas of interest:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Boat Landing Monitoring \_\_\_\_\_ Lake Aquatic Monitoring \_\_\_\_\_ Officer or Board Member

\_\_\_\_\_ Other - Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

**Make all checks payable to: Pike Lake Chain Lakes Association, Inc.**

\*\*\*\*\*Please include this form and **MAIL TO**\*\*\*\*\*

**Pam Ahles**

N15058 RICE CREEK CT, PARK FALLS, WI 54552

**WATER SKIING AND ALL TOWABLE ACTIVITES SURVEY**

A question arose, at our last PLCLA Annual Meeting, if we would be able to address the hours of skiing and towable activities on our chain of lakes, by the use of a survey, and give the results to the Fifield Town Board for their consideration.

We are asking you to please fill out this form and **return it by March 1st** to **Pam Ahles** at N15058 Rice Creek CT, Park Falls 54552, as we would like the input from all those in our Fire District.

Please check your preferred choice:

\_\_\_\_\_ Expand current water skiing regulations to include all towable activities (tubes, wakeboards and similar equipment). Keeping hours as is currently listed by the Township (10:00 am to 5:00 pm).

\_\_\_\_\_ Expand water skiing and all towable activity hours (including tubes, wakeboards and similar equipment) from 9:00 am to 6:30 pm, but not to exceed sunset.

\_\_\_\_\_ Expand water skiing and all towable activity hours (including tubes, wakeboards and similar equipment) to sunrise to sunset.

Name:

Address:

Pike Lake Chain Lakes  
Association, Inc.

**NI4885 Shady Knoll Road  
Park Falls, WI 54552**

**This could be your  
last newsletter—  
please fill out survey**

*Here to preserve and protect  
for future generations*



## **THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER**

Unless you fill out the form below and return to **Pam Ahles**  
N15058 RICE CREEK CT, PARK FALLS, WI 54552

Due to the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter, and the age of technology, the Association is giving you a choice as to how you would like to receive your newsletter:

I would like my newsletter emailed to me at my email address: \_\_\_\_\_  
This will be as a PDF file.

I will read the newsletter on the Pike Lake Chain Lakes Association, Inc Facebook page.  
Individual articles and pictures will be posted.

I would prefer to still get a hard copy mailed to me via the US Postal Service.

If we do not receive this form back, we will assume that you are not interested in receiving the newsletter and will remove you from our list.

Name:  
Address:

If your address label is wrong, it means that Price County has it wrong and you need to contact them to correct it.