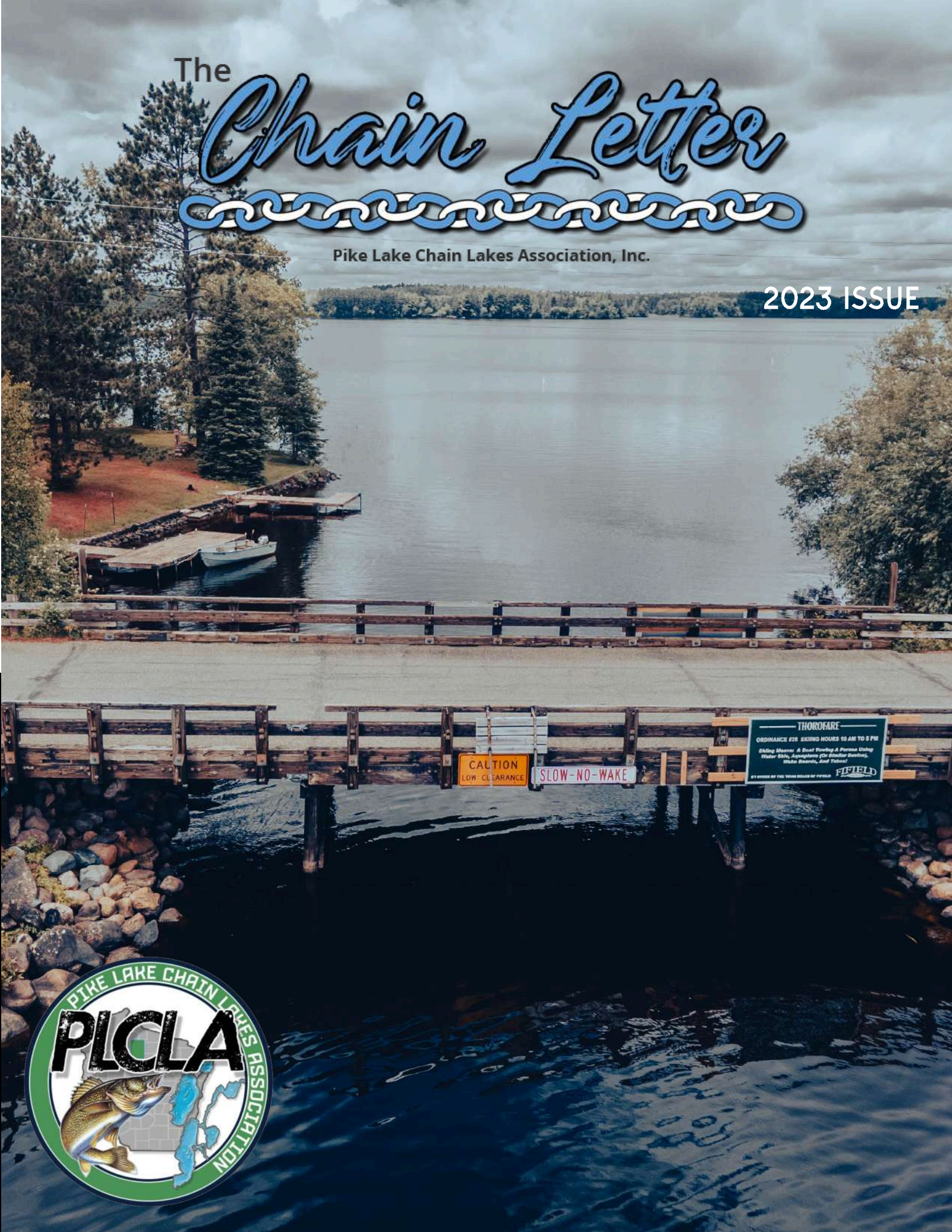


The

# Chain Letter

Pike Lake Chain Lakes Association, Inc.

2023 ISSUE



The  
*Chain Letter*

**PLCLA OFFICERS**

Dick Mace, President  
Russ Schroeder, Vice President  
Ann Sloane, Secretary  
Lynne Clemens, Treasurer

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Steve Ave'Lallemant  
Ed Hunter  
Mike Ida  
Jack Wierzba  
Thor Gunderson  
Jim Clemmons  
Everett Sammis  
Jennifer Morris

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

*Aquatic Invasive Species*  
Steve Ave'Lallemant  
  
*Lake Monitoring/Water Quality*  
Rick Sironi  
  
*Clean Boats Clean Water*  
Open  
  
*Fisheries*  
Russ Schroeder  
  
*History*  
Manny Stein  
  
*Membership*  
Lynne Clemens  
  
*Newsletter Editor*  
Derek Dieringer  
  
*Facebook*  
Derek Dieringer  
  
*Website*  
Derek Dieringer

**MAILING ADDRESS**

N14885 Shady Knoll Road  
Park Falls, WI 54552



**PIKE LAKE CHAIN  
LAKES ASSOCIATION**

**PREZ SAYS**

by Dick Mace



Happy New Year fellow Association members! Looking ahead, I hope for a less divided government and more productive and positive outcomes in our nation's capital as well as a better outcome from our Brewers and Packers although both of them have been very entertaining this past year. As for our lake community, there have been concerns about the process of buoy placements and no-wake zones as recently expressed at a Board meeting. In response, the Board will be working with the Town of Fifield and DNR about the process and procedures to be used in resolving these issues and concerns. Our progress can be monitored on the Association website or Facebook page as well as attending our meetings and monitoring our agendas which are posted on those sites. We will also be adding an opportunity for public input at beginning of our Board meetings in order to allow our community to bring issues to our attention for future resolution, if appropriate. The Board has recently heard from some lake owners about looking into a fish restocking program, to be undertaken by our Association. This may be something our Association could consider after some additional review and discussions with DNR personnel.

As many of you may have noticed, in order to allow for more convenient payment of Association membership dues, we are now offering online payment of annual dues in addition to the traditional paper membership form. The new online process is outlined elsewhere in the Newsletter. I would also like to note that our efforts to improve the outdoor experience around Round Lake has taken a positive turn. With the help of Board members Jennifer Morris, Ann Sloane, Terry Mantor, and many volunteers, as well as with the cooperative efforts of U.S. Forest Service Representatives, our Association has undertaken an effort to better maintain the walking trails around Round Lake which has significantly improved the walkability of the trails. We thank those persons and the volunteers for their contributions and assistance. If any of you are interested in helping with this effort in the future, contact Jennifer Morris. This effort has made a very desirable outdoor opportunity for that portion of the Chain and I would like to again thank all who have participated in this effort.

Following the 2022 Annual Meeting presentation by Kevin Gauthier of the DNR and the work his office conducted in the Shoreline and Lake surveys of our Chain, the Board is reviewing a program for lakeshore residents to consider in making environmental improvements to their properties in concert with the

*continued on page 6...*

**PIKE LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

by Warren Johnson

Greetings to all our friends and neighbors.

First and foremost, I'd like to thank you, our Pike Lake Community for all your support during the past year. We had some challenges, but finished the year strong. Fun Day was once again a success due to the volunteers who organized it, then transformed our Fire Hall grounds into a carnival and back, and, of course, the financial support provided by you!

As I noted last year, the Town of Fifield was proposing we change from two departments into only one department with two stations. After a thorough review of the proposal, we concluded it would **not** be in the best interest of Pike Lake to agree with that change.

*continued on page 3...*

pikelakechain.net



## PIKE LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT *(continued from pg. 2)*

Basically we would lose our independence as a department, our taxes would go up (higher mill rate), and our separate equipment fund (savings) would be at risk. Thanks to the superb effort of Fifield Supervisor Ann Sloane, that proposal was withdrawn and we were able to continue as our own department. Thanks Ann!

### Equipment update:

- Ordered and received 8 air bottles to replace the expired ones we currently have.
- Ordered 4 sets of turnout gear to replace the expired gear we have. We will get 4 more sets in 2023.
- Repaired and serviced our two standby generators. Established a maintenance plan.
- Jim Nelson had a safety containment cylinder built for refilling our air bottles.
- Ordered and received reflective safety jackets for our EMS team.
- Had the plumbing repaired that caused the septic holding tank for building 2 to fill up.
- Replace bay lights in building 2 with LED lighting.
- EMS supplies were inventoried and re-stocked per protocol.
- Repaired the rear brakes and primer pump on our fire engine.

During 2022 we had 28 EMS calls, 6 Fire calls, and 2 mutual aid. Due to our relatively low volume of calls, training is my top priority. With that, Fire and EMS now train together twice a month, and EMS conducts specific training with both the Fifield and Sherman Fire Departments.

We currently have 14 members in the department. 5 members are both fire and EMS, 4 are in fire training, 4 are fire only, and 1 is EMS only. **We continue to recruit new members, so give me a call if you are interested in learning more about our great team and department.**

Thinking ahead to Spring, remember **you not only need a Burning Permit, you must check the daily burning restrictions with the DNR (1-888-947-2876 or [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) keyword "Fire") BEFORE YOU BURN!**

Department Officers for 2023 are:

- ◆ Warren Johnson, Chief
- ◆ Dan Metz, Assistant Chief
- ◆ Jim Nelson, Captain, Safety/Training
- ◆ Pete Anderson, Captain

Thanks again for all your support!

Our team of lake testers completed four tests in 2022 between May 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)

REMEMBER: Amik is in Vilas County.

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 over time, it appears there continues to be NO STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT change in chlorophyll or phosphorus since this data was first reported in 2004. The TSI (Trophic State Index) calculated for chlorophyll and total phosphorus supports this observation, as does the SECCI graph. Thanks to all of the members of the "testing team". This includes Jack Wierzba, Ron Ahles, Terry Mantor, Russ Schroeder, and Tim Henke.



**RENEW  
YOUR MEMBERSHIP  
Online!**

<https://pikelakechain.net/membership>

Save a stamp and renew your Pike Lake Chain Lakes Association membership online! Simply visit <https://pikelakechain.net/membership> to renew your membership.

Paper membership forms are also available online if you'd prefer to mail in a check. Just visit the membership page and click on the link to 'Download the PLCLA Membership Form'.

## AQUATIC INVASIVES COMMITTEE REPORT

by Steve Ave'Lallemant

Purple Loosestrife is still the only known aquatic invasive plant species on the Pike Lake Chain. A complete shoreline survey of all four lakes was done in late August, 2022. No loosestrife was found on Turner or Amik Lakes or the connecting channels again this year.

### **Pike Lake**

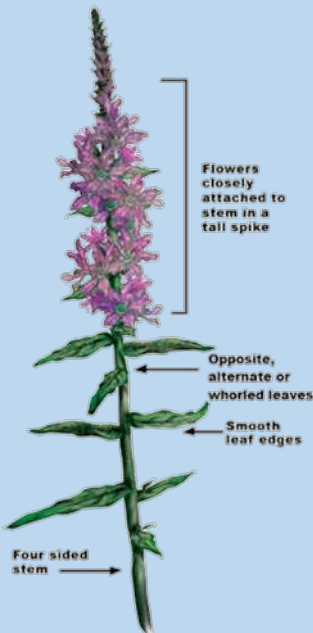
A small pocket of plants along the south shore were dug out and removed. There are still a number of plants along the shorelines of a number of residences at the north end of the old Pine Forest Resort but they appeared to be less this year. Perhaps landowners dug them out. If so, great and keep an eye out for new plants.

### **Round Lake**

Plants are still present at the Wild Goose Resort and neighboring properties north of the state boat landing and around the small bay at Moose Jaw, and at the mouth of MacArthur Creek. At these sites landowners are encouraged to dig them out and dispose of them in the trash.

The plants on Round Lake are more numerous and at a number of locations. The density of the plants in the two bays north of the dam seems to be increasing. We probably should consider growing/adding loosestrife beetles at this site. Beetles could be grown on site with existing plants.

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.



# PLCLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the heart of every organization is a group of dedicated volunteers. We want to take a moment to introduce you to the Pike Lake Chain Lakes Association Board of Directors.



**DICK MACE** - *President*

Dick is originally from Fox Lake, WI and worked as a Land Use Administrator for Waukesha County. He bought on Pike Lake around 1997 and has been on the Board of Directors for 10+ years.



**RUSS SCHROEDER** - *Vice President*

Russ is originally from Racine, WI and spent his working career in IT. He bought land and built his first cabin on Pike Lake in 1973. Russ has been involved with the PLCLA for 16 years.



**ANN SLOANE** - *Secretary*

Ann is originally from Waukesha, WI. Ann is a former educator and has been coming to this area her entire life. She moved here permanently in 2013. Ann is also a Town of Fifield Supervisor and is the voice of the Pike Lake Chain on the Town Board.



**LYNNE CLEMENS** - *Treasurer*

Lynne lived in the Northwest suburbs of Chicago until she retired in 2021 after 34 years at Allstate Insurance in Northbrook, IL. She first came to the Pike Lake area back in 1983 for Fun Day. This is her first term on the Board.



**ED HUNTER** - *Board Member*

Ed is originally from Evanston, IL. He's a retired engineer. He's been in the Pike Lake Chain area for 32 years but has been coming to the area for over half a century! Ed has been on the PLCLA Board for 8 years.



**EVERETT SAMMIS** - *Board Member*

Everett is originally from Baltimore, MD and spent his life as a custom home builder. He's been coming to the Pike Lake Chain area for six years and finally decided to get involved as a board member last year.

*Board Member* - **MIKE IDA**

Mike is from Milwaukee, WI. Mike was an ordained minister for 38 years. After retiring in 2016, he and his wife moved permanently to their home on Pike Lake that he purchased in 1993. Mike has been on the Board for 6 years.



*Board Member* - **JACK WIERZBA**

Jack is from Milwaukee, WI and owned a floor covering business. He's been coming to the Pike Lake Chain area since 1968 and is one of the founders of the PLCLA.



*Board Member* - **JENNIFER MORRIS**

Jennifer is originally from Evanston, IL. She is a teacher, cities school curriculum coordinator, coach, and personal trainer. She's been coming to the area for 50 years but this is her first year on the Board.



*Board Member* - **STEVE AVELALLEMANT**

Steve grew up in Menomonee Falls, WI and is a retired WI DNR fisheries biologist. He's been coming to the area since he was a child and his parents lived on Turner Lake. Steve has been on the Board for about 6 years.



*Board Member* - **THOR GUNDERSON**

Thor is a Pike Lake Chain native! In fact, he's a 4th generation lifelong resident of the area. He is a former electrical engineer and the current owner of The Big Dipper. This is his first year on the Board.



*Board Member* - **JIM CLEMMONS**

Jim is from Elgin, IL and is retired from a career in food packaging sales. He's been a property owner on the Chain for 37 years and has been on the Board for a year.



DNR Shoreline and Lake surveys which identified where such improvements would be beneficial, thereby improving the overall environmental quality of the Chain. These improvements may include some financial assistance from our Association to aid in making those improvements. We will also be looking into possible DNR grant availability. This program will be a topic for future discussion by the Board.

Finally, I would note that we anticipate the Annual Meeting of the Association will be June 10, 2023 at the Pike Lake Firehall at 10:00 AM. Please also note the annual election of Officers and Board members will be held at that meeting so if any of you are desirous of being considered for such duties or wish to participate in any way, please contact any of our present Board members. Thank you for your continued support and contributions and please encourage your friends and neighbors to become Association members. I hope for a valuable and successful year ahead.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dick*  
**Dick Mace**  
 President

**GET INVOLVED!**

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](https://www.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 and EMS team. [facebook.com/pikelakefirefightersinc](https://www.facebook.com/pikelakefirefightersinc)

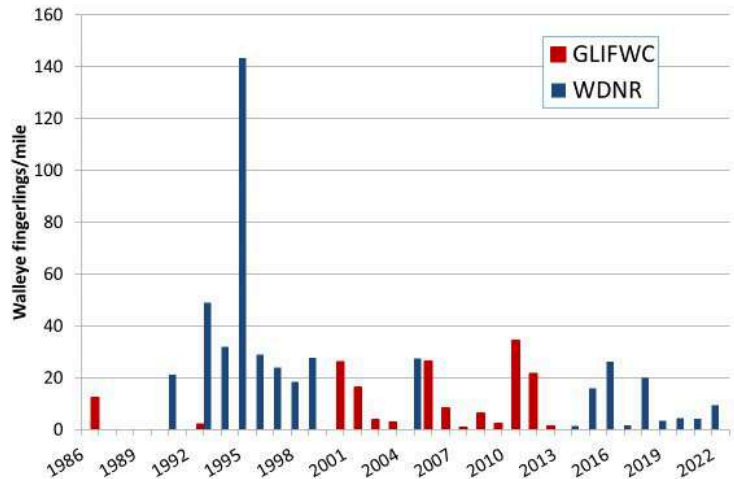
**Fifield Sno Drivers**

This is the organization that grooms our snowmobile trails. Our trails are known to be some of the best in the Northwoods. [facebook.com/snodrobers](https://www.facebook.com/snodrobers)

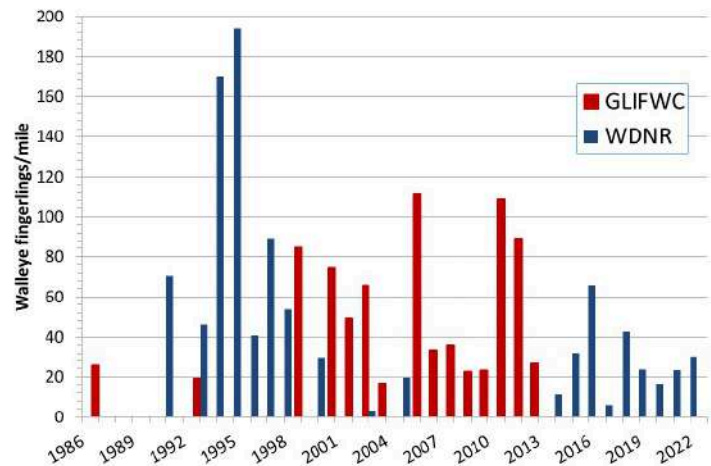
The WDNR performed their electrofishing surveys to gauge walleye recruitment in Pike, Round, and Turner lakes in the fall of 2022. It appears that each lake produced a modest class of walleyes in 2022. For Round Lake's 2022 cohort, our catch rate of 30 fingerlings per mile was near the historical average among walleye populations in the Ceded Territory that are sustained by natural reproduction.

Last January, we received the mid-term results for the 10-year evaluation of the experimental panfish harvest restrictions. Those early findings suggest that only the most restrictive treatment (a year-round daily bag limit of 15 panfish, but only 5 of any one species) was effective to increase the average length of bluegill and crappies. WDNR's statewide Panfish Team would like to complete the entire 10-year study to see whether either of the other two experimental panfish harvest restrictions might eventually work to improve average panfish length, if given some more time. We'll have an option to change the current panfish regulation (a year-round daily bag limit of 25 panfish, but only 10 of any one species) before it reverts back to the 25-fish daily bag limit in 2026.

**Walleye Recruitment in Pike Lake**  
 Fall Electrofishing Surveys 1987-2022



**Walleye Recruitment in Round Lake**  
 Fall Electrofishing Surveys 1987-2022



*'It's when you're acting selflessly that you are at your bravest.'* - Veronica Roth

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 specialized training. To fulfill this mission and serve our community effectively, our goal is to improve training and education, and to continue growing as a department. We rely exclusively on volunteer membership and are currently welcoming new applicants.

Pike Lake EMS trains monthly as a team in addition to training with Fifield EMS and Sherman EMS. Fire Chief Warren Johnson also has EMS cross-training with our Fire Department, and encourages any interested EMS members to take the Fire training courses. This month we have four new recruits starting Fire 1 and Fire 2, with two of our recruits being EMS members, Ann Sloane and Jon Tornberg.

This has been a year of growth, gaining additional members to both our Fire and EMS teams. Working in finance for 20+ years in Denmark, Jon Tornberg decided to make the move back to the United States, settling in as a resident of Cochran Lake. When not training with EMS, Jon spends his free time sailing and fishing. Starting this month, Jon will have less free time as he begins Fire training classes. We have also gained incredible "homegrown" talent, Pete Anderson and Dan Metz. Pete Anderson was born, raised and drove his 1st Fire truck for the Pike Lake Fire & EMS Department. He started out his volunteer career as a 16 year old with Pike Lake's Fire Department, then moved on to become a full-time career firefighter, and EMT. Dan Metz, originally from the Butternut area, also came to us as a full-time career firefighter. As a registered EMT, Dan brings 18+ years of First Responder experience. We're lucky Pete and Dan's roots run deep, and the Northwoods called them back home to our community.

Through the hard work and diligence of Warren Johnson, Catherine O'Hagan and Rich Dejarlais; Pike Lake EMS has been awarded a \$150,500.00 Flex Grant. This money will be used to purchase a Rural Rescue Vehicle, Automated External Defibrillator (AED), extrication gear, training materials, and will cover extra training costs. The George Warren Defibrillator Fund (Sironi Family) granted us a portable AED to take on-scene. Funds raised, private contributions, and memorial donations go toward continued training, supplies and equipment.

If you are interested in getting involved, reach out to any of our amazing and selfless team members.

Stay safe out there, but if the unforeseen happens, we'll be there for you.



## TRAILS UPDATE

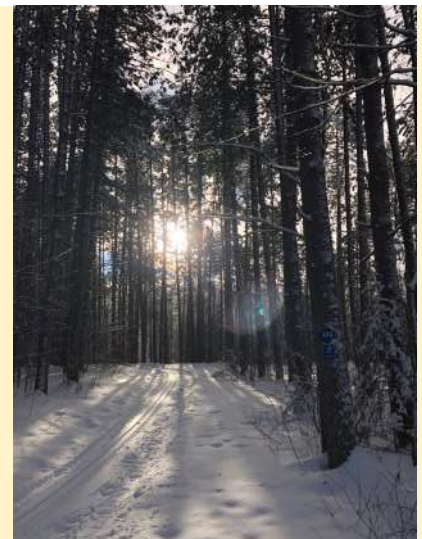
by Jennifer Morris

We're happy to report the trail maintenance will continue with the help of the forestry service! They are excited and thankful for the continued help that is given from all the volunteers year-round to keep our recreational area as hazard free as possible. This past summer, volunteers cut and cleared 36 trees off the trail system.



We've been working with the forestry service on a better way for volunteers to get the proper training. They will be providing training this winter or spring. In the meantime, they are allowing people that have already completed the training to groom the trails this winter. This is a back-country trail system with trails groomed for walking, snowshoeing, and cross country skiing. We ask that walkers and snowshoers stay off the cross country ski section. There will be signs placed in the future to remind users. Note that our groomers are volunteers and grooming doesn't happen every day. Please be respectful on the trails.

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





## PIKE LAKE CHAIN LAKES ASSOCIATION

N14885 Shady Knoll Road  
Park Falls, WI 54552

# 2023 Dues

are due now!

Pay online at  
[pikelakechain.net](http://pikelakechain.net)

### STAY CONNECTED:

Web: [pikelakechain.net](http://pikelakechain.net)

Facebook: [facebook.com/PLCLA](https://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 10, 2023 – 10:00 AM, PIKE LAKE FIREHALL
- ◆ FUN DAY: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2023 – NOON, PIKE LAKE FIREHALL



## BOARD NOMINATIONS

The Board will meet on April 17, 2023 to set forth its recommendations for a slate of nominees to be presented at the Annual meeting. Anyone interested in serving on the Board should contact one of the existing Board members to be considered as a potential nominee. Anyone interested shall be a member of the Association and be present at the April 17th meeting to present themselves and indicate their interest in serving on the Board.