

Ten Mile Lake Association

Newsletter

Fall Edition 1997

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

Enhanced 911 System Headed for '98 Unveiling; New Directory is Planned

CASS COUNTY is shooting for a March, 1988, date to implement the initial stages of its enhanced 911 and rural addressing service. If all goes according to plan, by the beginning of next summer's lake season Ten Milers will have new property identification numbers. Roads, intersections, lanes, and even trails, will have signage changes.

Purpose of the new system is to speed response time when emergency situations call for law enforcement officers, fire-fighting vehicles, ambulance or first response service, or professional help of any similar nature. The project has taken three years to reach this point.

BEFORE THE PLAN can be implemented it must be accepted by the U.S. Postal Service. Area postmasters were to meet in November to discuss rural addressing. They will have 60 to 90 days to study the Cass County plan before making a decision. If they approve, it will go to the Twin Cities for a final okay and entry into a computer data base.

Following that, telephone companies operating in the county will have a similar time frame for study and action. The expectation is that the plan will go into effect gradually, starting in the Pequot Lakes area and then expanding to Pine River, Backus, Hackensack and the Woman Lake area and, finally, countywide.

TIM RICHARDSON, Director of Management Information Systems for the county, said gradual implementation will be a boon for Law Enforcement Center dispatchers. They will be able to familiarize themselves with a few systems before everything is dumped in their laps, Richardson said.

Wherever possible, unduplicated current

Check Spring Newsletter

THE NEW TMLA membership directory is awaiting completion of the enhanced 911 system for this area. As soon as that happens, work will begin on updating the directory, getting it to the printer and distributing it to you. We should have more information for you on this matter in the Spring Newsletter.

street and road names have been retained. When new ones were needed, Greg Proper, of Pro-West and Associates, the firm retained to develop the plan, said they tried to use local names or consulted history and nature books for ideas. The 911 committee "appointed us to name the roads," Proper said, "and we did our best." Enhanced 911 services are mandated by federal and state law. (*Editor's Note: This article is adapted from a report by Gail DeBoer in the Oct. 9, 1997, issue of The Pilot-Independent, Walker.*)

Did You Forget Anything At the Annual Meeting?

TWO ITEMS -- a women's white sweater and a pair of prescription sunglasses -- were left at the Senior Citizens Center, Hackensack, after the TMLA annual meeting.

To identify and reclaim the lost possessions, call Lisa Tuller at 675-6906.

Ten Mile Lake Association

Officers

Jim Miller, President.....547-3337
 Jim Sandelin, Vice-President....675-6481
 Sherry Gendron, Treasurer.....547-3721
 Lisa Tuller, Secretary.....675-6906

Resident Directors

Willa Martin.....675-6952
 Larry Urbanski.....547-3107
 Bob Crom.....547-2473
 Gail Becher.....547-3214
 Dick Horn.....675-6163

Summer Resident Directors

Bob Kay.....675-6430
 Stan Benbrook.....675-6810
 Mary Ann Schmidt.....675-7722
 Bob Crabb.....675-6120
 Hank Sandvig.....675-6521
 Don Willis.....675-6231

Committees

Adopt-a-Highway-Sally Helsing, Willa S. Martin, Rod Owre
Endowment-Jim Sandelin, Jack Adams, Bob Crom, Sherry Gendron, Al Hoover, Tate Lane
Environment & Ecology-John Alden, Dick Horn, Jim Schwartz, Jack Adams, Gail Becher, Fred Brosius, Pat Carey, Bruce Carlson, Warren Goss, Carl Hertzman, Marty McCleery, Jim McGill, Ross Melgaard, Jerry Mills, Bob Nelson, Ellie Nelson, Brad Putney, Bob Rydell, Hank Sandvig, Forrest Watson, Don Willis
Finance-Bob Crabb, Al Hoover, Jack Adams, Sheri Gendron, Tate Lane, Ross Melgaard, Ted Mellby, Jim Miller, Jim Sandelin
Fisheries-Rod Owre, Cecil Bair, Bob Horn, Dick Horn, Gary Marchwick, Jerry Mills, Jim Schwartz, Larry Urbanski
History-Willa Martin, Stan Benbrook, Don Buck, Ross Melgaard, Larry Urbanski
Lake Advocates-Ray Helsing, Don Patterson
Lake Level-Walt Kane
Lake Safety-Bob Kay, Bob Crom, Jim McGill, Mary Ann Schmidt
Membership Coordinator-Lisa Tuller
Newsletter-Jim Schwartz
Strategic Planning-John Alden, Jack Adams, Al Hoover, Ross Melgaard, Jim Schwartz, Stan Skaug
Zoning & Land Use-Ellie Nelson, John Alden, Bob Nelson

Cook Says Shore Zone Vital, Jim Miller Named TMLA Head

THE BENEFITS OF wise shoreland management practices to landowner and lake alike were outlined for TMLA members at the annual meeting Saturday, Aug. 2, at the Senior Citizens Center in Hackensack. Program speaker was Chantel Cook, fishery biologist with the Chippewa National Forest, stationed at Cass Lake.

She emphasized that a broad area spanning where land and water meet is a critical food and habitat provider for many species of fish and wildlife. This interface zone, she explained, covers roughly 200 feet or so from the forest line to the water's edge and then well into the water itself, where both emergent and submerged aquatic plants are found.

MAINTAINING THE ZONE in its natural state and keeping it healthy, she added, is vital to aquatic and land dwelling wildlife. Such measures help to assure spawning, rearing and resting areas for fish as well as shoreline habitat and travel corridors for birds, animals and amphibians.

Apart from urging property owners to observe shoreland zoning regulations, Cook said they should: (1) Limit the area of impervious surfaces on their lots, (2) plant both large and small trees and a range of native shrubs, (3) and keep land surface disturbances to a minimum.

FOLLOWING COOK'S presentation, John Alden, President, called for members to observe a moment of silence in memory of those who had passed away during the year.

Secretary Lisa Tuller reported Association membership at 714 families and contribu-

tions above regular dues of \$1,572. That figure included \$180 in memorials and \$398 for the Hackensack First Response Team, a sum matched by the Association.

DICK HORN, of the Environment and Ecology Committee, reported 10 loon chicks had been hatched and that 8 were still surviving, by far the best loon reproduction year in recent memory. Three of the Association's four nesting platforms were used.

Jim Schwartz, also of the Environment and Ecology Committee, reported lake water tests continued to be favorable, clarity readings ranged from 21' to 27', and "Slow, No Wake" buoys were being installed at seven locations.

OTHER REPORTS were presented by Bob Kay, safety; Stan Benbrook, history; Walt Kane, lake level; Bob Crabb, pinch-hitting for the Association treasurer, finances; Jerry Mills, North Shore community waste treatment project, and John Alden, lake map availability. Tate Lane suggested residents might want to consider contributing to a pool of money for the Association to use in purchasing undeveloped land around the lake.

The meeting was closed with election of officers and directors: Jim Miller, President; Jim Sandelin, Vice-President; Sherry Gendron, Treasurer; Lisa Tuller, Secretary, and Willa S. Martin, Dick Horn, Larry Urbanski, Bob Kay and Stan Benbrook, Directors. Miller succeeds John Alden, who served two consecutive presidential terms. Rod Owre retired as a resident Director.

Highway 71 Project Gets Tentative Okay

A TENTATIVE STEP toward reviving the dormant County Highway 71 construction project was taken September 2. On a motion by Commissioner Glenn Witham, the Board returned the 7.5-mile project to the County's five-year construction program, with some conditions:

- County Engineer Dave Enblom was instructed to ask the Department of Transportation (MnDOT) to designate #71 a Natural Preservation Route (NPR) Type 1, with paved surface. Enblom said the U.S. Forest Service already has agreed to that designation wherever the road runs through the Chippewa National Forest, making it logical to design the entire road to NPR Type 1 standards.

- If the #71 project is to proceed, funding must be available, a reality that Enblom said could mean other projects might have to be postponed. He said he has raised the possibility with the Forest Service of having #71 designated a federal forest highway, a step which, if approved, could make the road eligible for at least some federal funding. All of that, however, Enblom added, is still up in the air.

- Since available funds are committed to other projects through 2001, construction on #71 could not begin before then. Enblom said he favored a three-year span for the work -- two for grading half the stretch at a time, "to reduce the pain", and one for paving. Cost of the project is estimated at \$1.6 to \$1.7 million.

- As part of the #71 consideration, county highway #6 would have its scheduled overlay postponed from 2001 to coincide with the #71 work because of the economies to be realized by pairing the projects.

NATURAL PRESERVATION ROUTE standards call for a 30 mph speed limit, 21.6' highway lane width, 1.6' shoulders, a 1:3 inslope ratio, a 9.8' recovery area, a 9-ton load limit design strength, and clearing width to be kept to an absolute minimum.

In the interim between now and the date when reconstruction work on #71 could start, county officials are considering a temporary face-lift. It would provide for a three-inch layer of fresh gravel on the road, softening sharp curves, topping steep hills somewhat and applying a coat of calcium chloride to reduce dust and stabilize the road surface.

At the time this was written (early October) no decision on the #71 face-lift project had been made.

Need Angler Support for Slot Limit to Work

NOW THAT A SEASON has elapsed for the experimental northern pike slot limit on Ten Mile Lake (anglers are required to release all northern pike over 20" long), questions are beginning to surface. Why, for example, does the test last for 10 years? And will it really produce larger fish (the Department of Natural Resources' long term goal)?

While no one can offer a definite answer to those questions, a five-year DNR study at least suggests that the experiment can work *if all anglers comply with the regulation*. That's a big "if," of course, but it is the guarded conclusion drawn from data collected on a Beltrami County lake where compliance was close to complete.

AFTER THE REGULATION, northern pike size on that lake did increase somewhat, though not dramatically. As far as the 10-year provision is concerned, DNR personnel feel it will take that long to find out whether the experiment has promising results.

Meanwhile, the project continues on several lakes, including Ten Mile. Those involved in the study want to look into how other environmental factors (weather, e.g.), may affect pike size. (Our thanks to Kerry Running for sending us an article on the study.)

Ellie Nelson to Monitor Zoning, Land Use Issues

THE TMLA BOARD has a committee titled Zoning and Land Use. Ellie Nelson is the chair of that committee. Her job is to monitor applications for variances that may or may not benefit the health of the lake. She attends many county zoning meetings to keep abreast of developments affecting Ten Mile Lake.

Many property owners receive notices of variance hearings from the County's Environmental Services Department. If you are notified of such a meeting and cannot attend, contact Ellie who may be able to appear on your behalf if deemed in the best interest of the lake. Ellie is a year around resident and would be happy to hear your concerns about land use around Ten Mile.

New Committee Set Up to Explore Gifting

AN ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE was established by the TMLA Board at its September 13 meeting to explore member interest in helping the Association acquire property for protection as green space. Initial committee membership consists of Jim Sandelin, chair; Jack Adams, Bob Crom, Sherry Gendron, Al Hoover and Tate Lane. The Association owns two land parcels, one along Highway #71 contributed by Don and Margaret Brown and the other adjacent to the Bailey Shores subdivision in the Boone Point area contributed by the Bailey estate. Both are being left in their natural state.

In other business, either at its September 13 or August 15 meeting, the Board:

- Decided to move its invested monies from stock mutual funds to medium grade corporate bonds, hoping to increase returns while incurring only slightly greater risk.

- Approved \$100 to buy accessories for the Geographic Positioning System unit that was authorized earlier.

- Approved the purchase of five additional "Slow, No Wake" buoys to augment those located at three of the five selected sites (see back page for map showing restricted zones).

- Endorsed an Environment and Ecology Committee proposal for a Septic System Seminar and a Lake Water Testing Day next summer.

- Learned that a Tri-County Leech Lake Watershed Project grant of \$10,000 was being used to underwrite the cost of developing more complete plans and specifications for the proposed waste water treatment system being considered for a portion of the North Shore area.

- Agreed to sponsor a Deep Portage Conservation Reserve scholarship next summer. (See accompanying letter, next column.)

Jim Sandelin is Head of Endowment Effort

By Tate Lane

MUCH OF TEN MILE'S unique values for property owners have emanated from the passion shown by its original settlers. Those stalwarts defended the lake against outside developers and commercialization.

Many of the original families and heirs still retain ownership of "their" domains.

Hackensack, MN

August 9, 1997

Dear Ten Mile Lake Association:

My name is Brandon Strawn. I am twelve years old and live on the North shore of Ten Mile Lake (Crescent Beach). In July, you sponsored me to go to the Deep Portage Aquatics Camp. I really appreciated this!

The camp was awesome. We did many activities there. For example, we went on a field trip to a fish hatchery, we went on a two-day, overnight canoe campout to Blind Lake, and we also made our own fishing lures.

I learned about many ways to not pollute the lakes. Did you know that Eurasian water milfoil, an annoying weed, that's hurting many lakes, came from Europe? What Europeans would do is put it in their fish tanks. Then, they sent some over to us for our fish tanks. When the weed died, we would toss it into our lakes. Next, the weed got into our boat propellers and was shredded into a thousand pieces. Each piece would grow into a new, full plant and take over a lake.

Again, thanks for sponsoring me. I had tons of fun!

Sincerely, Brandon Strawn

And all current members feel a kinship and gratitude. Our lake's serenity and family orientation is a source of admiration by outsiders.

IN RECOGNITION of and respect for its past benefactors, your current Directors have now taken action to protect, and to advance, the singular family ownership of TML environs. A new Endowment Committee is being appointed, headed by Jim Sandelin, to prepare the protocol and long-range activities of your Association. There can be many rewarding ways to cooperate with members who want to be active participants in preserving the lake's treasures for posterity.

It is fortunate that your Association has already established its 501(c)(3) status and holds some property and funds. The nucleus of the Endowment Committee is encouraged by early favorable responses. More to come.

■ *Your Lake Advocates can help solve building and lot alteration questions. Call them: Ray Helsman, 675-6821 (South Shore), and Don Patterson, 547-2048 (North Shore).*

Agreement: '97 was a Lousy Fishing Season

By Jim Schwartz, Member
Fisheries Committee

IF YOU BELIEVE the anglers who tried their luck on Ten Mile Lake this season, and I am inclined to do just that, 1997 was the poorest fishing year, over all, in a long time. That also was the opinion of Rod Owre, Fisheries Committee Chair, and it was my experience as well.

Here's how things stacked up: The walleye season was a bummer from day one and showed only minimal improvement as the summer wore on, bass fishing was the most disappointing in my 37 years on Ten Mile, sunfish were not as numerous as usual and those caught seemed to be a tad smaller than in past years, and crappie fishing was next to non-existent.

AMID ALL THE gloom, though, there was some good news: Northern pike hit readily in 15- to 25-foot depths and many measured just under the 20-inch slot limit in effect on Ten Mile. One also could hook rock bass aplenty, a species that thrives where water is relatively clean. Whitefish? I can't say. No whitefish angler reports came my way, although a few walleye devotees were surprised while trolling to have what they regarded as a confused whitefish strike their lures. It *does* happen, but not often.

You may recall from previous newsletters that Ten Mile is in the midst of a ten-year DNR walleye stocking research project. The goal is to determine what the lake's natural spawning and survival rates are. The experiment began in 1994. No walleye fingerlings were stocked that year.

THE STOCKING SCHEDULE since then has been: 1995, 45,500; 1996, 0; 1997, 15,100. As the project progresses, DNR crews set traps and nets to discover whether their catches include significant walleye numbers from years when none were stocked. Results of whatever netting/trapping has been done thus far were not yet available at this writing (mid-October).

No one should assume that there is a necessary connection between this year's poor walleye fishing and the long-term stocking experiment. It's too early to make that kind of judgment. Many factors could have had an effect on the 1997 season: Unseasonably cold spring temperatures, abnormally heavy rains in July, an abundance of natural food, heav-

ier fishing pressure in recent years, a possible decline in the numbers of those walleyes disposed to occupy the upper reaches of the lake, and so on. Whatever the case, the Fisheries Committee will continue to work closely with the DNR to maintain a viable walleye fishery and to study other aspects of Ten Mile Lake's general fish population as well.

Larry Urbanski Elected Newest Board Member

THE ASSOCIATION'S newest Director is Larry Urbanski, North Shore, who was named to that post at the annual meeting. Larry was born at Tracy, MN, served in the armed forces in World War II, and built a career as a school teacher and coach at Aitkin and Cloquet, MN.

In 1956, Larry was married to Joan Mary Thomas, daughter of Pehle and Tillie Thomas, whose home was on the North Shore, Ten Mile Lake. The Urbanskis have four children: Rebecca, Mary, Susan and Thomas.

Mrs. Urbanski also was an educator, teaching home economics. Larry retired in 1988 and Joan in 1992. They built their first home on Ten Mile in 1971, a summer place, and became permanent residents in 1995.

Lake Hit Highest Level This Year Since 1986

By Walt Kane

WHILE THE LAKE reached the 1380' mark above sea level this year for the first time since 1986, its average of 1379.67' for the 11 readings to date (end of September) is quite close to normal for the past few years. The most recent four-year averages were: 1996, 1379.43'; 1995, 1379.65'; 1994, 1379.73', and 1993, 1379.65'.

There have been 737 water level readings recorded beginning on November 12, 1973. The average of those readings is 1379.40'. The highest recorded reading was 1380.21' on April 25, 1979. Lowest was 1377.49' on November 23, 1976. Next lowest recorded reading was 1378.27' on August 14, 1977. The range between the highest and lowest recorded readings is 2.72' over this 24-year period.

From the Notebook

by Jim Schwartz

ONE REASON we had an excellent 1997 loon hatching season was the special commitment to the project by committee chair Dick Horn, his brother, Bob, and Bob Crom. Three of the four nesting platforms were successful, the best ever. Still another reason was the extraordinary dedication to the project by George Brandt. Mindful of the ever-present bald eagle threat to newly-hatched chicks, George appointed himself a personal guardian to a two-egg nest just south of his island property. Knowing when the eggs were laid, George calculated approximately when they would hatch. A few days ahead of that date he began a daily routine: Rise early enough to arrive on his pontoon and post it strategically by 5 a.m., then keep his eye on the sky and wave off any predatory eagles.

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THE VIGIL CONTINUED from June 30 to July 8, when the first and (as things turned out) only egg hatched. The remaining egg was tended for 30 additional hours before the loon pair gave up and swam off with their lone chick. During George's vigil eagles showed up daily, at times perching almost directly above the nest. Had it not been for George's persistence and his "threatening" tactics, in all probability there would have been one chick fewer on Ten Mile waters this year. Our thanks to George and to all who had any part in the Association's continuing efforts to increase Ten Mile's loon population.

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TONI AND I WERE PLEASED to join neighbors and friends of the late Ted Kolderie on August 22 to recall and celebrate his 55 summers on Ten Mile Lake. The affair was an ice cream social, much like those Ted and Helen often staged for the neighborhood after they built their cottage on Batcheller Bay. It also was an afternoon of story-telling: Fond remembrances of Ted's talents as a handyman and general "fixer," his on-the-go energy, his ability to "rally the troops" for whatever needed doing, his unfailing optimism, his genius as a "super-salesman," his "plan ahead" mentality.

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AN EXAMPLE OF THE LATTER, someone comment-

ed, was Ted's readying his place for winter before his company's annual sales convention in August. Mildred (Mrs. Lloyd) Sundin put it this way: "Ted was perhaps the only man in the world who was never late for a meeting." The Sundins' place was built in 1941, next door to and a year after the Kolderies had completed theirs. Mildred said the Sundin morning "didn't really begin until after Ted had been over for coffee." And there was her uproarious tale about Ted's dog, Lady, and . . . but we have to stop somewhere. It was great fun. Ted would have enjoyed every minute. Our thanks to Kate and Ted, Jr., the Kolderies' daughter and son, for organizing such a fitting retrospective for their Dad.

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A WISCONSIN STUDY estimates feral and domestic cats kill 40 million birds a year in that state alone. And it doesn't do much good to bell cats; they are so stealthy in their stalking tactics that the bell simply doesn't ring. What's to be done? Well, it is not a good idea to abandon cats, and owners should keep their pets well fed. Beyond that there's not much else one can do.

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IOWANS ARE BECOMING concerned over the deterioration of their lakes. Attracting particular attention is Clear Lake, so choked with nutrients that clarity is measured in inches, not feet. The culprits must be surrounding farmers. Right? Wrong! Offenders are the hundreds of Clear Lake property owners who fertilize their lawns. There is an important lesson here: What makes your lawn green can also make your lake green. Let's work toward a no-lawn-fertilizer goal on Ten Mile. That's just one way we can all help to preserve our lake's beautifully clear water.

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THE FOREGOING sentence leads me to a personal observation: It is both humbling and deeply appreciated to have so many of you thank me "for all you're doing for Ten Mile Lake." While the lake's health is of great concern to me, nothing I do by myself makes the difference; it's what we *all* do (or, in some instances, don't do), that counts. Our "job": Become informed *and* act accordingly.

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IS TEN MILE'S "TITLE" as the state's deepest inland lake about to be lost? Maybe. A report from the MPCA says a Hubbard County lake, LaSalle, is 213' deep. Ten Mile? 208'. Well! My depth finder last year recorded a depth of 214' in the 208' vicinity. Now I'll have to try next season to locate it again.

Bear Yarns Abounded; Mergens' Was Unique

By Jim Schwartz

THE SEASON just past was another in a long string of eventful summers. Almost everyone had a bear story, it seemed, but the encounters at the Ed Mergens household on Portage Lake may well have been the most unique.

A bear prowled their house and above-the-garage cabin five or more times and actually invaded their home once and the cabin twice. The critter roamed from room to room, knocking objects from tables, pulling a king-size quilt down a hallway, rifling garbage containers, making a general nuisance of itself but, curiously, not causing a lot of damage. It did open the refrigerator/freezer doors, chewed briefly on packages of frozen shrimp and chicken, scattered perishables and found a truly delicious morsel: Marshmallows.

ON ONE OF THE VISITS, two young girls saw the bear, tried without success to locate a neighbor to lend a helping hand, then telephoned one of the girls' moms in St. Paul. Understandably, she allowed as how she could do little at that distance, but advised the girls to lock their doors once the bear had departed. Still later the bear was spotted peering down a skylight on a nearby cottage.

Many other lake residents had bird feeders routinely trashed whenever they were within "bear reach," an event so common it hardly bears noting, if you'll pardon the pun. And still other confrontations were reported in the Chariton Beach area by Fran Brandt and her son, Jim; in Long's Bay by Bob Crom, and on Portage Lake by Bob Nelson, all in broad daylight.

IN EACH OF THE three widely separated incidents the people were busying themselves outdoors and, hearing a noise or for some other reason, looked up. Surprise! Bears, gazing directly at them from only a few feet away. All, including the bears, kept their cool and no harm was done.

DNR personnel tried to trap the Portage Lake bear, but raccoons stole the bait as quickly as it was set out. In all of this, one fact is a given: Bears will be here again next year. You can count on it. As one DNR staffer put it: Why should a bear scrounge the forest looking for food when there is plenty around for the taking at almost any lake home?

LOTS OF OTHER diverting sights were avail-

able to those who keep their eyes on nature:

- More than 40 white pelicans made a rest stop on the lake in September, landing in a long single file, swimming west, then resuming their migration flight.

- Baltimore orioles seemed more than normally abundant this year.

- Eight hooded merganser ducklings hatched and left our nesting box on June 15, heading east as they took to the water.

- A pair of sparrow hawks were sighted in July.

- Four trumpeter swans were seen winging northwest in mid-August.

- Hummingbirds left for their winter quarters on September 10 or 11.

- Kingfishers were scarce to non-existent this summer, but one did appear in late September.

- A red fox trotted down our lake path one day, caught us watching through our picture window, then spun around and vanished.

- Canada geese were frequent lake visitors and, on occasion, actual residents. When the raw winds of fall scattered the leaves, however, the great goose migration began. Nothing to me is quite so fall-like as the "conversation" of geese in V-formation overhead.

THESE ARE JUST SOME of my impressions (enhanced by the observations of many other Ten Milers) now that the '97 season has drawn to a close. Another year at the lake! Is there any more rewarding way to spend one's time?

HONOR ROLL

THE FOLLOWING Ten Milers merit Honor Roll recognition for having installed new septic systems during the past season: Joe and Ruth Blowers, Ron Borchert, Tom and Dotty Carpenter, Tom and Sarah Cox, Don and Ann Harris, Neva Milliken, Steve and Sharon Peterson, Bud and Seetta Richardson, Mark and Susan Rother, Jim and Donna Sandelin, Mary Ann Schmidt, Randy and Phoebe Vosbeck, and Tom and Katherine Wagner.

Lake in Healthy Condition

THE SUMMER'S lake water tests produced no big surprises: Chemistry, clarity and other indices were good from May through September. We'll report on all findings and trends in the Spring Newsletter.

Remembering Our Ten Mile Lake Friends

Anne Marie Taff Knapp

Anne Marie Taff Knapp, 79, of Ames, and a summer resident of the Northwest Shores area for many years, died July 12 of respiratory failure at Northcrest Health Care Center in Ames. She was born in Ames, was graduated from Ames High School in 1936 and from Iowa State University in Home Economics in 1940.

She was married in 1941 to Albert "Beezer" Knapp. Mrs. Knapp was a homemaker and a member of the St. Thomas Aquinas Church. She had been a life-long resident of Ames.

Survivors include a son, Charles, of Washington, D.C.; two grandchildren; three sisters, Mary Watkins of Ames, Jeanne Cutter of Naperville, IL, and Marge Myers of Freeport, IL, and a brother, James Taff of Tucson, AZ.

Ted Kolderie

Ted Kolderie, 95, a summer resident of the Batcheller Beach area since 1940, died in July at his home in Rochester, MN. Mr. Kolderie grew up in north Minneapolis after his family came from The Netherlands in 1912.

He was graduated from North High School, where he starred in track. In 1926 he earned his degree from Carleton College, where he majored in economics, set a record in the mile run, began what was to be his long relationship with Jostens, and met the woman, Helen Gillespie, who was to become his wife. They were married in 1929.

The Kolderies moved to Omaha, where Ted took over as the Jostens representative for Nebraska. As time went on Mr. Kolderie gradually turned over most of the territory to others, but he kept Omaha, putting most of his time by then into commercial awards. In 1990 the Kolderies moved to Charter House in

Rochester. His last summer visit to Ten Mile Lake was in 1992.

He is survived by his wife, Helen; a son, Ted G. of St. Paul; a daughter, Kay White of Portland, ME; a sister, Dena of Minneapolis, and four grandchildren.

Grant A. Finley

Grant A. Finley, 63, a summer vacationer at Ten Mile since the late 1940s, died July 19 of a heart attack while competing in the Non-Professional Division of the National Cutting Horse Association Summer Spectacular at Fort Worth, TX. He grew up in Harlan, IA, was graduated in 1952 from Kemper Military School, Booneville, MO, and in 1956 from Iowa State University with a degree in civil engineering. He was a World War II veteran.

Mr. Finley was married to Mary Molison in 1956. Following his military service, they moved to Harlan where Mr. Finley joined his father in managing Western Engineering Company, a road construction firm with operations throughout the Midwest. He later began a sand and gravel business that served western Iowa.

In 1980, he and his family moved to Missouri, where he developed a lakeside subdivision on Bull Shoals called Ozark Country Estates. His early retirement from road contracting allowed him to pursue a second career in ranching. In connection with that business, Mr. Finley turned a lifelong hobby of horseback riding into yet another professional interest, that of breeding, training and showing cutting horses. Mr. Finley is survived by his wife, Mary; sons, Dennis and Alan; daughters, Diane and Beth, and three grandchildren.

Board Extends Pledge to Match First Response Gifts

By Jack Adams

AGAIN THIS YEAR your Ten Mile Lake Association Board of Directors has renewed its decision to contribute to the Hackensack First Response team, matching individual gifts up to \$700 annually.

By way of review, the First Response team is represented by 13 volunteer members who serve roughly a 15-mile radius from Hackensack, making approximately 100 to 130 calls per year. Their \$10,000 annual budget is

supported solely by fund-raising events and contributions -- no tax monies.

EACH VEHICLE is equipped with about \$1500 worth of gear, including radios, pagers and supplies. Initial EMT Class training costs \$500 and must be renewed every two years at a cost of \$250. Additionally, team members attend 48 hours of continuing education, as well as monthly training and business sessions.

Like several of your fellow Association members, would you please consider an annual contribution to this very valuable organization? Thank you?

Daughter Tells History of Robys' Restaurant

(Editor's Note: Ten Milers who are fortunate enough to have been in this area when Cecil and Opal Roby operated their Just Fine Food Restaurant remember the matchless bar-bequed ribs and other delicious treats that were a hallmark of the establishment. Margaret Brown, the Robys' daughter, contributed the following article about her parents and their restaurant business. We know you will enjoy reading it.)

By Margaret Brown

CECIL CLAIR ROBY was born in Madison County, IA, on January 24, 1900. In his teens, he began working at his mother's and stepfather's cafe in Storm Lake. When Cecil was 22 he borrowed \$100 from five men; with the \$500 he began his own cafe in Rolfe, IA.

Opal Maxine Olsen was born in Alta, IA, on November 16, 1902. Opal had a talent for music. She played the piano during silent movies and sang solos at church and school. At the Buena Vista County Fair in Alta her contralto voice could be heard for blocks as she sang with the famous Karl King Band.

OPAL AND CECIL were married in Alta June 6, 1923. The next day they began work at their cafe in Rolfe. They would continue to work side by side for the next 45 years. By 1924 they purchased a larger restaurant in Marathon, IA.

During the next few years, relatives and friends told them of the beauty, hunting and fishing in Northern Minnesota. In 1927 they sold the restaurant and took their first trip north. They fell in love with "God's Country" and never returned to live in Iowa.

OPAL AND CECIL settled in the Laporte area. During the first winter they were caretakers for a wealthy family. Their next business venture was to buy a grocery store in Laporte which, along with many other buildings, burned in November, 1931.

A friend who owned a gas station in Hackensack recognized Opal's and Cecil's good business sense. He offered them the opportunity to run the station; by fate, it had space for a small restaurant. In the summer of 1933 the family, which now included their young daughter, Margaret, moved to Hackensack. This business was where the First Bank of Walker, Hackensack branch, now stands.

IN 1935 Opal and Cecil bought land where

the Northern Cafe is located. The Holmberg brothers constructed a log building and outdoor stone ovens. Thus, in 1937, began Roby's famous Bar-B-Que ribs, smoked chops, loins and turkeys. Cecil perfected his own Bar-B-Que sauce recipe while Opal made the Danish Delight salad dressing, which was especially delicious on coleslaw.

Opal continued to sing for weddings, anniversaries, funerals, and would often delight restaurant patrons by singing for them. Cecil pursued his interest in collecting guns, and hunting gave way to target shooting, at which he was an expert.

CECIL BECAME ILL and died in Rochester on July 25, 1969. Opal sold their restaurant, Roby's-Just Fine Food, in 1970. She continued to live in their home on Ten Mile Lake until her death on December 28, 1987.

This summer, after one of the Men's Coffees, Don told me a number of people commented that you cannot find ribs like Roby's any more. What a compliment! Thank you, and I do agree. I believe there are two or more reasons for this.

FIRST OF ALL, Mom and Daddy bought heavy loin back ribs. Today they seem impossible to find. In fact, my folks often bought all that Swift or Cudahy processed. Preparation of the meat was lengthy. It took three days from thawing to serving.

After a 66-pound crate of ribs was thawed, they were soaked overnight in a brine solution. Early the next morning they were dried and refrigerated. Later that morning, Daddy would rub them with his special seasoning, then refrigerate them again.

THE COOKING PROCESS, as you know, was done outside in stone ovens. The north oven was used for ribs, while the south oven was for loins, chops, turkey and chicken. So, in the afternoon, depending upon the wind direction and velocity, as well as orders coming into the kitchen, Daddy would start a fire of maple and young popple wood in the north oven. Pork takes a slow, "cool" heat; he knew when the oven was ready by placing his hand on the metal oven door, which was about 4 feet above the coals.

After the ribs were placed in the oven, the cooking process took between four and six hours, again depending on the direction and velocity of the wind. That evening, when the ribs were done, they were stacked on trays, covered with towels, and allowed to cool overnight.

EARLY THE NEXT morning (the third day) the (Turn to Roby's - Just Fine Food, Next Page)

-- Robys' - Just Fine Food

ribs were put in the refrigerator, ready to be cut into serving portions, then placed in a metal colander and heated with steam. If at all possible, Daddy would not serve ribs directly out of the oven. To be at their best, he believed they needed to "rest" in order to absorb the seasonings and smoke.

This entire process was repeated each day. As I've told many of you, those stone ovens put me through college. Thank you again for remembering Roby's-Just Fine Food.

Jessica's Cabin Tale: The Leaning Pine Tree

By Jessica Greco

"Mom, when you went up to Ten Mile, did you check on the leaning pine?" I anxiously ask my mom every spring. "Yes," she says, "and it's still leaning."

THE LEANING PINE is one of my favorite places at our cabin on Ten Mile Lake in Northern Minnesota. Upon arriving at the cabin I rush out of the car and make a beeline for the beach. As I am moving quickly toward the beach, I glance sharply to my right and look out over the rocks to see if the leaning pine is still standing, or leaning I should say. "Yep, she sure is," I shout. "I wonder if her branches touch the water yet?"

I continue on down the well-beaten path to the beach. Once I reach it, I scan the area hoping we have a big beach this summer. Then I look to my right . . . there she is . . . *the leaning pine!* She is still there! I plant myself on the dock and watch as the waves come in and out while her branches softly caress the water. Now I have made certain one of my favorite places is still around and my summer is complete.

THE LEANING PINE is a monument for my whole family up at the cabin. At the beginning, she stood high above the lake like the figurehead of a boat, keeping a watch on the weather and the children below. Eventually, due to the weather she watched out for, and those same children she kept a close eye on, she started to slowly lean toward the water.

As a small child spending my summers at the cabin, I remember playing with my sister and cousins on the rocks in front of the leaning pine and even being brave enough to venture out onto her and look down at the

water far, far below. Then, as a teenager when I was not busy water skiing or flirting with the guys down the beach, I would take some much needed time for myself and walk along the rocks and sit on the edge of the leaning pine on top of her gnarled roots and gaze out at the water that seemed much closer than when I was a small child.

CURRENTLY AS A YOUNG ADULT, I try my hardest to get up to the cabin as often as possible. But now I just make my quick check on the leaning pine and then I sit on the dock and embrace the beauty of the water, the breeze and the leaning pine that appear to come together as one. While I am enjoying the tranquility, I realize that she is even closer to the water than she has ever been and I wonder what my days up at the cabin would be like if this wonderful, constant symbol of peace were no longer there.

"Mom, when you went up to Ten Mile did you check on the leaning pine?"

"Yes, I did and I have some sad news. She has fallen and her trunk washed up on the shore. Burton is going to come over and haul her away."

"Wait! Don't do that! Call him and ask if he would carry her up to the cabin. I have an idea of what I would like to do with her trunk."

Feeding Waterfowl Invites Spread of Swimmers' Itch

By Carl Hertzman

SWIMMER'S ITCH is caused by a parasite in the water. While humans are not an adequate host for the organism, it persists long enough to cause a lot of misery, including itching and related problems. To my knowledge there is no fully successful treatment.

Waterfowl carry this organism. I have noted ducks being fed by individuals on Ten Mile. The birds congregate at the feeding site. This increases the risk of the parasite being introduced into the water with the associated risk of swimmers being infected.

PLEASE DON'T FEED the waterfowl; they don't need it. Also, be aware that when waterfowl are fed they tend to collect on local docks, thereby increasing risk still further.

TEN MILE LAKE ASSOCIATION

TREASURER'S REPORT

Operating Funds

For the Fiscal Year Ended July 31, 1997

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Checking</u>	<u>Svngs.</u>	<u>C.D.</u>
INCOME				
Dues & Contributions.	\$ 9,092	\$ 9,092		
Interest	1,057	117	48	892
TOTAL	\$ 10,149	\$ 9,209	\$ 48	\$ 892
EXPENSES				
Projects	\$ 6,943	\$ 6,943		
Secretarial	1,489	1,489		
Annual Meeting	250	250		
Contributions	1,051	1,051		
Directory	151	151		
Meetings	505	505		
Memberships	25	25		
Newsletter	919	919		
Office Supplies	319	319		
Postage	923	923		
Real Estate Taxes ...	224	224		
TOTAL	\$ 15,281	\$ 15,281		
TRANSFERS IN (OUT) ...		1,550	(1,550)	
BEGINNING BAL. 7/31/96	<u>24,063</u>	<u>5,733</u>	<u>1,553</u>	<u>16,777</u>
ENDING BAL. 7/31/97				
OPERATING FUNDS	\$ 18,931	\$ 1,211	\$ 51	\$17,669

(Note: This report does not include the approximately \$110,000 in restricted and unrestricted funds invested by the Association.)

-- James Sandelin, Treasurer

Know Someone Who Should Become a Member?
Call 675-6906 with the name(s) and we will send materials

"SLOW, NO WAKE" BUOY SITES

After monitoring this past season's boater compliance with the "Slow, No Wake" zones designated by the Ten Mile Lake Association Board, the Environment and Ecology Committee has concluded some changes are needed. Compliance in the vicinity of the marker buoys was reasonably good, but boaters did not seem to understand that the bay areas beyond the buoys also were intended to be covered. Therefore, to make the Committee's intent as clear as possible, the affected zones are shown as shaded areas on this map: (1) The approach to and including Kenfield Bay, (2) the bay behind the island, (3) the approach to and including Lundstrom's Bay, (4) the outer reef and all of Flower Pot Bay, (5) the lowest area of Long's Bay and the Boy River between Ten Mile and Birch Lakes. Reiterating why these measures are being taken: To (1) protect spawning areas, (2) reduce shoreline erosion, and (3) enhance safety. Thanks for your cooperation.

