

The
Chain Letter



Pike Lake Chain Lakes Association, Inc.

2022 ISSUE





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Russ Schroeder, Vice President
Ann Sloane, Secretary
Bonnie Ida, Treasurer

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Jason Yates
Mike Ida
Jack Wierzba
Manny Stein
Ed Hunter
Jim Clemmons
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Aquatic Invasive Species
Steve Ave'Lallemant
Lake Monitoring/Water Quality
Rick Sironi
Clean Boats Clean Water
Open
Fisheries
Russ Schroeder
History
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**PIKE LAKE CHAIN
LAKES ASSOCIATION**

Happy New Year to all Pike Lake Chain residents and members of the Pike Lake Chain Lakes Association (PLCLA)! This message comes from your President in what I consider to be an unprecedented year for all of us. Because of Covid, we canceled meetings and events. Fortunately, we were still able to have Fun Day in 2021 and it was a success. I think that event restored some good feelings about the future although we need to continue being vigilant about our activities until this "menace" is under control. Being vaccinated and boosted has given us encouragement but we must continue to be careful how we conduct ourselves.

As you may be aware, we canceled a few meetings this past year as well as our Annual Meeting for the second year in a row. We have optimistically scheduled our 2022 Annual Meeting for June 4, 2022, anticipating we will be able to conduct ourselves in a safe and healthful manner. We continued monitoring water quality as in past years and continue to maintain very good conditions in our lake system as well as keeping invasive species outbreaks to a minimum. Although we do have limited areas where invasives exist, they are in low quantities. We hope to be able to acquire the special beetles that feed on the Purple Loosestrife plant to help with some of our larger outbreaks. I thank those residents who continue to provide their help in these critical activities. Eradication of these invasive species and overseeing our water quality contributes to the high quality of our lake system.

With regard to the Fish Passage project we have been hearing about the past several years, I understand the DNR and Forest Service continue to maintain those planning activities in their sights. We recently received a communication indicating their desire to move forward with this project. We also understand there have been fish species identification and monitoring in the downstream reaches of the outlet stream. We hope to have a briefing at an upcoming meeting of the Board about this project.

Mike Ida has recently met with the Fifield Town Board, which adopted and enforces the slow-no-wake and water skiing ordinance for our lake system, to discuss water skiing hours and placement of additional buoys in critical shoreline areas where excessive wave action is adversely impacting shoreline erosion. The acquisition and placement of additional warning buoys was authorized and those buoys were in place for part of the past year and will be placed in the coming years to reduce boat speeds and excessive wave

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PIKE LAKE EMS TEAM by Ann Sloane

While not part of the Pike Lake Chain Lakes Association, all area residents benefit from the services provided by the Pike Lake EMS team. Pike Lake EMS is committed to improving patient outcomes through community involvement and training. To fulfill this mission and serve our community effectively, our goal is to continue growing as a department. We rely exclusively on volunteer membership and are currently welcoming new applicants.

Meet your Pike Lake EMS Team:

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pikelakechain.net



PIKE LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Pike Lake Fire & Rescue recently held their bi-annual Officer elections. Elected Officers include:

Warren Johnson, Chief
Matt Langenhahn, Assistant Chief
Catherine O'Hagan, Lieutenant-EMS Service Director
Patti Corey, Training Officer

Certified in both Firefighting and EMS, Warren Johnson has been with Pike Lake Fire & Rescue for 5+ years. Matt Langenhahn has 9+ years of experience as an active firefighter. Catherine O'Hagan has 30+ years of EMS experience, including Paramedic, Field Training Officer and Supervisor/Lead EMS Instructor. Patti Corey brings 30+ years of experience as a Paramedic and Firefighter, and has served on Pike Lake Fire & Rescue for more than 7 years.

Pike Lake Fire & Rescue relies exclusively on volunteer membership and is currently seeking new applicants for both Fire and EMS. It's a great way to serve your community and help neighbors when they need you the most.

For more information, please contact Warren Johnson at
C: (715) 661-4627
E: pikelakefirerescue@gmail.com

For burning permits, call the WDNR at 888-947-2876 or visit dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/forestfire/permits.

INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED?

There are several organizations you can be a part of. Getting involved with these organizations is a great way to meet your neighbors, help your community, and have some fun!

Pike Lake Chain Lakes Association

This is the organization that brings you this newsletter. Our mission is to preserve and protect our lake system for future generations. facebook.com/PLCLA

Pike Lake Chain Firefighters, Inc.

This is the organization that brings you Fun Day. Everyone who owns or rents in our Pike Lake Fire District is automatically a member. There are no dues. Fun Day helps support our fire department.

Fifield Sno Drovers

This is the organization that grooms our snowmobile trails. Our trails are known to be some of the best in the Northwoods. facebook.com/snodrovers

Our team of lake testers completed only three tests in 2021 due to the early thaw and then colder weather this spring. We did complete one test per month for June, July, and August. The results of the tests are all available on the DNR Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN) pages at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/clmn/>.

For insight into the test results, spend a few minutes going through the analysis provided by the DNR:

- At the bottom of the page, under GRAPHS & DATA, select Price County
- Select each of our lakes (you need to view one at a time as they are all different)
- Select the last column named REPORTS (DETAILS)

The ANNUAL REPORT, while interesting, contains the detailed test results. I would suggest spending some time looking at the NARRATIVE REPORT as it explains what the data means. I'd also spend a minute looking at the SECCHI GRAPH and the TSI GRAPH as those show how our lakes have changed over the years.

While there is normal variation year on year, after reviewing the historic graphs, it appears there continues to be NO STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT change in chlorophyll or phosphorus over the past years. The SECCHI measurements (clarity) continues to show that we enjoyed some of the clearest waters in the early season, but by the second and third tests, we were normal for our lakes. Some of this variation is likely due to the early melt and the lack of rain reducing the flow from the drainage area. I suspect this reduces the amount of tannin stain flowing into the lake.

AQUATIC INVASIVES COMMITTEE REPORT

by Steve Ave'Lallemant

Purple Loosestrife is still the only known aquatic invasive plant specie on the Pike Lake Chain. A complete shoreline survey of all four lakes was done in late August, 2021.

No loosestrife was found on Turner or Amik Lakes or the connecting channels again this year.

Pike Lake

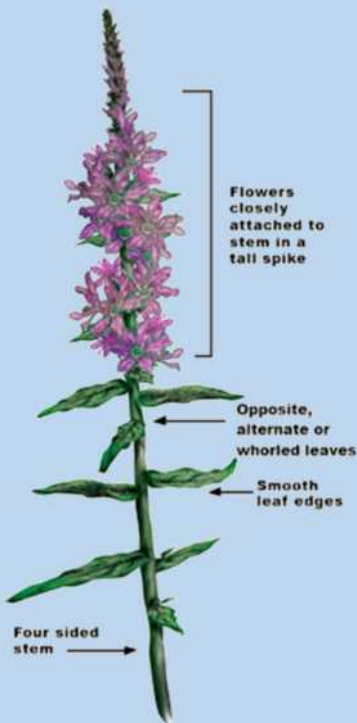
A couple of individual plants were found along the south shore (near Musky Jacks) and at the mouth of Squaw Creek. These plants were dug out and removed. There are a number of plants along the shorelines of a number of residents at the north end of the old Pine Forest Resort. They were too numerous to dig out. On a positive note, this is the only area on Pike Lake where there are any appreciable number of loosestrife plants.

Round Lake

A number of individual plants were dug out and removed from the south side of the channel at the bridge from Pike, near the old Musky Haven Resort, and along the west shore both north and south of the dam. Plants were more numerous at the Wild Goose Resort and neighboring properties north of the state boat landing, along the north shore, in the shallow bay north of the dam, around the small bay at Moose Jaw, and at the mouth of MacArthur Creek. No plants were seen, however, in the marsh of MacArthur Creek above the lake. Most of the plants had the flowering parts cut off and removed so at least they won't seed this year.

The overall density of loosestrife on the chain is still fairly low. Individual scattered plants are few and we will continue to dig them out as we see them.

The more numerous plants at the old Pine Forest Resort area could likely be dug out as well by the landowners or by a small crew of volunteers with permission of the landowners. This would need to be repeated periodically as new plants grow from the seed bed that is likely present at the site.



The plants on Round Lake are more numerous and at a number of locations. Round Lake would probably be a candidate for growing/adding loosestrife beetles. Overall plant densities might be a bit low to support a beetle population but the plants are too numerous to dig.

Warren Johnson - Fire Chief, Emergency Medical Responder, EMS

Warren is a Retired Lieutenant Commander and Aviator/Pilot for the U.S. Navy, and has lived in the Pike Lake area since 2015. With parents born and raised in the Prentice/Ogema area, his love of the Northwoods grew each year until he eventually settled into a log home on Cochran Lake. Seeing the need for volunteers, Warren joined the Pike Lake Fire Department, became a WI State Certified Firefighter, and was recently elected as Fire Chief. Two years after joining the Fire Department, he volunteered to train as a First Responder, and became a Nationally Certified EMR. Warren currently serves as Treasurer for Pike Lake Chain Firefighters, Inc., our non-profit organization formed to raise funding to support the Fire Department. He also serves on the Cochran Lake Management Board as Treasurer.



Patricia 'Patti' Corey - Fire Training Lieutenant, Emergency Medical Responder, EMS

Patti has thirty years of experience in volunteer Fire and EMS services, with six of those years also working for a paid Fire and Rescue Department. She is a WI State Certified EMT, as well as State Certified Firefighter and State Certified Fire Officer. In addition, she served as Department Safety Officer and was the Division Chief of Training for the Town of Randall Fire Department in Bassett, Wisconsin. Patti believes in leading by example to help build and support our community, and enjoys the EMS teamwork. Patti knows this service is the most important link contributing to a positive outcome for patients, and would like to see our local and County EMS system move forward to be progressive in modern emergency training and techniques.



Richard 'Rich' Dejarlais - Emergency Medical Responder, EMS

Rich brings a wide range of knowledge and expertise to our team, with 42 years of experience as a Registered Nurse in the Ministry Health Care/Ascension Health Care System—now Marshfield Clinic Health Care System—where his roles have included Nurse Manager of the Pediatric ICU/Trauma Unit, Manager and Director of Spirit Medical Transportation Service, Nurse Manager of the Surgical ICU and MICU, and interim Critical Care Service Director. Rich has served on numerous Hospital, Clinical and Operational Committees, as well as various State EMS Committees and Councils. Feeling blessed to have such diverse clinical and managerial experience, Rich wishes to share his skillset with our Department and community.



Catherine O'Hagan - EMS Lieutenant, Service Director, Emergency Medical Responder, EMS

Catherine brings more than 30 years of experience in the EMS service. She moved to the Pike Lake area two years ago, where she continues to serve her community as both an EMS provider and educator. Her experience includes working in a high-volume metropolitan area in Denver, CO as a Paramedic, Field Training Officer and Shift Supervisor. After eighteen years on the ambulance, she transitioned into EMS education at a Level One Trauma Center. Her EMS instructional duties included Primary Instructor for all National Certification levels, BLS/CPR & First Aid, and Continuing Education and Training for both volunteer and paid Fire/EMS Departments throughout the metropolitan and rural areas.



Ann Sloane - Emergency Medical Responder, EMS

A Pike Lake resident since 2014, Ann is a wife, mother, retired educator and Education Foundation board member, and is a tour director for Country Travel Discoveries. Ann, along with husband Mike, left Milwaukee to enjoy life on the lake and in the woods. With long-standing family ties to northern Wisconsin, Ann knows that Living in 'God's Country' comes with a price—that's the need for volunteers and especially First Responders. With that in mind, she immediately became an active member in the community, joining the Pike Lake Fire & Rescue team as an Emergency Medical Responder and obtaining National Certification. Ann sits on the Board of Directors for our Lake Association as well as the Sno Drovers Snowmobile Club.



Michael 'Mike' Sloane - Fire Ground Support, Emergency Medical Responder, EMS

Mike Sloane, along with wife Ann, moved to Pike Lake from Milwaukee in 2014. A Wisconsin native, Mike always knew that he'd move to the "great north". After retiring from his 40+ year career in publishing, Mike and Ann set their sights North and left Milwaukee behind. Recognizing that local community members are vital to providing the emergency services we all rely on, Mike is a volunteer for the Pike Lake Fire Department and serves on the local EMS team as a Nationally Certified Emergency Medical Responder. A man of many hobbies, Mike is involved with various local organizations and sits on the Board of Directors as an Officer for the SnoDrovers Snowmobile Club.



conditions. Improved shoreline conditions were positively noted by affected neighbors during the short time the buoys were in place. We hope conforming to these new control areas by boaters will continue yielding positive effects.

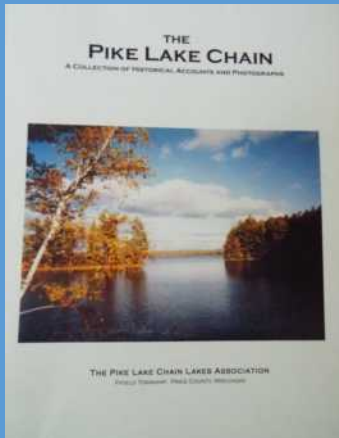
Finally, I would like to personally thank lake residents for their continued support of our Association and its activities and cooperating with changes to our boating and slow-no-wake regulations, making our lakes more enjoyable for all and helping to improve our lake environment. I also request that if you see invasive species growing on your lake property, please remove them by pulling them out of the ground where they grow and dispose of them in your garbage. That idea applies to properly disposing of cans and other trash as well. I would also like to thank Bonnie Ida for serving as our Treasurer for the past few years as she transitions to personal activities. We are working to find a replacement for that important position. I continue to ask our residents to step up and consider serving as Board or Committee members. Your help and support is appreciated and welcome.

Sincerely Yours,

Dick
Dick Mace
President

HISTORY BOOKS

Are you interested in learning more about the history of our area? Pike Lake Chain history books are available for sale. These amazing books also make great gifts!



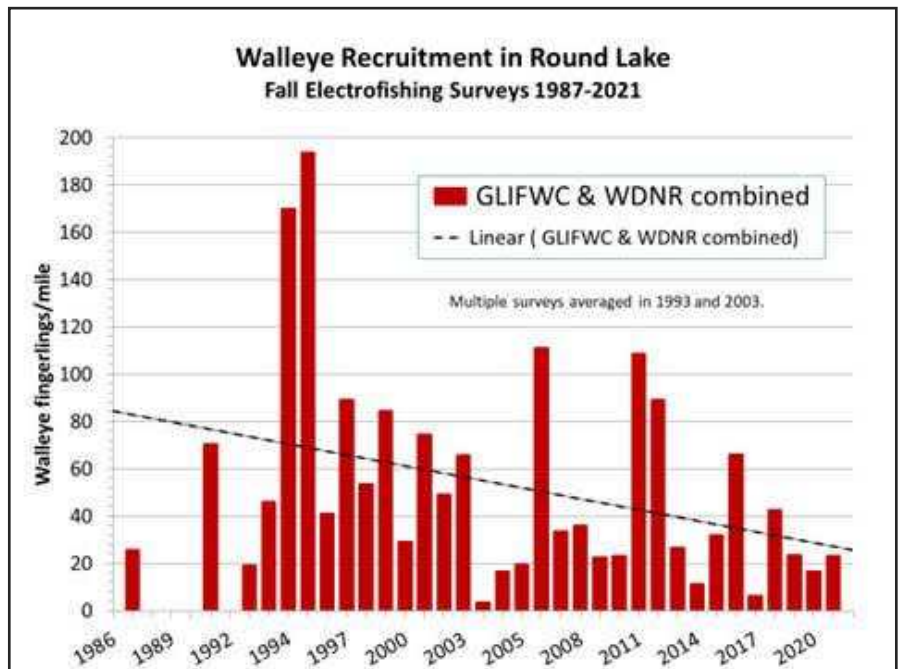
To purchase a history book, contact Dick Mace at 262-957-6227.

The WDNR performed their walleye recruitment surveys on the Pike Lake Chain of Lakes in the fall of 2021. Round Lake produced a decent (but certainly not exceptional) year class in 2021. Pike Lake's walleye recruitment hasn't changed much from the low rates we've seen the past three years.

The downward trend indicated by the dashed line is our basis for changing the walleye harvest regulation on the Pike Lake Chain and ~18 other waters in the Flambeau, South Fork Flambeau, and Elk River watersheds. No minimum length limit, or no MLL, with 1>14" was the appropriate regulation when walleye recruitment was high, but with the declining trends we've seen in these waters, those regulations are no longer the proper fit. Young walleye are not entering the population as fast as they once did, so they should not be immediately available for angling harvest. From the regulation options we can choose from, the standard walleye harvest regulation for the Ceded Territory offered the closest match for these waters. When the walleye fishing season opens in May 2022, three walleye from 15" but less than 20" may be kept, except one fish may be over 24". This rule will apply to the four lakes of the Chain combined, just like the special fishing regulations do now. We hope that recruitment will rebound to reverse the declining trend, so we can loosen harvest restrictions someday. In the meantime, WDNR's Walleye Team is considering other harvest regulations for walleye populations that have slow growth, declining recruitment, and adult population density below their management goal. If the Walleye Team provides us new options to control angling harvest, we can certainly change the walleye rule again.

Due to retirements and transfers, Jim Mineau (acting Fisheries Biologist) and Nick Berndt (Fisheries Technician) are covering fisheries-related issues in our area.

Dan Eklund is the Ranger for the MPF district. He is the former Forest Wildlife Biologist and is very familiar with the area.



PIKE LAKE CHAIN LAKES ASSOCIATION, INC.
N14885 Shady Knoll Road, Park Falls, WI 54552
MEMBERSHIP FORM

Dues are \$25.00 per membership per year. Dues cover the period 1/1/2022 to 12/31/2022.

Record membership as: Individual/Family, Business, Trust

Please note: One membership constitutes one 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:

I wish to receive my newsletter via Email, Facebook or Mail

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.

Lake Residence Address:

Place of Residence (If different from Lake address):

Residence Phone: Cell Phone:

Please indicate your areas of interest:

Boat Landing Monitoring Lake Aquatic Monitoring

Other please specify

***** Complete this form and MAIL TO *****

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

**PLCLA Treasurer
N14885 Shady Knoll Road
Park Falls, WI 54552**

TRAILS UPDATE

by Ann Sloane

"Leave the road, take the trails." - Pythagoras

The Federal Forest Service has trained a group of local volunteers in Trail Management and First Aid. Led by Terry Mantor, this group is committed to protecting and preserving the lands surrounding our lakes. They actively maintain the hiking, biking, x-country, snowshoe, and horse trails along Round Lake and the Logging Dam. Volunteers supply their own equipment, tools, first aid kits, etc.

The trails feature new signage for trail mapping, and have been cleared of brush, debris, and numerous fallen trees. A wooden fence was installed to divert snowmobilers and motorized vehicles. This past year, the trails were heavily used and enjoyed by skiers, snowshoers, bikers, and horseback riders.

The community is reminded the trails along Round Lake and the logging Dam are strictly for non-motorized vehicles.

The Chain Letter | 2022





PIKE LAKE CHAIN LAKES ASSOCIATION

N14885 Shady Knoll Road
Park Falls, WI 54552

2022 Dues

are due now!

STAY CONNECTED:

Web: pikelakechain.net

Facebook: facebook.com/PLCLA



REMINDERS

- ◆ OBSERVE "NO WAKE" ZONES - NOTE NEW BUOY LOCATIONS
- ◆ RESPECT THE 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM SKIING HOURS
- ◆ REMEMBER YOUR GARBAGE CARD WHEN USING THE DUMP



UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ ANNUAL MEETING: SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2022 – 10:00 AM, PIKE LAKE FIREHALL
- ◆ FUN DAY: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2022 – 10:00 AM, PIKE LAKE FIREHALL