

Ten Mile Lake Association



Newsletter



Spring Edition, 1995

Dedicated to the Preservation and Improvement of Ten Mile Lake and its Environment

Status of Access, Rte. 71, Waste Treatment & Management Plans

HERE IS THE LATEST we have on four matters of interest to Ten Milers: The public access proposal, the highway #71 improvement project, the community sewage treatment plan being considered for a portion of the North Shore, and this season's implementation activities for the lake's long range management plan.

PUBLIC ACCESS PROPOSAL --

At the time of this writing (early in May) the situation with regard to the proposed public water access had not changed materially from what it was last fall. At that time, DNR Trails and Waterways staffers were scouting the north shore area for a possible alternate access site.

No proposals have been brought to the attention of the Ten Mile Lake committee that was to review and comment on proposed alternate sites. That committee is composed of Ted Mellby, John Alden and Jim Schwartz.

HIGHWAY #71 IMPROVEMENT --

Despite negotiations that have continued through the winter between Cass County and the U.S. Forest Service, differences appear to be no closer to resolution than they were last fall.

The parties are deadlocked over how much right of way is needed to build and maintain the highway. Cass County wants the full 66-foot width specified in state standards for roads of this type, holding that state funds and liability questions are at issue. The Forest Service favors only a 44-foot width for portions of the highway running through Forest Service land.

The probability is that the long-standing controversy will be decided one way or another sometime this summer.

WASTE TREATMENT SYSTEM --

The proposed cooperative waste treatment project under study for an area of the north shore has passed its first test: It has won the tentative endorsement of a majority of the property owners who would be affected.

This spring, underground lines and cables that could be affected by any such installation were located and marked. The proposed project now will go to engineering firms for design and cost estimates.

John Sumption, of the Environmental Services Department, said that process probably will be completed early in June. At that time a meeting of affected property owners will provide an opportunity for comment and suggestion.

LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN --

Water chemistry analyses will be performed monthly at four lake sites this summer. The sampling started in May and will conclude in September for Kenfield Bay, Lundstrom's Bay, Long's Bay and the deepest spot on the main lake. The tests measure phosphorus, nitrogen and other indices of enrichment.

In our long-term plan, three sites (Long's Bay, Kenfield Bay and the main lake) are being tested every year. Three others (Flower Pot, Lundstrom's and Robinson's Bays) are on a rotation schedule.

Other locations to be sampled for nutrient loads this season will be selected wetlands which discharge their waters into the lake.

DNR Study Finds Fish Numbers Doing Well

By Scott Gustafson

DNR Fisheries Specialist, Walker

GAME FISH SPECIES in Ten Mile seem to be doing well, according to last year's survey of the lake by Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Fisheries personnel.

During mid-August of 1994 a DNR crew used trap nets set along shore and experimental gill nets in deeper areas to collect a sample of fish from Ten Mile. Fish were identified, counted and measured, and some were individually weighed. Scale samples were removed from some of the fish so their ages could be determined.

THE 1994 GILL NET catch rate of walleye in Ten Mile was 10.6 fish per net, similar to previous surveys and better than average for lakes of this type. Ten Mile has an excellent walleye population in terms of numbers and average size of fish.

It has been difficult to evaluate the effects of walleye stocking on Ten Mile because the lake has been stocked annually since 1968. However, there were a couple of year classes that were well represented in the 1994 survey even though small numbers of fingerlings were stocked.

IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT natural reproduction contributes to the walleye population. No walleye were stocked in 1994 and the management plan for Ten Mile has set up a schedule for interspersing years of stocking and no stocking so that walleye reproduction can be assessed.

Northern pike are abundant in Ten Mile. The gill net catch rate in 1994 (7.1 fish per net) was similar to most earlier surveys on Ten Mile and compared favorably with other lakes of this type.

THE AVERAGE WEIGHT of northern pike was 1.7 lbs. Most northern pike in Ten Mile are small, but larger individuals are available for the persistent angler.

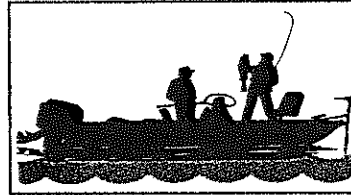
The gill net catch of yellow perch in 1994 was 7.3 fish per net, which was lower than in most lakes of this type. About one-third of these perch were 8 inches or longer.

THE TRAP NET CATCH of bluegill in 1994 was near the average for this type of lake and was comparable to several earlier surveys. Ten Mile could provide bluegills in sizes that would be acceptable to most sunfish anglers. About two-thirds of the sampled bluegill were 6 inches or longer, while

about one-fourth measured 7 inches or more.

Ten Mile has a good population of largemouth bass. In 1994 and in most previous years the net catches of largemouth in Ten Mile exceeded the middle range for this lake type. About one-third of the measured largemouth bass were 12 inches or more, and about one-tenth were 14 inches or more.

TO MAINTAIN AND PROMOTE a healthy fish population on Ten Mile, lake shore residents and other users of the lake should protect fish habitat by preserving natural lake bottoms and aquatic vegetation.



Lake shore residents can also help preserve Ten Mile's water quality by such measures as having a properly built and maintained septic system, by avoiding the use of lawn or garden chemicals near the lake, and by establishing a buffer strip of natural vegetation along the shoreline.

Anglers can help maintain fishing quality by practicing catch and release of larger fish.

Heaviest Snowfall Came in February

AL HOOVER SUPPLIES us with the following snowfall data from the winter of 1994-95:

October (first, 10/24/94)01"
November	5.00"
December	7.50"
January	11.90"
February	16.00"
March	15.90"
April (last, trace 4/29/95)	9.70"
Total	66.10"

THE MINNESOTA WEATHER BOOK credits March with being our snowiest month, but over the last seven years November has been the snowiest three times, December twice, and January and February once each. The Ten Mile area averages an inch or better snow cover for 133 days each year.

The coldest day of the winter was February 11 with a low of -30° . January had 18 days below zero, with nine days below -20° and one reaching -30° . Of the 17 below zero days in February, 13 were consecutive from February 5 through 17. All were below -20° during that period.

**From the Notebook
By Jim Schwartz**

"ICE OUT," AS IT'S TERMED in these parts, occurred on May 3, 11 days later than last year and 9 days after the breakup two years ago. John Alden reports Flowerpot Bay freed itself of ice April 24, Rod Owre fixes April 21 as ice-out date for Lundstrom's Bay and April 27 for Kenfield Bay, and Walt Kane reports Long's Bay ice free on April 27.

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FLUCTUATING TEMPERATURES in mid-winter led to serious damage along the southwest shore area. As the ice sheet expanded and contracted, stretches of shoreline were literally bulldozed into mounds of rubble, trees and other shore plants were damaged or destroyed and some banks were undermined. Another demonstration of Mother Nature's power!

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MANY OF THE INDIVIDUALS who have worked so tirelessly over the past quarter century to preserve the environment are alarmed. Their concern grows out of what, in their opinion, is a reckless attempt by conservative forces to dismantle every regulatory provision that bears in any way on private property rights, whether it involves wetlands, shoreland management, endangered species, zoning measures or what. The campaign is a determined one.

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AT THIS POINT the struggle is whipping up so much dust that it's not possible to see with any certainty where all this is going. One conclusion, however, seems clear: The environmental landscape, and our ability to manage it for the better, will change, perhaps drastically. In the meantime, we intend to hold fast to the course that was set for Ten Mile Lake 20 or more years ago: Do whatever is necessary to protect the high quality of the lake and its surroundings. Thanks in large part to your cooperation, those efforts are paying off. The lake appears to be holding its own . . . and may even have experienced a slight improvement.

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IT'S ALWAYS SATISFYING to hear from members, but especially so during the winter months. My neighbor, Mrs. Fran Brandt, sent me newspaper clips from South Florida and the Kansas City area reporting (a) the explosive northward spread in Florida of the tropical soda apple, termed the "plant from

hell," (b) the sudden rebound of the endangered Florida Everglades snail kite after years of declining populations, and (c) the rare sighting of a Cape May warbler in the Kansas City area, drawing birders from all over the region. As you know from reading my past columns, I appreciate hearing about any rare wildlife sightings in the Ten Mile locality. If you see an unusual bird, animal or plant, let me know. I know other readers will be interested.

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THE APRIL 9 Minneapolis *Star-Tribune* featured an article composed of reminiscences from readers about what the "cabin up north" had meant to them over the years. It was, of course, delightful reading. And that leads me to propose that you do the same about Ten Mile. In 150 words or less (about 10 typewritten lines), tell your fellow Ten Milers what effect your cabin has had on you, your family, your outlook on life, whatever. I'll publish your responses in the next Newsletter and I guarantee that section will draw more readership than any other. So do it now; don't put it off until tomorrow. That day has a way of never arriving.

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FLORIDA'S VEXING PROBLEM with the tropical soda plant calls to mind Minnesota's struggle with exotics, particularly Eurasian water milfoil. That pesky plant, which can literally take over shallow bodies of water once it gains a foothold, was found in only two additional lakes last year (there were 12 new infestations in 1992, 14 in 1991, 12 in 1990). The decline suggests the DNR's public education program is effective, but no one believes the battle is won.

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OF EQUAL CONCERN are at least four other aquatic imports: The zebra mussel, a small, prolific bivalve that quickly dominates the underwater environment; purple loosestrife, a wetland plant that can crowd out other desirable species; flowering rush, also capable of displacing native wetland plants, and, finally, ruffe, a perch-like fish that can threaten other fish populations.

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FOR ALL OF THESE PESTS, as well as others, the DNR is studying and applying management techniques. That takes time and resources. Meanwhile, public education initiatives will increase. One way you can help in the milfoil and zebra mussel fight: Clean your boat and trailer rig thoroughly of all plant material every time it is moved from one water body to another.

Horn Recaps 50 Years of Lake's Fish History

By Dick Horn, Member
Fisheries Committee

THE 1995 FISHING SEASON is just beginning. I thought this would be a good opportunity to expand on the fishery portion of Jim Schwartz's excellent essay: "A Brief History of Ten Mile Lake." No attempt will be made to cover the entire history but the account will be limited to the past 50 years.

Those who have fished walleyed pike in Ten Mile over the past 20 years have experienced good success. It hasn't always been that way. Lake history has shown that angling success for walleyed pike has been very erratic over the years. In the mid-to-late 1940s angling success for walleye was said to be quite meager.

IN THE MID 1950s to mid-1960s improved catches of walleyed pike were quite common. The improved fishing success coincided closely with the operation of local rearing ponds. The rearing ponds were active from 1952-58. For unknown reasons the operation of those ponds was abandoned in 1959. This led to a progressive decline in walleye fishing in the late 1960s.

In early 1968, Art Horn spearheaded (with the help of many Ten Mile Lake residents and the Walker Izaak Walton League) an effort by the Ten Mile Lake Association (TMLA) to enlist the cooperation of the DNR to improve the walleye fishing on Ten Mile. The DNR responded by initiating a test netting survey in the summer of 1968.

THIS WAS FOLLOWED by another test survey in 1971. Both of these surveys verified what every walleye angler already knew, that the walleyed pike population was way down and that there was a poor age classification of fish. Walleyed pike caught on Ten Mile in this time period were primarily made up of fish five years or more in age. This was a good indication that walleyes did not reproduce satisfactorily in Ten Mile.

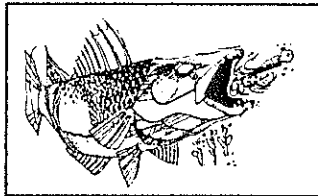
Based on previous collected data the DNR decided to stock walleye fingerlings 3-5 inches) because it had been pretty well established that planting walleye fry (less than one inch) was folly. It was also decided that an aggressive stocking program was needed to bring back walleye fishing success.

IN 1971 THE DNR, in cooperation with the

TMLA, began the operation of several local rearing ponds. These ponds became the source of walleye fingerlings in the fall of each year. Fingerlings were trapped and planted at various locations around the lake (many residents helped in this effort). The DNR and TMLA worked together in this way for many years but the stocking of the local ponds eventually ended.

In 1974 the DNR again conducted a test net survey. The results were very encouraging in that the nets yielded quite a few walleyes in the one to two pound range. This result really provided the impetus to continue an aggressive stocking program. Since 1971 the DNR has stocked and monitored Ten Mile Lake.

BECAUSE OF THE AGGRESSIVE stocking program from 1971-1993, angling success for walleyed pike has been excellent. This has led to the perception by many that Ten Mile Lake is a walleyed pike factory. Nothing could be further from the truth. Without an aggressive stocking program the walleye could very well be returned to a minor fish resource in Ten Mile.



Why? As alluded to earlier, walleyed pike do not reproduce well in Ten Mile. As Jim pointed out in his essay, there are several possible reasons for the poor reproduce success. Regardless of the reasons, lake history has shown that walleye angling success correlates with an aggressive stocking program.

IN 1994, THE DNR implemented a new Lake Management Plan for Ten Mile. Part of this program calls for decreased stocking of walleyed pike. The plan calls for alternate year stocking of walleyed pike through 2003. In 1993, 1647 pounds (41,291 fingerlings) were planted into Ten Mile. No walleyes were stocked in 1994.

In 1995 and alternate years thereafter, 13,000 pounds of fingerlings (approximately 25-30 per pound) will be planted in Ten Mile. The DNR fish management personnel estimate that, on average, the survival rate for fingerlings this size is about 30 percent.

TEST NETTING SURVEYS are also a part of the new management plan. These surveys (the first of which was conducted in August of 1994) will allow for continuous monitoring of population, size and age classification distribution. If data show that walleyed pike population declines, or once again becomes skewed to larger and older fish, the DNR will re-evaluate the management plan. We owe a large debt of grati- (Continued ->)

Fishery History

tude to Harlan Fierstine, Area Fisheries Manager, and his Walker DNR staff for their continued efforts to support a good walleyed pike fishery in Ten Mile Lake.

Finally, let's all of us protect and respect the fishery of Ten Mile. Don't exceed limits. Practice CATCH AND RELEASE. In this way all of us can continue to experience the angling success we presently enjoy.

Champion Sled Dogs Trek Across Ten Mile

By Chari Grewe

Quietwoods Campground

JOHN AND DEB SCHANDELMEIER, from Paxson, Alaska, arrived at Ten Mile Lake on Jan. 4, 1995. They were guests of Rick and Chari Grewe. Their traveling companions were 23 sled dogs and 2 German shepherds. The purpose of their trip was to compete in mid-distance races in Minnesota and Michigan.

As was witnessed by several Ten Mile residents, the Schandelmeiers hooked up and ran the dogs from Quietwoods to Long's Bay, then back to Quietwoods following the north shore line. On another training run John completely circled the lake.

ON JANUARY 6, John and Deb left for Duluth for veterinarian checks on their dogs before competing in the John Beargrease Sled Dog Marathon. Rick, Chari and 5-year-old Ashley went along as dog handlers. The Beargrease is a 500-mile race from Duluth to Grand Portage and back, taking about five days and nights of racing. John took home a third place finish.

Immediately thereafter, John and Deb went to Michigan to compete in mid-distance races there. On February 1, they returned to Ten Mile Lake. The dogs again had training runs around the lake. Chari was fortunate enough to ride in the basket on one of those training runs, while John drove the team from Quietwoods to Flowerpot Bay.

THEY EXITED FLOWERPOT and headed north, crossing Cass County #71 and going through the woods until they reached the Paul Bunyan Snowmobile Trail. From there they followed the trail to Gadbolt Lake, crossed it to Big Bass Lake. After crossing Big Bass, they followed beaver ponds and sloughs to Wheeler Lake, then over to Jake's Pond, across it to Hiram #8 and then back to the campground. It was a trip of about two hours and involved

lots of branch ducking and bumpy terrain.

Ashley also was able to ride in the basket on one of the training runs. Rick was brave enough to take a team on a run by himself.

THE NEXT RACE was the Mid-Minnesota 150, which ran from Aitkin to Remer and back. The distance was 190 miles and represented quite a challenge because of very poor snow conditions and -20° weather. Schandelmeier's hard work and diligent training paid off, bringing him a first place finish.

For the next race, the Schandelmeiers and the Grewes traveled to Marquette, MI, for the UP 200. As handlers, Rick and Chari faced quite a challenge, since Deb and John were both racing. The handlers' job is to have food prepared for both the musher and the dog team. They also watch over the team so the musher can rest at checkpoints. After the musher leaves the checkpoint, the handler drives the dog truck to the next checkpoint to get things prepared for the musher's arrival.

IN A VERY STRONG 40-TEAM, 6-dog class race Deb was pleased with her tenth place finish, which put her in the money. John competed in the 10-dog race which, according to officials, was the most exciting event in UP 200 history, sporting the strongest competitive field ever. In a very close finish, John won the race over a local UP musher.

Winning races is nothing new for John Schandelmeier. In his 10 years of racing, he has finished at or near the top in races throughout Alaska, Canada, and now the lower 48. We are looking forward to having them back at Ten Mile again next winter.

Ten Mile in Outdoor Writer's Deadly Dozen

RON SCHARA, OUTDOOR WRITER for the Minneapolis *Star-Tribune* tapped Ten Mile as one of the state's fishing opener "hot spots" for walleyes in his annual listing of the Deadly Dozen. What he said of Ten Mile in the May 7 edition was this:

"Here's a whopper holder but it might be deadly dull on opening weekend. Ten Mile is a picturesque lake near Hackensack with a walleye count that's three times the state average. Most are nice 2-pounders. Check the shallow bays.

"But here's the catch. Ten Mile is big (4,669 acres) and it's deep, which means cold water. The walleye bite probably will be better in a week or three."

TEN MILE LAKE ASSOCIATION

TREASURER'S REPORT

For the Six Months Period Ended January 31, 1995

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Interest Bearing</u>	<u>Money Market</u>	<u>Kemper Government Portfolio</u>	
		<u>Checking</u>		<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>
INCOME					
Dues & Contributions.	\$ 10,479	\$ 10,364	\$ 115		
Dividend & Int. Inc..	3,595	35	446	\$ 3,114	
Fair Mkt Value (Decr)	<u>(1,785)</u>			<u>(1,785)</u>	
Total Income	\$ 12,289	\$ 10,399	\$ 561	\$ 1,329	
Expenses					
Projects	\$ 4,922	\$ 4,154	768		
Secretarial	1,021	1,021			
Annual Meeting	157	157			
Contributions	1,400	940	460		
Directory	205	205			
Meetings	297	297			
Memberships	40	40			
Newsletter	378	378			
Office Supplies	128	128			
Postage	309	309			
Real Estate Taxes ...	<u>38</u>	<u>38</u>			
Total Expenses	\$ 8,895	\$ 7,667	\$ 1,228	\$	
Income Over (Under) ...	\$ 3,394	\$ 2,732	(667)	1,329	
Transfers In (Out)		(2,000)	2,000		
Beginning Balance	<u>104,037</u>	<u>894</u>	<u>20,216</u>	<u>32,273</u>	<u>\$ 50,654</u>
Ending Balance	\$107,431	\$ 1,626	\$ 21,549	\$ 33,602	\$ 50,654
Asset Location:					
First National Walker		\$ 1,626	\$ 15,984		
First National Walker			5,223		
Piper Jaffray			<u>342</u>	\$ 33,602	\$ 50,654
Total		\$ 1,626	\$ 21,549	\$ 33,602	\$ 50,654

--Jim Miller, Treasurer

Lake's Sailboat Race Season Begins July 1

WITH SUCH EXCITING races and great participation last year, let the '95 season begin with a splash. Races will commence on Saturday, July 1, so break out that varnish, wax, epoxy, scrubbrush, canvas needle, deck paint and anything else you are going to need to get your scows ready to compete.

As in the past, all regattas will consist of two races with a start time of 1:30 p.m. The second race will start shortly after the conclusion of the first.

Should Mother Nature fail to cooperate the Saturday races will be postponed until the

next day, Sunday, with an earlier 11:00 start time.

ALL TYPES OF BOATS are welcome to sail along with the C-Scows. We just ask you keep clear in tight situations so as not to give one boat an unearned advantage over another.

Awards ceremonies will be held at the conclusion of the Moxness Cup Regatta on the beach AT of Marge and Dick Garbischs' cabin. Marge promises her usual refreshments.

1995 RACE SCHEDULE

Fourth of July Regatta ... Saturday, July 1
 Memorial Cup Regatta Saturday, July 22
 Moxness Cup Regatta and Award

Ceremony Saturday, August 5
 (From The Squall Line, newsletter of the Ten Mile Lake Yacht & Tennis Club, Robert Crabb, editor.)

Ten Mile Part of State Experimental Project

By Harlan Fierstine
DNR Area Fisheries Supervisor

AS ANNOUNCED IN AN earlier newsletter, Ten Mile Lake is being considered as a candidate lake for experimental regulation to increase the average size of northern pike. I have heard there are some rumors circulating that the DNR is turning Ten Mile into a northern pike lake.

The management plan for the lake stresses the importance to the fish community of all fish species. Any management action directed at one species is not being done to adversely affect other species.

A CREEL SURVEY will be conducted on Ten Mile Lake this summer. At randomly scheduled times, a DNR creel survey clerk will count anglers and conduct interviews to determine how long they have been fishing and what they have been catching.

The creel survey is being conducted in conjunction with the statewide experimental regulation research project. If you are interviewed by the creel survey clerk your cooperation will be appreciated.

AS THE ICE WENT OUT this spring, trapnets were set around the lake to sample the northern pike and walleye populations. Information gathered about northern pike will be important to the proposed experimental regulation project.

The walleye captured were tagged with two plastic filaments located near the dorsal fin. The purpose of the tagging is to estimate the number of adult walleyes present in Ten Mile Lake. By the time the trapping sur-

vey was completed, well over 1,000 walleyes had been tagged and released.

RECAPTURES OF TAGGED FISH during the ice out trapnetting and ones encountered during the creel survey will provide the estimates of population size. Please report any tagged walleyes you catch by supplying information requested on the form on this page. If you have questions about our management activities, call me at 547-1683.

Fish Tagging Research is Valuable Management Tool

By Harlan Fierstine
DNR Area Fisheries Supervisor

Fish tagging, whether with radio transmitters or external tags, can be a valuable research tool to aid in learning more about fish populations. However, uncontrolled tagging of fish could be confusing for anglers and possibly jeopardize important research studies. Within the last year anglers have caught and reported tagged largemouth bass and northern pike from two area lakes. The anglers thought they were participating in a DNR study when in reality they caught fish tagged by some individual.

To prevent confusion for state anglers and harm to the fish resource, state law requires a permit for any type of fish tagging. The DNR will issue a permit for fish tagging if the research project is well designed and can add to the scientific knowledge about a fish population. The purpose of any such study should be to develop information that can be used to improve management of a lake fishery.

TEN MILE LAKE VOLUNTARY TAG RETURN DATA

Directions: Each fishing party (boat) can record on one form for each fishing trip. If not sure of information, do not guess. Put a question mark in that area.

Date of fishing trip: _____ Total number of walleyes caught (tagged and untagged): _____

Number of tagged walleyes caught: _____

Information on Each Tagged Fish

Tagged fish No. 1: _____	No. of tags on fish	Color: green or brown	Kept (K) or Released (R)	Where caught: Long's Bay or other lake area
Tagged fish No. 2: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Tagged fish No. 3: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Tagged fish No. 4: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Tagged fish No. 5: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Tagged fish No. 6: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Thanks for Helping!

A Very Cold Ten Mile Tale of 75 Years Ago

(Editor's Note: The following article from the St. Paul Pioneer of July 1, 1920, was contributed by Dr. and Mrs. Charles Manlove, summer residents of the Chariton Beach area. It was encountered as they were doing research on family history. We appreciate such submissions and encourage other residents who may come across interesting anecdotes or stories about Ten Mile to mail them to our lake address: HC 75, Box 626. We will use them in forthcoming issues of the newsletter. The article author was an Al Evans.)

THIS IS THE SEASON when one really expects the truth to be juggled somewhat carelessly, particularly by persons returning from the lakes, but it is the season also when phenomenal facts are occasionally brought to light, and an interesting story of this

character comes from Ten Mile Lake in Cass County.

B. F. Brown of Brown's Photo studio recently returned from Kenfield lodge on Ten Mile Lake, near Hackensack, with a true story of a natural cold storage plant - yes, a natural ice house - on the shore of the lake.

THE LODGE WAS established this spring by Kenneth Wright and Field Eldridge, two St. Paul boys, and when they asked Brown if he wished to put his fish on ice the suggestion rather surprised the St. Paul photographer, who was aware of the fact that the proprietors had not reached the lake in time to store ice. Brown says they led him to the lake shore about 200 feet from the lodge, however, and after digging down in the moss uncovered a layer of natural ice, the condition of which was almost as perfect as when it was frozen last winter.

Inasmuch as this is their first season at the lodge, the boys are not aware whether the natural supply is an all-summer asset. If such is the case, however, it should relieve them of a considerable winter task.

Board Okays Three More Loon Platforms

By Dick Horn, Chair
Loon Committee

WE ON TEN MILE are fortunate to have a large population of loons from early spring to early fall. As we inch toward summer, our loons already have returned from their winter range to grace Ten Mile and the lakes of Northern Minnesota.

Loon breeding success on Ten Mile has been very inconsistent over the years. This is a puzzle that hasn't been fully explained, but one reason may be the lack of suitable nesting sites. To my knowledge Ten Mile has only one off-shore nesting site. A nesting pair have had some success producing and raising chicks to maturity from this site over the years.

BECAUSE OF THE LACK of off-shore sites, however, loons are forced to nest primarily along boggy shorelines. They have had limited success on these sites because more often than not, their nests are trashed by land predators such as raccoons, skunks and foxes.

In past years, the Ten Mile Lake Association (TMLA) has positioned two nesting platforms at different locations on the lake.

For whatever reasons (maybe boating pressure, site location, etc.), these platforms have had limited success.

THE TMLA HAS DECIDED to increase its effort to provide the loons with more nesting opportunities. Three more nesting platforms have been built. The two older ones and the three new ones are being placed around the lake where there has been loon activity in the spring. TMLA is hopeful that the increased nesting opportunities will result in more checks raised to maturity on beautiful Ten Mile Lake.

We would like to enlist the cooperation of all lake residents and visitors in this effort. Loon nesting "warning" buoys are located near four of the five platforms to warn boaters and fishermen to stay clear of the area. We hope you will respect the nesting area by not intruding into the loons' nesting territory. We would ask also that if you see someone around a platform, ask them nicely to move away. Let's make increased loon breeding success on Ten Mile a community effort.

Browns on Honor Roll

OUR CONTINUING HONOR ROLL recognizes Richard and Judy Brown for installing a new waste treatment system.

Remembering Our Ten Mile Lake Friends

Lorraine Annette Woock

Lorraine Annette Woock, 67, a 20-year resident of Ten Mile Lake, died March 13, at the hospital in St. Cloud.

She was born Feb. 3, 1928, at St. James, the daughter John and Inga Olson. She attended school in West Sveadahl and later was graduate from the School of Agriculture in St. Paul.

In 1975, she was married to Burton Woock and moved to Ten Mile Lake. Mrs. Woock enjoyed sewing, gardening, fishing and music and was a member of the Union Congregational Church, the Eastern Star, the American Legion Auxiliary of Hackensack, the VFW Auxiliary of Akeley, and of the Sons of Norway Lodge, Park Rapids.

Mrs. Woock is survived by her husband, Burton; a sister, Evelyn Storest of Duluth, a brother, Raymond Olson, of Comfrey, and several nieces and nephews.

Clif S. Hamilton

Clif S. Hamilton III, 33, of Fargo, a regular summer resident on Ten Mile, died October 7, 1994, in a plane crash about 18 miles west of Walker. He and William Nicoloff, the pilot, who also was killed, were on their way from Fargo to Walker when the accident occurred.

Mr. Hamilton was born January 6, 1961, at Omaha, NE, and lived there until 1969 when

he moved to Fargo. He attended schools in Fargo and was graduated in 1979 before enrolling at Moorhead State University. He became involved in aviation in 1982 when he began working at Executive Aviation, Inc.

Mr. Hamilton was married to Cindy Batesole in Fargo on December 31, 1987. He was president of Executive Aviation, Inc., at the time of his death.

He is survived by a daughter, Brittany; his parents, Clif S. and Yvonne Hamilton, of Fargo; a sister, Debra, of Minneapolis, and a brother, Robert, of Fargo.

Jean C. Ackerman

Jean C. Ackerman, 79, of Lincoln, NE, and a long-time summer resident of Ten Mile Lake died April 9, 1995, in Lincoln. She was born in Hastings, NE.

Mrs. Ackerman belonged to various civic and university clubs and was a member of Westminster Presbyterian Church. She also was a member of Union Church in Hackensack and was an ardent environmentalist.

She is survived by a son, Thomas (Yancy), Ackerman of Lexington, KY; a daughter, Mary Alice (James) Reents of St. Paul, MN; four grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

Memorials are suggested to Westminster Presbyterian Church or the Ackerman Scholarship Fund in care of Nebraska Wesleyan University.

Final Farewell to a Cherished Friend

By Peter Roberts

"YOU COULD SEE THE glow from Hack" when our sauna's old barrel stove gave out and it caught fire late in the summer of 1984. New Year's Eve dips in the lake wouldn't be the same without a sauna afterward so I was much relieved when Clif Hamilton offered to help me build a new one.

It turned out the insurance company paid us for our labors and we happily split \$1200 for our month's work. We hadn't expected to get paid. Our determination to rebuild came from a sense of duty to the memory of the good times we had shared with our friends in the old sauna. At 22 we both knew long summers at the lake would soon be memories and

so we appreciated the chance to work together on another big project.

A FEW YEARS EARLIER Clif and I and the rest of our gang from around the lake worked over at Hamilton's for two weeks building a float for Hackensack's Sweetheart Days parade. It was our version of the Ten Mile Lake Monster, and a formidable creature it was: Papier-mache on a chicken wire frame with sculptured wind-swept waves and white quartz rock teeth. The dinghy, Ten Mile 208, was underneath the monster's gaping jaws as two fishermen with a muskie lure snagged on the monster's side were pulled along behind in a rubber raft.

The float won a first prize in the parade and we kept the trophy down at Converse's store. The parade committee asked us to bring the monster back the following year but it had already been dismantled so Hamiltons could again use the

(Continued ->)

Farewell to a Friend

trailer to store their pontoon boat.

YEARS PASSED WITH less time for long visits to the lake, but in 1992 I was back for a couple weeks when out of the night and up on our beach rode Cliff Hamilton and Billy Vilipski in their bass boats. The sauna was hot but they insisted it was a night for fishing, claiming it was the best walleye fishing they'd ever had on Ten Mile.

It was midnight by the time we got out to the drop-off. The water was calm and the sky was bursting with stars. For the next three hours I caught more walleyes than the total of all I'd ever caught on Ten Mile. It was a magical night. Around the lake, times like that never seem to result from careful planning; they just happen. Cliff and I have shared a great many wonderful times on the lake. It won't be the same without him. Goodbye Cliff.

An Info Grab Bag For Lake Dwellers

AS THE SUMMER SEASON approaches, here are what we hope are some useful reminders about a variety of lake-related activities:

1. The walleye limit remains at six daily, no more than one longer than 24".

2. The northern pike limit is three daily, no more than one longer than 30".

3. Even though Coast Guard-approved boat cushions are permitted as personal flotation (PFD) devices on state waters this year, in 1996 they will not be. An *accessible, wearable* PFD of the appropriate size must be aboard for each boat occupant beginning in May next year.

4. Beach sand blankets and rock riprap may be installed to protect your shoreline without a permit, providing specific conditions are met. To find out what those conditions are, check with your nearest DNR office.

5. The *ordinary high water mark* (OHWM) for Ten Mile has been set by the DNR at 1379.90' above sea level. The OHWM is the elevation which marks the boundary of the lake, the highest point at which water has remained long enough to leave its mark on the landscape.

6. Except for certain exotics, most aquatic plants should be thought of as friends. Bulrushes, cattails and many underwater plants are useful in a variety of ways: They help to clean water of contaminants, prevent

Lake Level Up .2" This Spring

WALT KANE REPORTS that the lake level this spring was just .2" higher than it was at the same time a year ago. He also found there was almost no difference between readings taken last November and this spring.

bank erosion by breaking up waves, provide food and shelter for fish and wildlife, and function as an important part of the aquatic food chain.

7. One more time: Resist the urge to fertilize your lawn. Most of it finds its way into the lake and what makes your lawn green makes the lake green.

8. A buffer strip of natural plants along the shoreline does an excellent job of filtering nutrients out of runoff water as it makes its way toward the lake.

9. Complaints continue to reach the Board about what is perceived as careless operation of jet skis and pleasure boats. Biggest beefs: Too fast and too close to docks and swimming areas. Suggestion: Have fun, but do so prudently and with consideration for others.

FOR INFORMATION ON WHETHER YOU NEED A PERMIT FOR PLANNED CHANGES TO YOUR PROPERTY, CALL YOUR LAKE ADVOCATE. HERE THEY ARE:
Don Patterson, North Shore 547-2048
Ray Helsing, South Shore 675-6821

When Ice Goes Out and In

THE TABLE BELOW lists freeze-up and break-up dates since 1988. It is based on newsletter accounts, Lois Sandell's diary and reports from lake residents. If you have information going back further, let me know and I'll log it into my computer for future reference.

Year	Ice-Out	Freeze-Up
1988	April 30	Dec. 09
1989	May 04	Dec. 03
1990	April 26	Dec. 18
1991	April 26	Nov. 26
1992	April 21	Dec. 07
1993	April 24	Dec. 11
1994	April 22	Dec. 12
1995	May 03	